



**FORMAN  
CHRISTIAN  
COLLEGE**  
(A CHARTERED UNIVERSITY)

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH (COLLEGE)**

**BOOK I**

**SHORT STORIES**

## Lesson 1

### **BUTTON, BUTTON (Richard Matheson)**

**Q.1: Why did Norma consider the tone and attitude of Mr. Steward offensive?**

**Ans:** Norma considered the tone and attitude of Mr. Steward offensive because she had already told him that she was rather busy, but he kept on insisting her to talk to him in a business-like manner about the button unit.

**Q.2: Why did Arthur disagree with his wife?**

**Ans:** Arthur disagreed with his wife because he considered it immoral to kill somebody for the sake of money.

**Q.3: Why did Norma try to persuade her husband to agree with her?**

**Ans:** Norma tried to persuade her husband to agree with her because she wanted to improve their lifestyle. She wanted to take a trip to Europe, have a cottage on the island, have a nicer apartment, nicer furniture, nicer clothes, and a car.

**Q.4: What were the reasons Norma gave to her husband to accept the offer?**

**Ans:** Norma said that it might be a practical joke or a research project to study people's reactions. She also said that it might be psychological research or some eccentric millionaire might be playing games with people. She also wanted to improve their lifestyle.

**Q.5: Why did Mr. Steward continue persuading Norma to get the button unit?**

**Ans:** When Norma called Mr. Steward herself, he sensed her interest in the offer, that is why he continued persuading her.

**Q.6: What was the message that Norma received after pushing the button?**

**Ans:** Norma received a message from Lenox Hill Hospital informing her about the subway accident. She was told that Arthur had been pushed from the platform in front of the train and had died.

**Q.7: What is the significance of Arthur's life insurance policy?**

**Ans:** Arthur's life insurance policy is for \$25000 with double indemnity. It was the same amount that was offered by Mr. Steward.

**Q.8: Did Norma remain normal on hearing the news of the accident of her husband? Ans:**

No, Norma did not remain normal. She felt unreal as the voice informed her of the subway accident. She was conscious of shaking her head but could not stop. She could not seem to breathe. She struggled to her feet and walked into the kitchen numbly. Something cold pressed at her skull as she removed the button unit from the wastebasket.

**Q.9: Where was the package lying?**

**Ans:** The package was lying by the front door.

**Q.10: What did Norma make for Arthur's breakfast?**

**Ans:** She made pancakes, eggs, and tea for Arthur's breakfast.

## Lesson 2

### Clearing In the Sky (Jesse Hilton Stuart)

**Q.1: Why didn't the old man follow the advice of the doctors?**

**Ans:** The old man did not follow the advice of the doctors because he had to bring up a family of five children. He was a strong and determined person.

**Q.2: What had the doctors told the old man?**

**Ans:** The doctors had told the old man to sit still and take life easy. They told him not to do any work and to enjoy the remaining days of his life. One of the doctors even told him not to walk the length of a city block.

**Q.3: Where did the old man take his son?**

**Ans:** The old man took his son to the top of the mountain to show him a piece of land which he had cleared and farmed.

**Q.4: Had the son ever been there before?**

**Ans:** The son had been there many times except the last three years.

**Q.5: What were the names of vegetables the old man grew on his farm?**

**Ans:** The old man grew yams, potatoes and tomatoes on his farm.

**Q.6: Why did the old man take the steep path?**

**Ans:** The old man took the steep path because that was one way of knowing that he was getting better all the time.

**Q.7: Why did the son at the age of six cry?**

**Ans:** The son cried at the age of six, because he had lost the little wooden plough in a furrow.

**Q.8: What were the feelings of the old man at the age of seventy?**

**Ans:** The old man felt that his time was borrowed, because he had reached the years the Good Book allows the man in his lifetime upon this earth. He wanted to go back to the places he knew and loved.

**Q.9: Why had the old man planted his secret garden?**

**Ans:** The old man had planted his secret garden because this was the only part of the mountain left where he had not worked in the past. It was similar to the mountain slope he and his wife cleared when they were young. So, he went back to his youth. He also said that anything grown in a new ground like that has a better flavor.

