



NCERT

Exercises (Questions-Solutions)

TANSEN

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1. Why did Swami Haridas say Tansen was 'talented'?

Ans. Swami Haridas and his disciples were resting in a shady grove. Tansen hid behind a tree. In order to frighten the travellers he roared like a tiger. Haridas's disciples got scared and scattered. Even Haridas, the famous singer failed to distinguish between the fake and the genuine roar. Therefore, he said, 'Tansen was talented.'

2. Why did Akbar ask Tansen to join his court?

Ans. Tansen had become a famous musician. Sometimes he sang before Emperor Akbar. Akbar was so much impressed by Tansen that he insisted that Tansen should join his court.

3. How do we know that Akbar was fond of Tansen? Give two reasons.

Ans. (i) Akbar used to walk into Tansen's house at will to hear him practice.
(ii) Akbar would call upon Tansen to sing at any time he liked.
(iii) Akbar gave Tansen many presents. These facts tell us that Akbar was fond of Tansen.

4. What did the other courtiers feel about Tansen?

Ans. The other courtiers became jealous of Tansen. They got deadly against him. They would feel restless so long as Tansen was not ruined.

5. (i) What happens if Raga Deepak is sung properly ?

(ii) Why did Tansen's enemies want him to sing the Raga?

Ans. (i) If Raga Deepak is sung properly, it makes the air so hot that the singer is burnt to ashes.
(ii) Tansen's enemies wanted to get rid of him. They were sure that Tansen, would be burnt to ashes if he sings the Raga Deepak. Therefore, Tansen's enemies wanted him to sing the Raga Deepak in order to see him dead.

6. Why did Tansen agree to sing Raga Deepak?

Ans. Tansen dared (could) not disobey the wishes or orders of the king. Therefore, he agreed to sing Raga Deepak, not caring for the results.

7. (i) What steps did he take to save himself?

(ii) Did his plan work? How?

Ans. (i) To save himself, Tansen taught his daughter, Saraswati and her friend, Rupvati to sing Raga Megh. He instructed them that they must wait till the lamps start burning and then they should start singing. Yes, his plan worked. His daughter Saraswati and her friend Rupvati sang the Raga Megh. It started raining. It saved Tansen's life.