

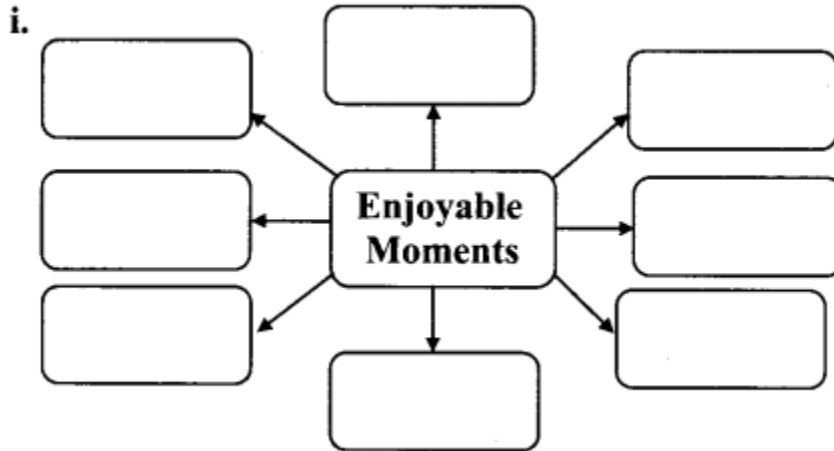
Sorrows of Sparrows

Pre-reading Activities

Question 1:

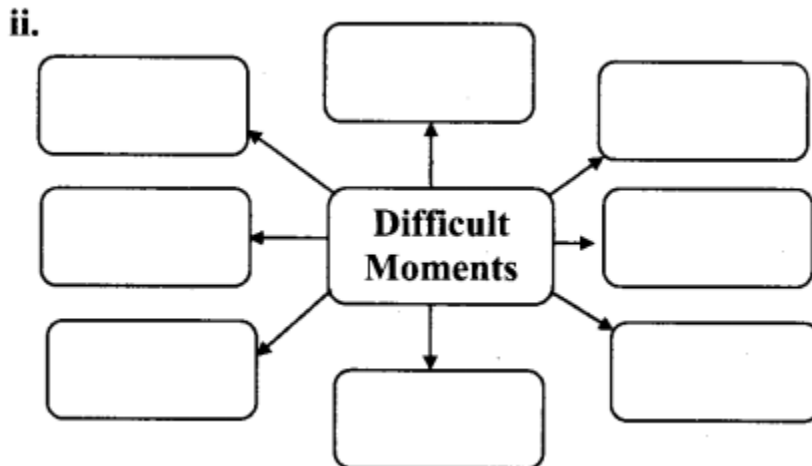
Life of birds

Imagine the life of birds and think of the enjoyable moments of their life and difficulties in their life. Discuss with your partner.



Answer:

- a. When they fly in the vast sky
- b. When their food requirements are fulfilled
- c. When their eggs are hatched and small birdies come out of them
- d. When they are safe
- e. When the climate is favourable
- f. When they live in groups
- g. When they chirp and sing
- h. When they are not caged



Answer:

- a. When they are unable to fly
- b. When their eggs are stolen or destroyed
- c. When they are wounded or hurt
- d. When they don't get food
- e. When they are treated as objects of fan
- f. When there is an extreme climate
- g. When they are troubled by predators
- h. When they are caged

Question 2:

Understanding the Title

Look at the title of the text 'Sorrows of Sparrows'.

Discuss with your partner about the sorrows of the sparrows. The following points would help you in expressing your thoughts. Use sentences as suggested.

- i. Sparrows are in sorrow because _____ .
- ii. The reason of the sorrow of sparrows _____ .
- iii. _____ are some of the reasons for the sorrows of sparrows.
- iv. _____ makes the life of sparrows full of sorrows.
- v. The sorrows of sparrows are due to _____ .
- vi. Why has the poet used the word 'sorrows' and not any other word?
- vii. The sorrowful things are _____ .

Answer: i. their population has declined considerably.

ii. is the loss of their habitat.

iii. Loss of habitat and changes in the lifestyle of man

iv. The Shikar a or the Sparrow hawk

v. unfriendly human beings and their houses that are not environment friendly.

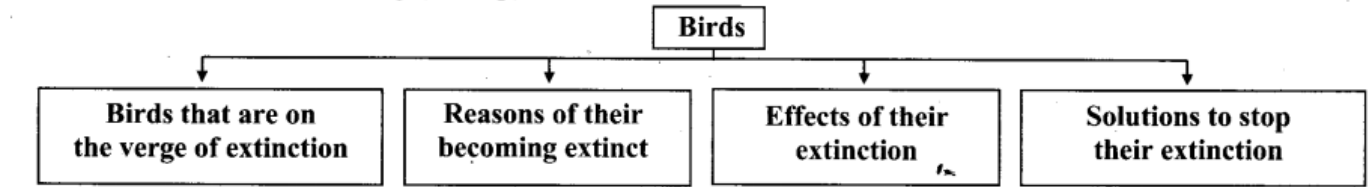
vi. The poet has used the word 'sorrows' because the repetition of the sound 's' creates a musical effect and makes the title attractive.

vii. that the sparrows are endangered, their population is shrinking and they are losing their natural habitats. People and their houses both are not environment friendly.