**Q.10: Why did the writer's father want him to visit the fertile clearing?**

**Ans:** The writer's father wanted him to visit the fertile clearing because he wanted to show him his achievement through hard work and determination. He also wanted to show him the fertile piece of clearing where he had grown yams, potatoes, and tomatoes.

**Q.11: How did the old man prove his doctors wrong in 'Clearing in the Sky'? Ans:** The old man proved his doctors wrong by hard work and determination. He worked against the instruction of the doctor who told him not to walk even the length of a city block. The doctor also told him not to work, sit still, and enjoy the remaining days of his life, but he lived to raise a family of five children.

## Lesson 3

### Dark They Were, and Golden-Eyed (Ray Bradbury)

**Q.1: Why did Harry want to go back to Earth?**

**Ans:** Harry wanted to go back to Earth because the wind blew as if to flake away their identities. At any moment, the Martian air might draw his soul from him, as marrow comes from a white bone. He felt submerged in a chemical that could dissolve his intellect and burn away his past.

**Q.2: Why did he want to stay?**

**Ans:** He wanted to stay because of a war on Earth. All the rockets had blown up. They were stranded on Mars.

**Q.3: What climate did they face?**

**Ans:** They faced a severe climate. In the morning, hot wind blew and it was foggy at night. The wind blew as if to flake away their identities. Summers burned the canals dry. Summer moved like flame upon the meadows. In the empty Earth settlement, the painted houses flaked and peeled. The wind had done something to their house. The air had burned it.

**Q.4: What was the condition of the Bittering family on hearing the news of the war on Earth?**

**Ans:** The Bittering family was shocked. They felt stranded. The mother held onto her husband and daughter. The daughter wept. Harry was drenched in the hotness of his fear.

**Q.5: What did they want to grow?**

**Ans:** They wanted to raise crops and children.

**Q.6: What was the condition of their house?**

**Ans:** The wind had done something to it. The air had burnt it. The painted house flaked and peeled. The boards were all warped out of shape.

**Q.7: What was the advice that Harry gave to the people?**

**Ans:** Harry advised the people to build a rocket to go back to Earth.

**Q.8: How dangerous can a Martian virus be?**

**Ans:** A Martian virus can be very dangerous. It can change the Earth's people both physically and mentally. It can also affect their memory. The Bittering family had turned dark, golden-eyed, thin, and tall.

**Q.9: What were the feelings of the Bittering family after landing on Mars?**

**Ans:** They were fearful of being stranded on Mars forever. They were afraid of losing their identities. They were scared that the Martian virus could change them physically and mentally and also affect their memory.

**Q.10: Why was Laura weeping?**

**Ans:** Laura was weeping because a radio flashed that war had broken out on Earth. Atom Bombs hit New York and all the space rockets had blown up. She was worried that no more rockets would come to Mars.

## Lesson 4

### Thank You, Ma'am (Langston Hughes)

**Q.1: What was the time when the boy tried to snatch the purse of the woman?**

**Ans:** It was about eleven at night when the boy tried to snatch the purse of the woman.

**Q.2: What happened to the boy when he tried to snatch the purse?**

**Ans:** When the boy tried to snatch the purse of the woman, its strap broke with a sudden single tug that the boy gave from behind. The weight of the purse and the weight of the boy combined caused him to lose his balance. The boy lost his balance and fell on his back on the sidewalk and his legs flew up.

**Q.3: What was the reaction of the woman?**

**Ans:** The woman simply turned around and kicked the boy right square in his blue jeaned sitter. Then she reached down, picked the boy up by his shirt front, and shook him until his teeth rattled.

**Q.4: What was the conduct of the people who saw the incident?**

**Ans:** Two or three people passed, stopped, turned to look, and some stood watching.

**Q.5: How did the boy look physically?**

**Ans:** The boy looked as if he were fourteen or fifteen, frail and willow-wild, in tennis shoes and blue jeans.



**Q.6: What was the condition of the boy when the woman gave him a few jerks?**

**Ans:** The boy's teeth rattled when the woman gave him a few jerks.

**Q.7: Why did the woman ask the boy to wash his face?**

**Ans:** The woman asked the boy to wash his face because his face was dirty.

**Q.8: Why didn't the boy run from the house of the woman?**

**Ans:** The boy did not run from the house of the woman because he did not trust the woman not to trust him, and he did not want to be mistrusted.

