

**(Honeydew)**  
**Chapter 5 : The Summit Within**

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**Comprehension Check (Page No. 76)**

**Question 1:**

Standing on Everest, the writer was

- (i) overjoyed.
- (ii) very sad.
- (iii) jubilant and sad.

Choose the right item.

**Answer 1:**

He was jubilant as well as sad. Jubilant because he had reached the highest peak in the world and sad because he had had to go back to the real world.

**Question 2:**

The emotion that gripped him was one of

- (i) victory over hurdles.
- (ii) humility and a sense of smallness.
- (iii) greatness and self importance.
- (iv) joy of discovery.

Choose the right item.

**Answer 2:**

Humility and a sense of smallness because anybody can get a feeling of respect to see the nature's creation and at the same time feel so small in front of it.

**Question 3:**

“The summit of the mind” refers to

- (i) great intellectual achievements.
- (ii) the process of maturing mentally and spiritually.
- (iii) overcoming personal ambition for common welfare.
- (iv) living in the world of thought and imagination.
- (v) the triumph of mind over worldly pleasures for a noble cause.
- (vi) a fuller knowledge of oneself.

Mark the item(s) not relevant.

**Answer 3:**

(i), (iii), (iv) and (v) are not relevant.



## Working with Text

**Answer the following .**

**Question (i):**

What are the three qualities that played a major role in the author's climb?

**Answer (i):**

Lots of patience, determination and strong will power are the three qualities that played a major role in the author's climb.

**Question (ii):**

Why is adventure, which is risky, also pleasurable?

**Answer (ii):**

Adventure that is risky is always pleasurable because it gives a feeling of satisfaction when it is achieved. It is full of hurdles, uncertainties' and difficulties but man still takes the pride and pleasure in overcoming such hurdles.

Mount Everest is the highest and many people have tried to climb it. According to the author, when the peak is climbed, there is the feeling of "excitement, a sense of achievement, overwhelming joy as if someone has won a battle". There is a feeling of triumph and joy. The objective of capturing a mountain is a part of the success. It is followed by a sense of accomplishment and pleasure. Such experiences not only give us a sense of achievement, but make us emotionally and mentally strong.

**Question (iii):**

What was it about Mount Everest that the author found irresistible?

**Answer (iii):**

Everest being one of the highest and mightiest mountains always attracted him towards it by its beauty, superiority, severity and the complications that came on its way. If someone wanted to climb it, it would take all the amount of energy one had as it is a wild fight back with rock and ice. Once one had decided to go there, he could not give it up half way even when the person's life would have been in danger.

The passage to reach the top is as difficult as the passage to come back. Once it is climbed, there is the feeling of elation and joy of attaining it, a feeling of triumph and of happiness. All these were reasons why he found it tempting.

**Question (iv):**

One does not do it (climb a high peak) for fame alone. What does one do it for, really?

**Answer (iv):**

Climbing a peak means stamina, determination and a strong will power. The display of these physical qualities is exciting for a climber. The skill, apart from being simply physical, is also



emotional and spiritual. It surely presents great hurdles and obstructions. However, man takes joy in overcoming the obstacles. So, it is not for being famous but also for self-satisfaction of achieving something that one climbs a mountain.

It is actually for the pleasure of having attained victory and happiness. There is a sense of accomplishment, the satisfaction of a profound urge to gain something above one's environment, the everlasting love for adventure in man.

**Question (v):**

"He becomes conscious in a special manner of his own smallness in this large universe." This awareness defines an emotion mentioned in the first paragraph. Which is the emotion?

**Answer (v):**

He becomes conscious in a special manner of his own smallness in this large universe. This awareness defines the feeling, the passion of modesty.

**Question (vi):**

What were the "symbols of reverence" left by members of the team on Everest?

**Answer (vi):**

The symbols of reverence left on the Everest by the members were a picture of Guru Nanak left by the author; a picture of Goddess Durga left by Rawat, a relic of the Buddha left by Phu Dorji and the cross that had been buried by Edmund Hillary.

**Question (vii):**

What, according to the writer, did his experience as an Everest climber teach him?

**Answer (vii):**

According to the writer, his experience as an Everest climber taught him to be inspired to face life's difficulties firmly and heroically. It taught him that the take-over of the interior peak is as worthwhile as climbing the mountain. He also concluded that perhaps the internal summit are higher than Everest.

**Question 2:**

Write a sentence against each of the following statements. Your sentence should explain the statement. You can pick out sentences from the text and rewrite them. The first one has been done for you.

- (i) The experience changes you completely. One who has been to the mountains is never the same again.
- (ii) Man takes delight in overcoming obstacles. \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) Mountains are nature at its best. \_\_\_\_\_



- (iv) The going was difficult but the after-effects were satisfying. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (v) The physical conquest of a mountain is really a spiritual experience. \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer 2:**

- (ii) Man takes delight in overcoming obstacles. The demonstration of patience, determination and will power in overcoming great difficulties is enjoyable.  
 (iii) Mountains are nature at its best. The magnificence and splendour of the mountains pose a great challenge for a climber and they are a means of communion with God.  
 (iv) The going was difficult but the after-effects were rewarding. Climbing the mountains was difficult, but reaching the summit gives one a feeling of satisfaction and deep accomplishment.  
 (v) The physical take-over of a mountain is really a pious experience. The act of climbing the peak of a mountain is a spiritual and extremely satisfying experience and will surely change you and give you a sense of being in close association with God.