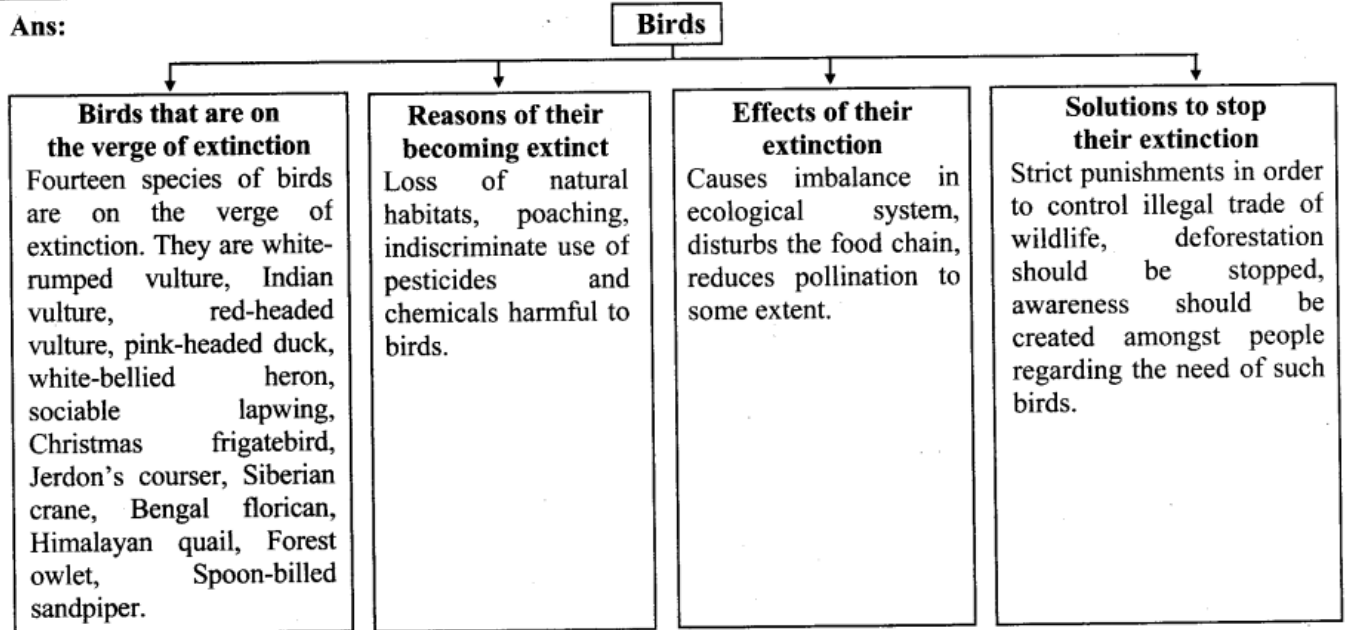
Question 3:

Life of Birds

Form four to five groups of the students in the class. Discuss with your partners the following points. Your group leader will report the main points of your group to the class.



Ans:



Question 4:

While you listen

Look at the following words and mark which one of them you have listened to. Remember, some of them are not really from the text.

April, forget, happy, sparrow day, school, adulthood, increase, shrinking, plants and worms, wrong, garden, kitchen, nesting, mobile phones, environment, crows, nature

Answer:

Sparrow day, school, increase, shrinking, plants and worms, garden, kitchen, nesting, mobile phones, environment, nature

Part I

Passage 1

उतारा १

मराठी भाषांतर:

चिमण्यांचे दुःख

दूरदर्शनच्या युगात मोठे झालेल्या अनेकांना, 'एक चिडिया अनेक चिडियाँ....' हे बालगीत खूप चांगल्याप्रकारे आठवत असेल; पण दुर्दैवाने त्यातील 'अनेक चिडियाँ' ही भूतकाळात जमा झालेली गोष्ट आहे आणि सामान्यतः सर्वत्र आढळणाऱ्या चिमणी या पक्ष्याचे अस्तित्व धोक्यात आले आहे. आज जगात सर्वत्र 'चिमणी दिन' साजरा केला जात असताना, आपण चिमण्यांच्या कमी होत जाणाऱ्या विश्वाकडे जवळून (बारकाईने) पाहूया.

“मी लहान होते तेव्हा, आमच्या गच्चीवर अनेक चिमण्या येत असत आणि परस बागेतील रोपे व किडे खाऊन पोट भरत असत. दररोज शाळेतून परत आल्यावर मी मजा म्हणून त्यांना घाबरवत असे (खूप पक्षी एकत्र उडतात, ते दृश्य पाहायला मला खूप आवडत असे.) आणि त्या दूर उडून जात असल्या तरीही, काही मिनिटांतच परत येत.” या शब्दांत संजना बोस त्यांच्या आठवणी सांगतात. पक्ष्यांविषयी प्रचंड आस्था असलेल्या त्या पुढे म्हणतात, “माझ्या मुलीला कधी अशा अनुभवांचा संदर्भ तरी समजेल का, असा विचार माझ्या मनात येतो.”

कदाचित संजनाचे म्हणणे बरोबर आहे. घरात किंवा घराच्या अंगणात वावरणाऱ्या सर्वसामान्य चिमण्यांच्या संख्येत मोठ्या प्रमाणात घट होत आहे. देशाच्या काही राज्यांत हे प्रमाण तीव्रतेने ८० टक्क्यांपेक्षा खाली उतरले आहे.

अनेक वृत्त अहवाल, सेलफोनचे टॉवर आणि मोबाइल फोनच्या वाढत्या संख्येला दोष देत असले, तरीही चिमण्यांच्या संख्येत घट होण्याला एक मजेशीर कलाटणी मिळालेली आहे.

A1. Factual Reading

Question 1:

Name the following with reference to the passage.