**Q.9: Why did the woman not watch the boy while she was preparing a dish?**

**Ans:** The woman did not watch the boy while preparing a dish because she wanted him to realize that she trusted him.

**Q.10: What was the nature of the woman's job?**

**Ans:** The woman worked in a hotel beauty shop that stayed open late. All kinds of women came in and out, blondes, redheads, and Spanish.

**Q.11: Why did the boy try to snatch her purse?**

**Ans:** The boy tried to snatch her purse because he needed money to buy some blue suede shoes.

**Q.12: Describe the appearance of Mrs. Luella Bates?**

**Ans:** Mrs. Luella Bates was a large woman with a large purse that had everything in it but a hammer and nails. The purse had a long strap. She carried it slung across her shoulders.

## **Lesson 5**

### **The Piece of String (Guy de Maupassant)**

**Q.1: Why did Manana accuse Hubert of picking up the lost pocketbook?**

**Ans:** Manana accused Hubert of picking up the lost pocketbook because he had seen him pick up something from the ground. Manana mistook the cord for the pocketbook.

**Q.2: What did the people think of Hubert when they heard about the return of the pocketbook by some other person?**

**Ans:** The people still believed Hubert had picked up the pocketbook, and they said that those were the lying excuses.

**Q.3: Why did George give the pocketbook to his employer?**

**Ans:** George gave the pocketbook to his employer because he did not know how to read.

**Q.4: What made Hubert shameful?**

**Ans:** To be called a liar made Mr. Hubert shameful. According to him nothing was more shameful than to be called a liar.

**Q.5: Why did the people make fun of Hubert's innocence?**

**Ans:** The people did not believe Hubert's story of the piece of string. They said that those were lying excuses, and they started to tell the story of the string to amuse themselves.

**Q.6: Why did Hubert keep claiming his innocence before his death?**

**Ans:** Hubert kept claiming his innocence before his death because he had not picked up the lost pocketbook. He felt that shame and disgrace to his self-esteem and character, and he wanted to restore his honor.

**Q.7: What was engraved on the grave of Mr. Hubert?**

**Ans:** The following words were engraved on his tombstone: “Here lies a man who told nothing but truth. Here lies the man who would not prove his innocence but the flood proved it!”

**Q.8: Why didn't the mayor believe in the innocence of Hubert?**

**Ans:** The mayor did not believe the innocence of Hubert because he considered Mr. Manana to be a man of worthy credence. The mayor did not expect Mr. Manana to lie.

## Lesson 6

### The Reward (Lord Dunsany)

**Q.1: What was the subject discussed at the club?**

**Ans.** The subject discussed at the club was whether opportunity or determination was needed for success.

**Q.2: What did Terbut think of Jorkens' argument?**

**Ans.** Terbut disagreed with Jorkens'. He was of the opinion that opportunity was needed for success.

**Q.3: How did Jorkens convince that a man can become a skating champion of the Sahara?**

**Ans.** Jorkens said that he would make money. He would build a skating-rink in the Sahara and organize a competition there. He would be skating champion all right if he really gave all his time to it.

**Q.4: How did Gorgios persuade his people to make his country strong?**

**Ans.** Gorgios persuaded his people to make his country strong by creating a post of court acrobat. He told the people how the position of court acrobat will increase the glory of their country and its ancient throne. It will strengthen and enable their soldiers finally to win the just rights of the nation in a victorious battle against their accursed neighbors.

**Q.5: What was the viewpoint of the parents of Gorgios?**

**Ans.** The parents of Gorgios were of the view that opportunity is needed to succeed in life.

**Q.6: What were the arrangements made for the function of inauguration?**

**Ans.** The great throne room had been turned into a kind of gymnasium, with the members of the Royal House seated along a raised platform at one end, and the principal officers standing

beside and behind them. Great curtains of red and gold were hung along the walls, and the high swings of acrobats hung down with gilded ropes from the ceiling, and a row of neat hurdles was arranged on the polished floor.