## Working with Language

### Question 1:

Fill in the blanks in the following dialogues choosing suitable phrases from those given in the box.

at hand      at once      at all      at a low ebb      at first sight

- (i) Teacher: You were away from school without permission. Go to the principal \_\_\_\_\_ and submit your explanation.  
 Pupil: Yes, Madam. But would you help me write it first?
- (ii) Arun: Are you unwell?  
 Ila: No, not \_\_\_\_\_. Why do you ask?  
 Arun: If you were unwell, I would send you to my uncle. He is a doctor.
- (iii) Mary: Almost every Indian film has an episode of love \_\_\_\_\_.  
 David: Is that what makes them so popular in foreign countries?
- (iv) Asif: You look depressed. Why are your spirits \_\_\_\_\_ today? (Use such in the phrase)  
 Ashok: I have to write ten sentences using words that I never heard before.
- (v) Shieba: Your big moment is close \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Jyoti: How should I welcome it?  
 Shieba: Get up and receive the trophy.

**Answer 1:**

- (i) Teacher: You were away from school without permission. Go to the principal at once and submit your explanation.  
 Pupil: Yes, Madam. But would you help me write it first?



- (ii) Arun: Are you unwell?  
Ila: No, not at all. Why do you ask?  
Arun: If you were unwell, I would send you to my uncle. He is a doctor.
- (iii) Mary: Almost every Indian film has an episode of love at first sight.  
David: Is that what makes them so popular in foreign countries?
- (iv) Asif: You look depressed. Why are your spirits at such a low ebb today? (Use such in the phrase)  
Ashok: I have to write ten sentences using words that I never heard before.
- (v) Shieba: Your big moment is close at hand.  
Jyoti: How should I welcome it?  
Shieba: Get up and receive the trophy.

### Question 2:

Write the noun forms of the following words adding -ance or -ence to each.

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| (i) endure _____    | (ii) persist _____ |
| (iii) signify _____ | (iv) confide _____ |
| (v) maintain _____  | (vi) abhor _____   |

### Answer 2:

- |                             |                           |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| (i) endure: endurance       | (ii) persist: persistence |
| (iii) signify: significance | (iv) confide: confidence  |
| (v) maintain: maintenance   | (vi) abhor: abhorrence    |

### Question 3:

(i) Match words under A with their meanings under B.

#### A

Remote  
Means  
Dominant  
Formidable  
Overwhelmed

#### B

difficult to overcome  
most prominent  
Be overcome/overpowered  
Method(s)  
far away from

### Answer (i):

#### Column A

Remote  
Means  
Dominant  
Formidable  
Overwhelmed

#### Column B

far away from  
Method(s)  
most prominent  
difficult to overcome  
Be overcome/overpowered



(ii) Fill in the blanks in the sentences below with appropriate words from under A.

- (a) There were \_\_\_\_\_ obstacles on the way, but we reached our destination safely.
- (b) We have no \_\_\_\_\_ of finding out what happened there.
- (c) Why he lives in a house \_\_\_\_\_ from any town or village is more than I can tell.
- (d) \_\_\_\_\_ by gratitude, we bowed to the speaker for his valuable advice.
- (e) The old castle stands in a \_\_\_\_\_ position above the sleepy town.

**Answer (ii):**

- (a) There were **formidable** obstacles on the way, but we reached our destination safely.
- (b) We have no **means** of finding out what happened there.
- (c) Why he lives in a house **remote** from any town or village is more than I can tell.
- (d) **Overwhelmed** by gratitude, we bowed to the speaker for his valuable advice.
- (e) The old castle stands in a **dominant** position above the sleepy town.

## Poem- The School Boy

### Working with Poem

#### Question 1:

Find three or four words/phrases in stanza 1 that reflect the child's happiness and joy.

**Answer 1:**

The phrases that reflect the child's joy and happiness are 'love to rise in a summer morn', 'birds sing on every tree', 'the skylark sings with me', and 'sweet company'.

#### Question 2:

In stanza 2, the mood changes. Which words/phrases reflect the changed mood?

**Answer 1:**

The phrases that reflect the changed mood are 'it drives all joy away' and 'spend the day in sighing and dismay'.

#### Question 3:

'A cruel eye outworn' (stanza 2) refers to

- (i) the classroom which is shabby/noisy.
- (ii) the lessons which are difficult/uninteresting.
- (iii) the dull/uninspiring life at school with lots of work and no play.

Mark the Ans that you consider right.

**Answer 3:**

- (iii) the dull/uninspiring life at school with lots of work and no play.



**Question 4:**

'Nor sit in learning's bower

Worn thro' with the dreary shower'

Which of the following is a close paraphrase of the lines above?

- (i) Nor can I sit in a roofless classroom when it is raining.
- (ii) Nor can I learn anything at school though teachers go on lecturing and explaining.
- (iii) Nor can I sit in the school garden for fear of getting wet in the rain.

**Answer 4:**

- (ii) Nor can I learn anything at school though teachers go on lecturing and explaining.