- i. The endangered bird which is mentioned in the passage.
- ii. The bird enthusiast mentioned in the passage.

Answer:

- i. Sparrow
- ii. Sanjana Bose

Question 2:

State whether the following statements are True or False.

- i. The most uncommon bird—the sparrow—is endangered now.
- ii. A lot of crows used to come on our terrace.
- iii. A lot of sparrows would feed on some kitchen garden plants and worms.
- iv. The writer likes the sight of so many birds flying together.
- v. The population of the common house sparrow has declined.
- vi. In some states of the country, the percentage of the decline in population of the common house sparrow has dropped by a sharp 80%.

Ans: i. False

ii. False

iii. True

iv. True

v. True

vi. True

Question 3:

Read the passage and complete the sentences.

- i. The childhood anthem about sparrows is _____ .
- ii. A lot of sparrows would come _____ .
- iii. The narrator would scare sparrows _____ .
- iv. The population of sparrows is dropped by _____ .

Answer:

i. 'Ekchidiya anekchidiya....'.

ii. on the narrator's terrace.

iii. and they would fly away.

iv. a sharp 80% in some states of the country.

Read the passage from line (1 to 26) on page (30) of your textbook and answer the following questions.

[Most of us would

..... some interesting twists.]

A2. Understanding the Passage

Question 1:

Read the passage again and find the lines that support the following statements.

- *i. Sparrows eat worms and small plants.
- ii. Sanjana scared the sparrows.
- *iii. Sanjana's daughter will not be able to enjoy the stories of sparrows.
- *iv. The number of sparrows is getting reduced.

Answer:

- i. A lot of sparrows Would feed on some kitchen garden plants and worms.
- ii. Each day, after returning from school, I would playfully scare them.
- iii. I wonder whether my daughter will ever be able to relate to such experiences.
- iv. The population of the common house sparrow has declined considerably.

Question 2:

Complete the following by giving reasons.

- i. Sparrows used to come on terrace _____ .
- ii. Sanjana used to scare sparrows playfully _____ .

OR

The writer used to scare the sparrows because _____ .

- iii. The news reports blame _____ for the reduced number of sparrows.
- iv. The writer feels sad because _____ .
- v. The sparrows visited the writer's house to _____ .

Answer: i. to feed on some kitchen garden plants and worms.

ii. because she loved the sight of many birds flying together.

iii. the increase in the number of cell phone towers and mobile phones.

iv. the sparrow is now an endangered bird.

v. feed on some kitchen garden plants and worms.

A3. Meaning from the Text

Question 1:

Match the phrases in Column I with their meanings in Column II.

	Column I		Column II
i.	a thing of past [A6, pg. 311	a.	discussion on an important issue
ii.	take a closer look [A6, pg. 311	b.	of old times
iii.	a lot of [A6, pg. 311	c.	eat a particular kind of food
iv.	feed on	d.	on a large scale

Answer: (i – b), (ii – a), (iii – d), (iv – c)

A4. Language Study

Question 1:

Write from the passage adverbs ending in ‘-ly’.

Answer:

- i. sadly
- ii. considerably

Question 2:

Write from the passage one word that can be used both as a noun and verb. Give example of its usage.

Answer:

increase

There was an increase in the water level in the water reservoirs, (noun)

Our difficulties are increasing day by day. (verb)

Question 3:

Give from the passage one word for the following.

- i. to frighten someone = _____ .
- ii. tell something that you have experienced = _____ .
- iii. a person who is interested in something= _____ .
- iv. continuously decreasing = _____ .

Answer:

- i. scare
- ii. recount
- iii. enthusiast
- iv. decline

Question 4:

Find out the Non-English words from the passage and translate them in English language.

Answer:

- i. ek — one
- ii. chidiya – sparrow
- iii. anek – many
- iv. Doordarshan – a television channel (door – distant, darshan – seeing)

Question 5:

We take _____ closer look on _____ shrinking world of sparrows.

(Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles)

Answer:

We take a closer look on the shrinking world of sparrows.

Question 6:

After returning from school, I would scare them.
(The proper use of 'when' as a conjunction will be _____. Choose the correct alternative)

- i. I would scare them when returning from school.
- ii. When I return from school I would scare them.
- iii. When I returned from school I would scare them.
- iv. When I will return from school I would scare them.

Ans: i. When I returned from school I would scare them.

Question 7:

I loved the sight of so many birds flying together. (Make Negative without changing the meaning)

Answer:

I did not hate the sight of so many birds flying together.

Question 8:

They would fly away. (Rewrite using 'used to')

Answer:

They used to fly away.

Question 9:

Sanjana is perhaps right. (Make Negative without changing the meaning)

Answer:

Sanjana is perhaps not wrong.

Question 10:

Sanjana is perhaps right. (Choose correct question tag and rewrite)

- i. isn't she?
- ii. is she?
- iii. is Sanjana?
- iv. isn't she?

Answer:

Sanjana is perhaps right, isn't she?

Question 11:

Many news reports are blaming cell phone towers. (Change the voice)

Answer:

Cell phone towers are being blamed by many news reports.

A5. Personal Response

Question 1:

Why are the sparrows needed?

Answer:

Every living creature has a role to play in maintaining the ecological balance. Likewise, sparrows are also needed in completing the food cycle. Apart from that, their chirping sound makes people happy.

Question 2:

What different means of communication can be used to make people aware of the environmental problems / issues?