**Q.7: Describe the scene of inauguration. Write five sentences.**

**Ans:** The great throne room had been turned into a kind of gymnasium, with the members of the Royal House seated along a raised platform at one end, and the principal officers standing beside and behind them. Great curtains of red and gold were hung along the walls, and the high swings of acrobats hung down with gilded ropes from the ceiling, and a row of neat hurdles was arranged on the polished floor. Gorgios wore a tight-fitting uniform of red velvet.

**Q.8: What were the feelings of Gorgios on the occasion?**

**Ans.** Gorgios was feeling sad and accomplished at the same time. He was sad because of his continuous struggle. He looked towards the royal platform with a slightly sad expression on his face. He achieved his aim but had lost his age.

**Q.9: Did Gorgios use any shortcut to achieve his ambition?**

**Ans.** No, Gorgios did not use any shortcut to achieve his ambition.

**Q.10: How long had Gorgios to stick to get his ambition achieved?**

**Ans.** Gorgios had to stick for more than sixty years to get his ambition achieved.

**Q.11: What is the lesson that the story teaches?**

**Ans.** The story teaches us that perseverance and determination lead us to success. One who keeps on wins the race.

**Q.12: How did Gorgios achieve his ambition?**

**Ans:** Gorgios was a determined person. He achieved his ambition by sticking to it and by going into politics.

**Q.13: How did Gorgios become the court acrobat?**

**Ans:** Gorgios became the court acrobat by sticking to his ambition and going into politics. He made speeches and told the people how the position of court acrobat will increase the glory of their country and its ancient throne. It will strengthen and enable their soldiers finally to win the just rights of the nation in a victorious battle against their accursed neighbors.

## Lesson 7

### The Use of Force (William Carlos Williams)

**Q.1: What was the condition of the parents on the arrival of the doctor?**

**Ans.** When the doctor arrived, the parents were eyeing the doctor up and down distrustfully and they were nervous.

**Q.2: What was the behavior of the child towards the doctor?**

**Ans.** There was no expression on the child's face. She was fairly eating the doctor up with her cold steady eyes. She misbehaved and attacked him.

**Q.3: She had had a fever for three days, hadn't she?**

**Ans.** Yes, she had had a fever for three days.

**Q.4: Did the girl change her expression when the doctor said, "Does your throat hurt you?"**

**Ans.** No, the girl did not change her expression nor did she move her eyes from the doctor's face.

**Q.5: Why did the doctor call the sick girl by her first name?**

**Ans.** The doctor called the sick girl by her first name because he wanted to get friendly with her so that she might get ready to have a throat examination.

**Q.6: Did the sick girl promptly respond to the instructions of the doctor?**

**Ans.** No, she did not respond to the instructions of the doctor. She knocked his glasses flying and they fell on the kitchen floor.

**Q.7: Why did the parents rebuke her?**

**Ans.** The parents rebuked because she was not following the doctor's instructions and was getting rude to him. She even knocked his glasses flying when he tried to get closer. She also reduced the wooden spatula into splinters.

**Q.8: What was the threat of the doctor to the child if she did not show her throat?**

**Ans.** The doctor threatened her that they would open her throat for her if she did not open it herself.

**Q.9: Why did she break the wooden blade?**

**Ans.** She broke the wooden blade to keep the doctor from knowing the secret of the sore throat.

**Q.10: What was the condition of the tonsils of the sick girl?**

**Ans.** Both her tonsils were covered with membrane.

**Q.11: Why did the parents keep the sick child in the kitchen?**

**Ans.** The parents kept the sick child in the kitchen because it was warm there as the weather was damp.

**Q.12: How did the doctor succeed in examining her throat?**

**Ans.** The doctor succeeded in examining her throat by the use of force. He overpowered the child's neck and jaws, and forced the heavy silver spoon back of her teeth and down her throat till she gagged. Finally, he was able to see both tonsils covered with membrane.



