

English Book III

(Plays)

Complete Questions Answers

and

MCQs

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
FORMAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE (A CHARTERED UNIVERSITY)
LAHORE

Play 1

‘Heat Lightning’

By

Robert F. Carroll

Questions Answers

Q: Why couldn't the girl describe the killer?

The girl could not describe killer because she was afraid and she had not seen him clearly in the dark stormy night.

Q: What were the circumstances that forced the girl to leave the car?

Or

Why was the girl forced to leave the car on the road?

The girl's car ran out of gas. It was dark stormy night. There were almost no car on the road. She could not get help. So these circumstances forced the girl to leave her car and walk down the road in the hope of catching a bus.

Q: Why did she ask for the help from the first man?

It was because she thought that the killer was behind her and she would be safe under the protection of the first man as he was already there when the girl entered the bus station.

Q: What was the condition of the weather?

The weather was very bad and frightening. There was terrible storm with continuous flashes of lightening and rumblings and rolls of thunders.

Q: How did the second man accuse the first man of lying?

The second man had already seen the girl through the glass of the door, but he found the first man hesitant to tell him about the girl. So he accused him of lying.

Q: Does the girl become suspicious of the first man as the play progresses?

No, the girl does not become suspicious of the First Man as the play progresses because when she enters the station the first man is already present there. She thinks that he is a passenger waiting for the bus. However, at the end of the play, she identifies him as the actual killer when he takes her flashlight out from his coat pocket.

Q: What is her impression about the second man?

The girl is frightened of the second man. She thinks that he may be the killer who has been running after her. But when the second man has gone, she realizes that he is not the killer chasing her.

Q: Why didn't she accompany the second man?

She did not accompany the second man because she thought that he might be the killer who had been running after her.

Q: Describe the scene of the play?

The play "Heat Lighting" is set in the drab interior of the bus station along a deserted high way somewhere in the Midwest.

Q: What are the factors that played role in saving the girl?

Her Luck, her own flashlight, the storm, the woods, the second man and finally the dog were the factors that played their role in saving the girl.

Q: What is the significance of storm in the play?

The storm signifies the troubled feelings of the girl. It increases her fear. The suspense of the play reaches to its climax due to storm. The storm sends the dog to save the girl.

SYNONYMS

1. The girl looks at the light and begins **sobbing** again.
(a) Dancing (b) weeping (c) dragging (d) smiling
2. There is a second flash of LIGHTNING **illuminating** the Center door.
(a) Breaking (b) enlightening (c) knocking (d) thundering
3. The door rattles **viciously**.
(a) Carefully (b) violently (c) slowly (d) rapidly
4. **Rattles** the door viciously once more.
(a) Makes (b) opens (c) clatters (d) closes
5. The **piercing** light of the flashlight is the only light in the room.
(a) Sharp (b) faint (c) full (d) dim
6. Oh' God! I'm **scared**.
(a) Dared (b) peered (c) paired (d) afraid
7. I could hear the water **splashing** under his feet as he ran.
(a) Splatter (b) touching (c) waterfall (d) catching
8. The girl **stunned**.
(a) Slowed (b) stung (c) amazed (d) laughed
9. The **drab** interior of a bus station.
(a) Inhibited (b) populated (c) weary (d) dreary
10. One bench **faces** the audience (Spectators), one faces the rear wall.
(a) Confronts (b) occupies (c) overtakes (d) overlooks
11. He picks up a **discarded** paper.
(a) Fresh (b) latest (c) abandoned (d) new

12. He **glances** back at the door.

- (a) Looks (b) neglects (c) overlooks (d) looks through

13. Her hair is **disheveled**.

- (a) Combed (b) ordered (c) set (d) disordered

14. The girls **hysterically** say: "Thank God! You're here!"

- (a) Cleverly (b) delightfully (c) wildly (d) quickly

15. She **shudders** at her own thoughts

- (a) moves (b) runs (c) trembles (d) worries

Play 2

‘A VISIT TO A SMALL PLANET’

By

Gore Vidal

Questions Answers

Q: What is the purpose of the visit of Kreton?

Earth is Kreton's subject of interest. He has all the information about it. He tells General Powers that his interest is in human beings and their behavior. He also says to Spelding, "*you are my hobby*" and "*I am going native.*" He means to say that he has come to earth for everlasting visit. As the play proceeds he tells General Powers that he will take the charge of the whole world and intends to reform it.