Answer:

There are many means of communication that can be used to make people aware of the environmental problems. Some of them are:

- i. Telecasting programmes related to environmental awareness on television.
- ii. Using radio as a means to make people understand the importance of our environment.
- iii. Posting advertisements on social and digital media.
- iv. Giving speeches and performing street- plays on public platforms to educate people about the consequences of environmental problems.

Question 3:

How are the birds useful for the human beings?

Answer:

Birds play an important role in the food chain. They help in keeping the environment clean. They eat insects that would otherwise eat our crops. They act as pollinating agents by helping in the dispersal of seeds and add beauty to the nature. Many people keep birds as pets.

Question 4:

What will be your suggestion to increase the number of sparrows in your area?

Answer:

I would suggest the following measures in order to increase the number of sparrows in my area:

- i. provide them with good food and nesting habitat. .
- ii. provide nest boxes for sparrows to improve their nesting space.
- iii. keep grains in a bowl outside the house for them to feed on.

iv. create awareness to avoid usage of pesticides in both urban and rural areas.

Passage 2

उतारा २

मराठी भाषांतर:

कलाकार आणि पक्षिसंरक्षक विश्वजीत नाईक खुलासा करतात, की “मी अनेक पक्ष्यांना सेलफोन टॉवरवर घरटी बांधून राहताना पाहिले आहे, त्यामुळे आपण फक्त त्या टॉवरला दोष देऊ शकत नाही. आता सर्वत्र नव्या पद्धतीने होणारे इमारतींचे बांधकाम, जुन्या बांधकामांमध्ये झालेली घट आणि अशा आणखी काही बदलांची परिणती चिमण्यांचे वसतिस्थान गमावण्यात झाली आहे.” पक्ष्यांबद्दल आस्था असणाऱ्या सविता भारती मान्य करतात, की “जीवनशैलीमधील बदल, हेच खरे दोषी आहेत. अलीकडची घरे ही पर्यावरणाला अनुकूल नाहीत. तसेच, लोक पक्ष्यांना हुसकावून लावतात.”

यामध्ये नवल वाटावे असा एक दोषीसुद्धा आहे. चिमण्या नाहीशा होण्यास काही प्रमाणात शिकरा किंवा बहिरी ससाणा जबाबदार आहे. “शिकरा नावाचा हा पक्षी चिमण्यांच्या मांसावर उपजीविका करणारा आहे आणि तेसुद्धा चिमण्यांची संख्या कमी होण्याचे एक कारण आहे,” असे विश्वजीत म्हणतात.

असे असले, तरी एक आशादायक बाजू आहे. पक्षिप्रेमी आणि निसर्गप्रेमी यांच्या वाढत्या संघटना व त्यांचे उपक्रम यांमुळे भविष्याचे एक आशादायी चित्र उभे राहते. विशेष महत्त्वाचे म्हणजे, इतर अनेकजण यांत सहभागी होत आहेत. आपण अपेक्षा करूया, की चिमण्यांची ही चिवचिव, संजना यांच्या मुलीला चिमणीबद्दलचा अनुभव घेता येण्यासाठी टिकून राहील.

A1. Factual Reading

Question 1:

Choose the correct alternative with reference to the passage.

i. Many birds are seen nesting on _____ .

- a. trees
- b. cell-phone towers
- c. roof tops

Answer:

- b. cell-phone towers

ii. The houses these days are not _____ .

- a. bird friendly ‘
- b. big enough
- c. environment friendly

Answer:

- c. environment friendly

iii. _____ shoo the birds away.

- a. Animals b. People

Answer:

- b. People

iv. The birds and nature lovers’ groups are showing _____ for the sparrows.

- a. love
- b. sympathy
- c. concern

Answer:

- c. concern

Read the passage from line (27 to 48) on page (30) of your textbook and answer the following questions.

[Artist and bird
.....own sparrow story.]

A2. Understanding the Passage

Question 1:

Read the passage again and find the lines that support the following statements.

- *i. The sparrows do not get a proper place to build their nests.
- ii. Our lifestyle is responsible for decrease in the number of birds.
- *iii. Houses are built without considering the environment.
- iv. People do not respect birds.

Answer:

- i. It is the changes like new buildings, decrease in old structures and more that lead to the loss of habitat for sparrows.
- ii. It's the lifestyle changes which are the culprit.

- iii. The houses these days are not environment friendly.
- iv. People shoo birds away.

Question 2:

Complete the following by giving reasons.

- i. Vishwajeet Naik is not ready to accept the reason of a cell-phone _____ .
- ii. Loss of habitat of sparrows is _____ .

Answer:

- i. as he has seen many birds nesting on cell-phone towers.
- ii. because of construction of new buildings, decrease in old structure, lifestyle changes and presence of predator of sparrows, called sparrow hawk.

A3. Meaning from the Text .

Question 1:

Match the phrases in Column I with their meanings in Column II.

	Column I		Column II
i.	point a finger	a.	a ray of hope
ii.	to some extent	b.	to blame someone or something
iii.	a silver lining	c.	coming together to accomplish a task
iv.	joining hands	d.	up to certain limit

Answer:

(i – b), (ii – d), (iii – a), (iv – c)

Question 2:

Write from the passage words that mean:

- i. place where particular type of animals, plants are found
- ii. animal or bird that kills and eats other animals or birds

Answer:

- i. habitat
- ii. predator

A4. Language Study

Question 1:

Write from the passage two nouns used for the Sparrow hawk.

Answer:

- i. culprit
- ii. predator

Question 2:

Write from the passages opposites of the following words.