**Q.13: How did the child look by appearance?**

**Ans.** The girl looked as strong as a heifer in appearance. She had magnificent blonde hair, in profusion.

**Q. 14: Under what circumstances can the use of force be justified?**

**Ans:** The use of force can be justified when it comes to saving someone's life. In the story, the doctor used force to save the girl's life.

## Lesson 8

### The Gulistan of Sa'di (Shaikh Sa'di)

**Q.1: What was the advice given by Nushirvan to his people?**

**Ans:** Nushirvan advised his people to be just. He also said that the foundation of oppression was small in the world. Whoever enlarged it, so that it reached its present magnitude, is at fault. A tyrant does not remain in the world, but the curse on him abides forever.

**Q.2: What was the remedy suggested by the physicians for the disease of the king?**

**Ans.** The physicians agreed that the disease could not be cured except by means of bile of a person endowed with certain qualities.

**Q.3: Why did the boy look to the sky and smile?**

**Ans:** The boy looked towards the sky and smiled to seek Allah Almighty's help, because the Qazi and his parents were ready to shed his blood for the king's health.

**Q.4: What should be the role of a Qazi?**

**Ans:** The role of a Qazi should be to provide justice to all without any discrimination.

**Q.5: Why did the king weep?**

**Ans:** The king wept on hearing the boy's words. The king had realized that he was being unjust to the boy.

**Q.6: How did the king recover?**

**Ans:** The king recovered because of the mercy of Allah Almighty. The king showed mercy to the boy by not shedding his blood for his own health, so Allah Almighty had mercy on him.

**Q.7: How did Edwin Arnold describe Gulistan?**

**Ans.** Edwin Arnold described Gulistan in culinary terms as an intellectual pilaf, a literary curry, and a kebab of versatile genius.

**Q.8: What were the feelings of the slave during his journey in the boat?**

**Ans:** The slave began to cry and tremble in fear of being drowned when the boat was hit by a storm, and it started tossing. He created inconvenience for the others.

## Lesson 9

### The Foolish Quack (A Folk Tale)

**Q.1: What is a clump of trees?**

**Ans:** A clump of trees is a group of trees growing together.

**Q.2: What was stuck in the camel's throat?**

**Ans:** A melon was stuck in the camel's throat.

**Q.3: What did the quack pretend to cure?**

**Ans:** The quack pretended to cure goiter.

**Q.4: What did the quack do with the old woman?**

**Ans:** The quack tied a blanket round the neck of the old woman and stuck the swollen part with so much force with a good-sized mallet that the poor old creature instantly expired.

**Q.5: What was the result of the cure?**

**Ans:** As the result of the cure, the poor old creature instantly expired.

**Q.6: What was the punishment inflicted upon the quack by the villagers?**

**Ans:** The villagers made the quack dig the old woman's grave. When he had dug the grave, they beat him well and let him go.

**Q.7: For whom did the quack dig the grave?**

**Ans:** The quack dug the grave for the old woman who had died because of his mistaken treatment.

**Q.8: What did the quack do in the next village?**

**Ans:** The quack again presented himself as a great doctor in the next village.

**Q.9: Why didn't the villagers let the old man get cured?**

**Ans:** The villagers didn't let the old man get cured because they were shocked at the quack's words. The quack had said that he would try his best to cure the case but he should not be forced to dig the patient's grave in case he died.

**Q.10: Why did the quack come back to the camel men?**

**Ans:** The quack came back to the camel men to blame them that they had not shown him the right way to treat the disease.

## **Lesson 10**

### **A Mild Attack of Locusts (Doris Lessing)**

**Q.1: What are locusts?**

**Ans:** Locusts are winged insects just like grasshoppers. They fly in swarms. They eat up the entire vegetation.

**Q.2: Why did the farmers throw wet leaves on the fire?**

**Ans:** The farmers threw wet leaves on fire to make it acrid and black.

**Q.3: What was the desire of every farmer?**

**Ans:** Every farmer desired that the locusts would overlook his farm and go on to the next.

**Q.4: Did Margaret know what to do to keep the locusts away?**

**Ans:** No, Margaret did not know what to do to keep the locusts away. She was wondering what she could do to help.

**Q.5: What was the condition of the trees?**

**Ans:** The trees were queer and still, clotted with insects, their boughs weighed to the ground.

**Q.6: How did the old Stephen treat the stray locust which he found on his shirt?**

**Ans:** Old Stephen picked a stray locust off his shirt and split it down with his thumbnail.

**Q.7: Are the hoppers different from locusts?**

**Ans:** Hoppers are the young locusts. They differ from them in size and age. They cannot fly but jump from point to point.