- i. old
- ii. appearance
- iii. increase

Answer:

- i. new
- ii. disappearance
- iii. decrease

Question 3:

I have seen many birds nesting on cellphone towers. (Rewrite in Simple Past Tense)

Answer:

I saw many birds nesting on cell-phone towers.

Question 4:

The houses these days are not environment friendly. (Rewrite as an Affirmative Sentence)

Answer:

The houses these days are far from being environment friendly.

Question 5:

Shikara is a predator of sparrows. (Rewrite as an Interrogative Sentence)

Answer:

Isn't Shikara a predator of sparrows?

Question 6:

That accounts for the decrease. (Rewrite as a Negative Sentence)

Answer:

That does not account for the increase.

Question 7:

The picture holds a promise for tomorrow. (Frame a 'Wh' question to get the underlined part as an answer)

Answer:

What holds a promise for tomorrow?

Question 8:

Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles in the sentences given below.

- i. There is also _____ surprise culprit.
- ii. Shikara is a predator of sparrows, and that accounts for _____ decrease.

Answer:

- i. a
- ii. the

A5. Personal Response

Question 1:

What do you think is the purpose of this write up?

Answer: I think that the purpose of this write up is to make the readers aware of the fact that sparrows are greatly endangered. It is written to throw light on the various factors responsible for their decline in number.

Question 2:

What will be your suggestions to increase the number of sparrows in your area?

Answer:

According to me, there is a need to aware the people regarding the protection of sparrows. This can be achieved by the means of television programmes, advertisements and street-plays. Water trays can be kept in the balcony for these birds. Grains like jowar, bajra, etc. can be placed outside one's house as sparrows love feeding on them. Their nests should not be destroyed by any means. More trees should be planted in order to provide them a habitat.

Part II

Passage 3

उतारा ३

मराठी भाषांतर:

१. चिमणी हा पहिला पक्षी आहे, ज्याच्याशी माझी ओळख झाली. बालपणी माझी शाळा सुटल्यानंतर मी चिमण्यांना धुळीत स्नान करताना (अंगावर धूळ उडवून घेताना) तासन्तास पाहत असे. सभोवतालच्या छोट्याशा झुडुपांसारख्या जागांवर त्या विश्रांती घेत. नंतरच्या काळात रस्ते रुंद झाले आणि झुडुपे कापून टाकण्यात आली. ज्या मैदानांवर चिमण्या खेळत असत, त्या ठिकाणी फरश्या बसवण्यात आल्या. लवकरच चिमण्या आमचा विभाग सोडून निघून गेल्या. येणाऱ्या नव्या पिढ्यांना चिमण्यांचा परिचय केवळ फोटोंतूनच होईल की काय, अशी मला भीती वाटते.

२. नाईकवाड्याच्या माझ्या जुन्या घरात, जेव्हा आम्ही जेवायला बसत असू, तेव्हा चिमण्या आमच्या जेवणाच्या टेबलावर येत. ते चिवचिवाट करणारे छोटे दोस्त माझ्या पानातून भाताची शिंते पळवण्याचा प्रयत्न करत असत. मी गेल्या दहा वर्षांत तशा प्रकारची गोष्ट पाहिली किंवा अनुभवली नाही. मला त्या गोष्टीची राहून राहून आठवण येते.

—विश्वजीत नाईक, पक्षिप्रेमी आणि कलाकार

३. गेल्या तीन-चार वर्षांपासून माझ्या घरात एक चिमणी घरटे बांधून राहत आहे. मी रात्रीच्या वेळेस सुमारे ८-८.३० वाजता कामावरून परतते, तेव्हा ती चिमणी माझी वाट पाहत बसलेली पाहून मला आश्चर्य वाटते. ती चिमणी माझ्याभोवती घरभर, तसेच मी तिला खाऊ घालते त्या थेट स्वयंपाकघरापर्यंत फिरते. तिला आपली भाषा समजत नाही हे मला माहीत आहे; परंतु त्या चिमणीविषयी मला वाटणारी आत्मीयता ही अशी आहे.

४. चिमण्यांना तुमच्या घराकडे कसे आकर्षित कराल?

तुमच्या घराच्या सज्जात किंवा तुमच्या घराभोवती पाणी भरलेली भांडी ठेवणे हा सर्वात सोपा मार्ग आहे. विश्वजीत सांगतात, “पाण्याने भरलेला, फारसा खोलगट नसलेला टेराकोटा ट्रे ठेवा.”

ज्वारी, बाजरी, गहू इत्यादी प्रकारच्या धान्याचे दाणे ठेवा. चिमण्यांना धान्य खायला खूप आवडते.

जास्तीत जास्त झाडे लावा. “फळझाडे अनेक पक्ष्यांना आकर्षित करतात”, हे सांगताना तुम्हीचे झाड त्यांना आकर्षित करण्यासाठी चांगला पर्याय आहे, असेही ते सुचवतात. “कोणी शेवग्याच्या शेंगा किंवा सिंगापूर चेरीच्या झाडांचीसुद्धा लागवड करू शकतात.” अशी पुष्टीही ते जोडतात.

जर चिमण्या तुमच्या घरी घरटे बांधण्यास आल्या, तर ते नष्ट करू नका किंवा त्या चिमण्यांना हुसकावून लावू नका. पक्षी फक्त त्यांच्या प्रजननाच्या काळातच घरटे बांधत असतात. पक्ष्यांची पिल्ले एकदा उंच उडण्याएवढी सक्षम झाली, की ते पक्षी घरटे सोडून निघून जातात, म्हणून पक्ष्यांना सुखकारक वातावरण द्या.

A1. Factual Reading

Question 1:

Match the following pairs of words.

	Column 'A'		Column 'B'
i.	first	a.	way
ii.	dust	b.	trees
iii.	simplest	c.	bird
iv.	fruiting	d.	period
v.	breeding	e.	bath

Answer:

(i – c), (ii – e), (iii – a), (iv – b), (v – d)

Question 1:

Read the passage and complete the following. The figures in brackets indicate the passage number.

- i. Anuj observed the sparrows busy in _____. (1)
- ii. The changes brought in the surrounding of Anuj.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____ (1)
- iii. Vishwajeet misses _____ (2)
- iv. Savita was surprised at _____ (3)
- v. The birds build their nests only for _____ (4)

Answer:

- i. dust bathing.
- ii. a. the roads were widened
b. the bushes were cut off
c. grounds were placed with tiles
- iii. the sparrows stealing rice grains from his plate.
- iv. the sparrow waiting for her when she came back from work, at around 8 – 8.30 pm.
- v. breeding.

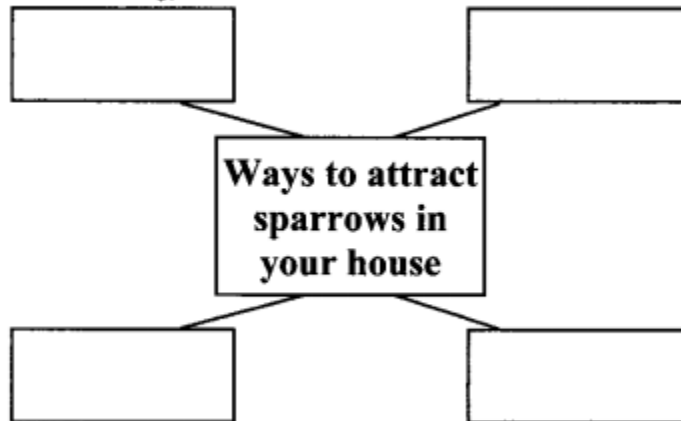
Read the passage from line (1 to 45) on page (32,33) of your textbook and answer the following questions.

[Sparrow was the
.....make the birds comfortable.]

A2. Understanding the Passage

Question 1:

Complete the web.



Answer:

- i. Put water feeders in your balcony or around the house
- ii. Put some grains like jowar, bajra, wheat, etc. for them to feed on
- iii. Plant more trees
- iv. Do not destroy their nest or shoo them away

A3. Meaning from the Text 1. Write from the passage words that mean.

- i. took rest in bush
- ii. cheerful and lively
- iii. obtain by surprise or a trick
- iv. tray made from reddish brown hard baked clay

Answer:

- i. roosted
- ii. chirpy
- iii. steal
- iv. terracotta tray

A4. Language Study

Do as directed.

Question 1:

They roosted in places like small bushes around. (Frame a 'Wh' question to get the underlined part as an answer)

Answer:

Where did they roost?

Question 2:

Grounds where these sparrows used to play were placed with tiles. (Rewrite using 'would')

Answer:

Grounds where these sparrows would play were placed with tiles.

Question 3:

The sparrow would follow me around the house. (Rewrite using 'used to')

Answer:

The sparrow used to follow me around the house.

Question 4:

The simplest way is to put water feeders in your balcony. (Rewrite using '-ing' form of verb)

Answer:

The simplest way is putting water feeders in your balcony.

Question 5:

Fruiting trees attract many birds. (Change the voice)

Answer:

Many birds are attracted by fruiting trees.

A5. Personal Response

Question 1:

What can be the reasons of disappearing of sparrows?

Answer:

According to me, deforestation is one of the reasons for the loss of natural habitat of sparrows. The modern infrastructure is not environment friendly. These birds also face danger from predators like sparrow hawk, which is another reason for their disappearance.

Question 2:

How do sparrows make our life happy?

Answer:

Sparrows make our life happy in a number of ways like, we wake up to the chirping of these birds. It is fun to watch them have dust bath. We also enjoy watching the sparrows come in and out of our windows and fluttering in our balconies.

Additional Questions for Practice

Question 1:

Read Part I and after discussing with your partner, answer the following questions.

i. Answer in a single sentence.

a. What did Sanjana do after returning from school? (find a thing)

Answer:

Sanjana playfully scared the sparrows on the terrace after returning from school.

b. Whom does the news reports blame? (find things)

Answer: The news reports blame the increasing number of cell phone towers and mobile phones.

c. Who is responsible for the disappearing of sparrows? (find the name of a bird)

Answer: The Shikara or the sparrowhawk is responsible for the disappearing of sparrows. .

d. When is 'Sparrow Day' celebrated? (find the day)

Answer: The Sparrow Day is celebrated on 20th March.

ii. Answer in two to three sentences.

a. How does Sanjana recount her childhood days with sparrows?

Answer: Sanjana says that when she was a child, a lot of sparrows came to her terrace to feed on some kitchen garden plants and worms. Each day, after returning from school, she would playfully scare them away as she loved the sight of a flock of birds flying together.- The sparrows would fly away, but would soon return in Afminutes.

b. Why does the writer fear that the sparrows will be introduced only through photos to the coming generations?