**Q.8: Did Margaret lose heart on the loss of crops?**

**Ans:** Margaret preferred not even to think of the locusts. She was getting used to the idea of three or four years of them. She felt like a survivor after war.

**Q.9: Why are the locusts compared with bad weather?**

**Ans:** Locusts are compared with bad weather because they are always imminent.

**Q.10: Why did the men eat their supper with good appetites?**

**Ans:** The men ate their supper with good appetites because it was a thirsty work, and they had been working hard throughout the day to keep the locusts off their farm. They thanked God for they said that the situation could have been worse.

**Q.11: Why did the farmers want to kill the locusts?**

**Ans:** The farmers wanted to kill the locusts to save their crops from being eaten and prevent them from laying eggs.

**Q.12: What efforts did the farmers make to prevent the swarm from landing on their crops?**

**Ans.** The farmers made noise, threw wet leaves on fire to make it acrid and black, and lit myriads of fires to prevent the swarm from landing and settling on the farm.

## **Lesson 11**

### **I Have a Dream (Martin Luther King Jr.)**

**Q.1: What was the cause of Negroes' discontentment? [BISE Lhr. 2014]**

**Ans.** The cause of Negroes' discontentment was inequality, injustice, discrimination, oppression, lack of brotherhood and racial segregation in America.

**Q.2: What are the qualities of the veterans of creative suffering? [BISE Lhr. 2014, 2013]**

**Ans.** They are left battered by the storms of persecution and staggered by the winds of police brutality. They continue to work with the faith that unearned suffering is redemptive.

**Q.3: What is the dream of Martin Luther King Jr.? [BISE Lhr. 2015]**

**Ans.** The dream of Martin Luther King Jr. is that there will be equality, justice, and brotherhood in the society. He also has a dream that people will be judged by the content of their character and not by the color of their skin.

**Q.4: What should be the faith of Negroes? [BISE Lhr. 2011]**

**Ans.** The faith of the Negroes should be that unearned suffering is redemptive. They should continue their quest for freedom knowing that they will be free one day and enjoy equal rights.

**Q.5: What was the necessity of pleading the case of the Negroes' freedom?**

**Ans.** The necessity of pleading the case of the Negroes' freedom was the injustice, inequality, brutality, persecution, oppression, lack of brotherhood and racial segregation that they faced in America.



**Q.6: What should be the criterion of judgment for a person? [BISE Lhr. 2016]**

**Ans.** The criterion of judgment for a person should not be the color of his/her skin but the content of his/her character.

**Q.7: Do the Negroes enjoy liberty in all the parts of their country?**

**Ans.** No, the Negroes do not enjoy liberty in all the parts of their country. They face many trials and tribulations, injustice, inequality, brutality, persecution, oppression and racial discrimination.

**Q.8: From which part of the country did the Negroes gather there?**

**Ans.** The Negroes gathered there from Mississippi, Alabama, South Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana and the slums and ghettos of the northern cities.

**Q.9: Write down the song in your own words.**

**Ans.** It is a song in praise of one's country. My country is a sweet land of liberty. I sing for this land where my forefathers died. It is a land of the pilgrim's pride and let the freedom ring from every mountainside.

**Q.10: What is the effect of the repetition of words?**

**Ans.** The repetition of words makes the speech effective and emphatic.

**Q.11: What are the services of Martin Luther King Jr. for the Negroes? [BISE Lhr. 2018]**

**Ans.** Martin Luther King Jr. was a leader of the Negroes. He struggled for their equal rights in America.

## **Lesson 12**

### **The Gift of the Magi (O. Henry)**

**Q.1: How much did she save for Christmas?**

**Ans.** She saved one dollar and eighty-seven cents for Christmas.

**Q.2: Why did she feel proud of the beauty of her hair? [BISE Lhr. 2017]**

**Ans.** She felt proud of the beauty of her hair because she thought it was more beautiful than any of the queen's jewels and gifts.