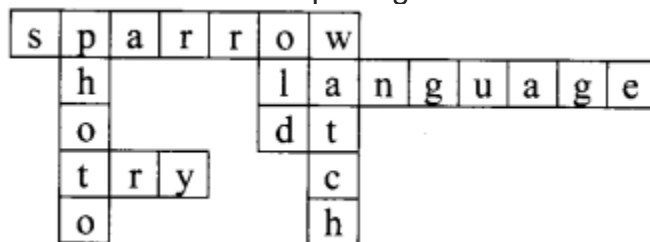
Answer: The writer fears that the sparrows will be introduced only through photos to the coming generations because these birds are losing their natural habitat. The roads are being widened and the bushes are being cut off. Grounds are placed with tiles, where these sparrows used to play. Due to such activities of the humans, the birds are leaving the area.

c. How is 'Shikara' responsible for the decreasing number of sparrows?

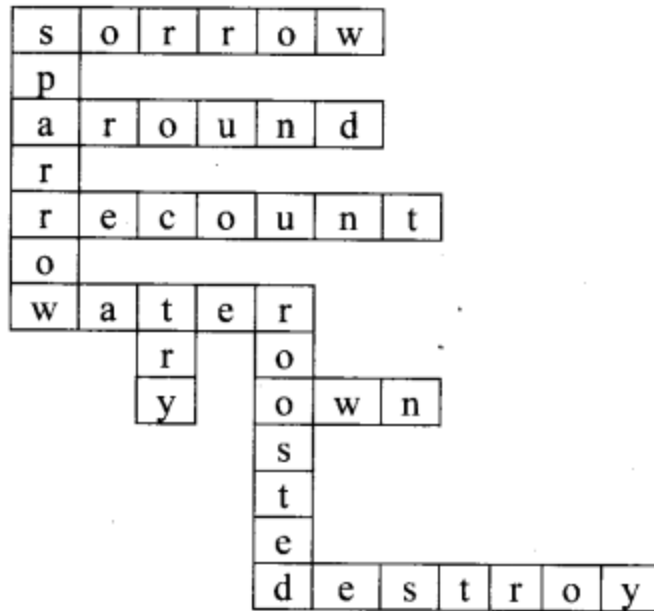
Answer: The 'Shikara' is a predator and preys on sparrows. Hence, it is responsible for the decrease in the number of sparrows.

Question 2:

Develop your own puzzle Work in groups. Select any word from the text and write it on the Black Board. Ask a partner from other group to select any other word and write it in cross or across manner. Develop the grid further.



Answer:



[Note: Students may add more words from the text on their own.]

Question 3:

Read the opinions given in Part II and after discussing with your partner, answer the following questions.

i. Answer in just a few words.

a. As a child, what did the narrator watch after his school hours?

Answer: As a child, the narrator watched sparrows after his school hours.

b. What are the grounds replaced with?

Answer: The grounds are replaced with tiles.

c. When do sparrows make their nest?

Answer: The sparrows make their nests only for the breeding period.

ii. Answer in one or two sentences.

a. Why did the birds leave their area, according to the writer?

Answer: The sparrows roosted in places like small bushes. Later, the roads were widened and the bushes were cut off. Grounds where the sparrows used to play were placed with tiles. Thus, the sparrows lost their habitat and left the area.

b. What did Vishwajeet Naik miss in the past 10 years?

Answer: In the past ten years, Vishwajeet Naik missed the sparrows that would come to the dining table when he would sit to eat. They would even try and steal rice from his plate.

c. What are the ways suggested to attract the sparrows towards your house?

Answer:

The writer suggests the following ways to attract sparrows towards our house; i. t Put water feeders in the balcony or around the house :

i. Put water feeders in the balcony or around the house

ii. Put some grains like jowar, bajra, wheat etc.

iii. Plant more trees

- iv. Do not destroy their nests
- v. Do not shoo them away
- vi. Make the birds comfortable

Question 4:

Look at the following sentences that sum up the different sections of Part II. Match them with the suitable section.

- i. Sparrows enter the dining room.
- ii. Urbanization affects the growth in number of sparrows.
- iii. Sparrows waiting to be fed.

Answer:

- i. Section 2
- ii. Section 1
- iii. Section 3

Question 5:

Search the meaning

Choose the correct meaning of the words underlined.

- i. My father recounts the stories of his childhood.
- a. counts again
 - b. tells
 - c. remembers

Answer:

- c. remembers
- ii. It is easy to point a finger at someone.
- a. to show direction
 - b. to blame
 - c. to call

Answer: b. to blame

- iii. The increasing number of vehicles leads to sound pollution in big cities.
- a. affects
 - b. creates
 - c. results in

Answer: c. results in

- iv. The number of tigers is decreasing day by day due to deforestation.
- a. becoming less
 - b. disappearing
 - c. destroying

Answer:

- a. becoming less

Question 6:

Caring for birds

Because of rising urbanization, deforestation, the birds face problems in finding food and water. You can help them get food and water and help them to live comfortable life.

Look at the two models in your textbook. Discuss with your partner and write down two paragraphs based on the following points.

Points to be used:

- i. Material to be used:
- ii. Stages and steps to be followed:
- iii. How to use:
- iv. Used for:

Bottle 1

A plastic bottle with a closed lid is to be fixed on a stand and placed in the balcony or a terrace. Cut a hole for a stick on each side of this bottle, so that it can stand erect. Also, cut a door hole on each side of the bottle. It should be filled with water. The birds would drink water through the door hole. Thus, fresh and clean water can be made available for the birds.

Bottle 2

A plastic bottle with a wide mouth should be hung with a hook in the balcony or a terrace or a tree in the garden. The upper part of the bottle should be cut off in such a manner that a wide space is left for the birds to put their beaks in. Two holes are to be made in the lower part of the bottle. This is for a stick to pass through them. It will help the bottle to remain steady while hanging from a tree. Fill grains in the bottle and wait for the birds to feed on them.

Question 7:

Articles

- i. Read the following sentences and observe the words underlined. Discuss with your partner and note your observations.
 - a. We are living in the Doordarshan age.
 - b. The sparrow is an endangered species.
 - c. Sparrow was the first bird I was introduced to.

Discuss

- Where are the underlined words placed?

Answer: The underlined words are placed before nouns and adjectives.

- What is the meaning of the underlined words?

Answer: In sentence a, the word 'the' refers to the special title given to the present age. In sentence b, the word 'the' refers to a specific bird. The word 'an' means 'one of the'. In sentence c, 'the' emphasises the fact that the specific bird was the first bird seen by the writer.

- What is their use?

Answer:

They are used to clarify a noun, i.e. state if it is specific or not. The articles 'a' and 'an' are substitutes for 'one' or 'any'. Apart from this, 'an' is only used when it is followed by a noun starting with a vowel sound.

ii. Select the proper alternative to complete the sentence.

- a. Shikara or _____ (a sparrow hawk /the sparrow hawk) is responsible to some extent for disappearance of sparrows.
- b. As every cloud has _____ (a silver /the silver) lining, there is still hope that sparrows will survive.
- c. I should register _____ (a complaint /the complaint) against the tall towers built without permission.
- d. I fear that _____ (a coming / the coming) generation will be introduced to sparrows through photos.
- e. People have _____ (a bad / the bad) habit of keeping birds in cages. Something should be done to stop (a habit / the habit).

Answer:

- a. the sparrow hawk
- b. a silver
- c. a complaint
- d. the coming .
- e. a bad, the habit

iii. Articles are missing in the following sentences. Read the sentences again and again and after discussing with your partner, rewrite the sentences using articles where necessary.

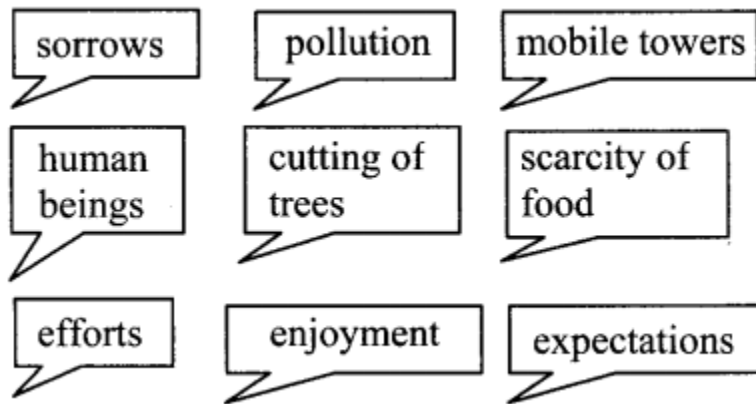
- a. Chirping of sparrows is musical experience.
- b. River Ganga is holy river.
- c. Sparrows are known for their size.
- d. South African jungle is rich with wild life.
- e. Where there is life, there is hope.

Answer: a. The chirping of sparrows is a musical experience.

- b. The River Ganga is a holy river.
- c. The sparrows are known for their size.
- d. The South African jungle is rich with wildlife.
- e. Where there is life, there is hope.

Question 8:**A sparrow speaks**

Imagine that you are a sparrow and want to speak out your heart. Form suitable groups and discuss with the help of the following points. You can also take the help of the text that you have read. Share your thoughts with the class.



You may begin as:

'I'm a little sparrow and how helpless I am!'.....

Answer: 'I'm a little sparrow and how helpless I am!' My life is full of sorrows. I live with constant fear in my heart. I face countless dangers. It is a nice thing that man has been making progress, but this has also brought many evils along with it. I am talking about pollution, which is posing a danger to our species. I am not sure how long we can survive. Mobile towers add to our problems. Human beings, especially small children, trouble us for their enjoyment. They don't allow us to rest peacefully in their balconies and terraces. When we build nests, they destroy them. If this continues, how and where can we lay our eggs and raise our young ones? If this practice continues, we will soon become extinct. We also face the problem of scarcity of food, as man has been cutting down forests, which is our natural habitat. We have a lot of expectations from nature lovers and young children. I am sure they will take efforts to protect and save our species before we become extinct.

Question 9:

Live and let live

Read the following news headlines. They reflect how human beings are adding sorrows to the lives of birds and animals. Select any news headline and develop a full story by imagining what must have happened.

Kingfisher caught in a rat trap

13 Peacocks die due to pesticides
and insecticides sprayed on crops

Only 100 *Maldhok* remain

Egg poaching by humans – Major
threat to turtle nest

Answer:

Egg poaching by humans – Major threat to turtle nest

Goa, September 19: The illegal poaching of sea turtle eggs from their buried nests is one of the gravest threats that these magnificent creatures face. While poaching of the eggs is illegal, poor economic conditions and lack of awareness allow this destructive activity to continue.

Turtles are harvested for their meat and eggs which are used for human consumption. In some places, they are considered a delicacy. In many countries, the trading of turtle eggs is a big industry that provides income to many people.

While laying eggs, a turtle digs up a cavity using its flipper and lays more than 150 eggs. Officials of the forest department, along with some local people, are keeping a strict watch on certain beaches in Goa where turtles come to nest. This patrolling has proved beneficial in preventing illegal poaching of turtle eggs. "The young locals are working hard to save turtle eggs from being destroyed by poachers," one of the forest officials said.