**Q.3: Why did she sell her hair? [BISE Lhr. 2016]**

**Ans.** She didn't have enough money to buy a Christmas gift for Jim that is why she sold her hair.

**Q.4: Why did Jim sell the gold watch? [BISE Lhr. 2014, 2013]**

**Ans.** He didn't have enough money to buy a Christmas gift for Della that is why he sold his watch.

**Q.5: Why did they want to exchange the gifts? [BISE Lhr. 2018]**

**Ans.** They wanted to exchange gifts to show their love and care for each other on the occasion of Christmas.

**Q.6: Why did she feel sad on losing her hair? [BISE Lhr. 2015]**

**Ans.** She felt sad on losing her hair because she thought that Jim would not like her anymore.

**Q.7: Why did Jim not welcome her when he stepped in?**

**Ans.** Jim did not welcome her when he stepped in because he was shocked to see her short hair.

**Q.8: What did he bring out of his coat?**

**Ans.** He brought out of his coat something (combs) tied in a paper.

**Q.9: How beautiful was the gold watch chain?**

**Ans.** The gold watch chain was plain and simple. Its value was in its rich and pure material.

**Q.10: What was the wisdom in selling the most valuable things? [BISE Lhr. 2017, 2013]**

**Ans.** The wisdom in selling the most valuable things was to show love and care they had for each other.

**Q.11: Who were the Magi? [BISE Lhr. 2012]**

**Ans.** The Magi were wise men, wonderfully wise men who brought gifts to the new-born Christ-child. They were the first to give Christmas gifts.

**Q.12: How did the Magi celebrate their Christmas? [BISE Lhr. 2018]**

**Ans.** The Magi celebrated their Christmas by bringing gifts to the newborn Christ-child. They were the first to give Christmas gifts and thus set the tradition of presenting gifts on Christmas.

## Lesson 13

### God be Praised (Ahmad Nadeem Qasmi)

**Q.1: What was alias Abul's full name?**

**Ans.** Alias Abul's full name was Maulvi Abul Barkat.

**Q.2: What was his turban known as and where did it originally come from?**

**Ans.** His turban was known as Mashadi lungi, and it originally came from Mashhad, a city in Iran.

**Q.3: What did he always carry with him?**

**Ans.** He always carried with him a walking stick, a sort of scepter with decorative bands of brass and gilt.

**Q.4: Describe Maulvi's appearance. [BISE Lhr. 2018, 2017]**

**Ans.** Maulvi Abul had slightly bulging eyes. On his fingers he wore silver rings with large turquoise stones. On his head he wore a light brown turban known as Mashhadi lungi. He always carried a walking stick. For his hair he used fragrant oil.

**Q.5: How much did the Maulvi collect on every Eid? [BISE Lhr. 2013]**

**Ans.** Maulvi sahib collected 150 to 200 rupees on every Eid.

**Q.6: How much was distributed among the needy and the poor?**

**Ans.** 40 to 50 rupees were distributed in the presence of the worshippers among the needy and the poor.

**Q.7: What was the name of his eldest daughter?**

**Ans.** The name of his eldest daughter was Mehrunnisa.

**Q.8: What was the name of the member of the District Board where the Maulvi lived?**

**Ans.** The name of the member of the District Board where the Maulvi lived was Chaudhry Fateh Dad.

**Q.9: What was the name of his wife?**

**Ans.** The name of his wife was Zaibunnisa.

**Q.10: Write the names of the other two daughters mentioned in the story.**

**Ans.** The names of the other two daughters mentioned in the story are Zabda and Shamsun.

**Q.11: How did Shamim Ahmad come to marry Mehrun? [BISE Lhr. 2015]**

**Ans.** Shamim Ahmad came to marry Mehrun amidst fireworks with musicians playing gay tunes.

**Q.12: How did Maulvi Abul inaugurate Shamim Ahmed's shop?**

**Ans.** Maulvi Abul inaugurated Shamim Ahmad's shop by first reciting verses from the Holy Quran in his powerful voice. Then he selected a piece of pink cloth with beautiful flowers nestling amidst yellow dots.

## **Lesson14**

### **Overcoat (Ghulam Abbas)**

**Q.1: What was the colour of the overcoat of the young man?**

**Ans.** The colour of the overcoat of the young man was brown.

**Q.2: How did he look like?**

**Ans.** He was a well-groomed young man. His hair was sleek and shining and he wore sideburns. His thin moustache seemed to have been drawn with a pencil. He had put on a brown overcoat with a cream-coloured half-opened rose in his buttonhole and a green felt hat which he wore at a rakish angle. A white silk scarf was knotted at his neck. One of his hands was slipped into his overcoat while in the other he held a polished cane.

**Q.3: Why did the people come out on the Mall? [BISE Lhr. 2016, 2014]**

**Ans.** People came out on the Mall to amuse themselves among the variety of hotels, restaurants, cafes and snack bars, each according to his own means.

**Q.4: Who were the people wearing such dress and had come on the Mall?**

**Ans.** It was not only the profligate but also those who were usually content to live with their loneliness had come on the Mall.

**Q.5: Why was the cat shivering?**

**Ans.** The cat was shivering because of the intense cold.

**Q.6: Why did the driver of the truck speed away after the accident? [BISE Lhr. 2014, 2013]**

**Ans.** The driver of the truck heard a shriek and realized that something serious had happened so he sped away into the night.

**Q.7: Who took the young man to the hospital?**

**Ans.** A car was stopped, and the young man was loaded into it and taken to the hospital.

**Q.8: What kind of music was played in one of the restaurants?**

**Ans.** An orchestra could be heard playing in one of the restaurants. The music was foreign.

**Q.9: What was the condition of the young man when he was taken to the hospital? [BISE Lhr. 2018]**

**Ans.** The young man was badly hurt. There was a lot of blood about, and he was in a very precarious state.

**Q.10: What were the names of the two nurses who were on duty in the hospital?**

**Ans.** The two nurses on duty in the hospital were Shehnaz and Gill.

**Q.11: Give a list of things found in the various pockets of the young man's overcoat?**

**Ans.** The following things were found in the various pockets of the young man's overcoat: a small black comb, a handkerchief, six annas and a few pies, a half-smoked cigarette, a little diary in which names and addresses of a few people were noted, a list of gramophone records and a few handbills.

**Q.12: What did the young man do at the music shop?**

**Ans.** The young man examined a Spanish guitar with an air of a connoisseur and studied the price label attached to it. Then he lifted the cover of the keyboard of a huge German piano and played a few notes.

**Q.13: What was the condition of the overcoat worn by the young man?**

**Ans.** The overcoat of the young man was old but well-cut. Its material was of good quality. The lapels were stiff and sleeves well creased. The buttons were made of horn. They were big and shiny.



## Lesson 15

### The Angel and the Author - and Others (Jerome K. Jerome)

**Q.1: At what point of journey in his dream did the author hear the throbbing sound of wings?**

**Ans.** The author heard the throbbing sound of the wings when nothing remained but a faint luminosity buried beneath darkness.

**Q.2: What time of the year was it?**

**Ans.** It was January, a fortnight after Christmas.

**Q.3: What does the author like about Christmas? [BISE Lhr. 2014]**

**Ans.** During Christmas time people become good and generous. They do a lot of noble deeds and help the poor and the needy. This is what the author likes about Christmas.

**Q.4: Write down the good deeds the author has admitted are a great joy on Christmas?**

**Ans.** The good deeds the author has admitted are a great joy on Christmas are nobility and generosity of the people towards the needy and the poor; like the child giving Bovril to the shivering street Arab and the squire shoveling out plum pudding to the crowd of grateful villagers.

**Q.5: Why are the noble deeds always a great joy for the author? [BISE Lhr. 2016]**

**Ans.** Noble deeds are always a great joy to the author because they promote love and good will. They provide satisfaction of conscience and are a source of true pleasure and happiness.