Q: How does Kreton impress General Powers?

Kreton reads the mind of General Powers and tells him that he is thinking about promotion. And when General's troops go to destroy the ship he draws an invisible wall around his ship. These tricks impressed Powers well.

Q: What is the role of General Powers in the play?

General Powers is the powerful chief of National Guard. His duty is to protect his country from foreign invasion. He doubts Kreton to be a spy and wants to arrest him. He tries to overpower him but stands powerless before Kreton.

Q: Draw a character sketch of Mrs. Spelding.

Mrs. Spelding is a simple and loving lady. She has no interest in national and international affairs. She becomes worried when the spaceship lands right in her rose-garden. She asks John to ask Kreton to remove his spaceship from there.

Q: What type of life do you foresee in year 5000?

If the scientific progress continues with the current pace we would be more advanced as that of Kreton's people. We would read minds and control the space.

Q: How much damaging is violence in life?

Violence destroys the bond of love and life. It brings dejection and sorrows in the society. It makes people fearful and stops them from enjoying the happy moments of their life.

Q: How does Kreton prove his extraordinary powers?

Kreton has magical powers that do not allow someone to touch him or his space ship. He built an invisible wall around himself and his spaceship. He can read people's mind. His ship has no instrument and he says he is immortal.

Q: What is the theme of the study of Kreton?

Kreton's visit to earth is study-based. He wants to study the life and lifestyle of earthen people. He is especially interested in the study of the current phase of human civilization.

Q: What does John do?

John is a farm owner. He grows English walnuts there. Mr. Spelding does not like him for his lazy nature.

Q: How much more advanced is the civilization of Kreton than that of earth?

Their civilization is much more advanced than that of earth. They have scientific theories that read minds and make the man immortal. They are wise and intelligent and learn languages very fast.

Q: Can the people of earth compete with the people of Kreton?

No, they can not compete because they are much more advanced scientifically and emotionally.

Q: What is the role of General Powers in the play?

He is the member of National Guard. He is fearful from Kreton and considers him a threat for his country.

MULTIPLE CHOICES

1. There were no _____ inside the spaceship.

- (a) Gadgets (b) knobs (c) time machines (d) instruments

2. General Powers took Kreton in Mr. Spelding _____ to interrogate him.

- (a) Library (b) study room (c) drawing room (d) bedroom

3. General Powers imposed a _____ on the Spelding's residence.

- (a) Curfew (b) Martial Law (c) House arrest (d) ban

4. Mrs. Spelding was worried about the condition of her _____ .

- (a) House (b) clothes (c) dishes (d) rose garden

5. The president of wanted to know all about the alien Kreton.

- (a) France (b) USA (c) Greece (d) Mars

6. General Powers thought that Kreton was.

- (a) A dangerous person (b) a threat to take country's security
(c) An imposter (d) a threat to his life.

7. Kreton tells the human beings that his people do not travel as they can see everything through

- (a) The internet (b) a magic mirrors
(c) Special screens (d) monitors and recreaters

8. What special powers did Kreton possess?

- (a) He could read minds (b) he could read books

(c) He knew all the languages (d) he could fly

9. A had appeared around the space ship that belonged to Kreton.

(a) a force field (b) a barbed wire (c) an electric fence (d) an invisible wall

SYNONYMS

1. The slowly a **luminous** object arcs into view.

(a) Outsized (b) petite (c) unyielding (d) bright

2. His wife, bored and **vague**.

(a) Bold (b) uncertain (c) Immense (d) overriding

3. Meteors are **blazing** hot.

(a) Very (b) cooling (c) burning (d) shining

4. You are only in the **initial** stages.

(a) Ultimate (b) most recent (c) exhaustive (d) early

5. That's one of your most endearing **primitive** traits.

(a) Ancient (b) final (c) ending (d) middle

6. If he's not an **impostor**.

(a) Placid (b) favorable (c) acquaintance (d) fraud

7. I've never felt so **sordid**.

(a) Conversant (b) disgusted (c) happy (d) pessimistic

8. This is the wrong **costume**, isn't it?

(a) dress (b) system (c) answer (d) doing

9. Poor **fragile** butterflies, such brief little moments in the sun.

(a) Delicate (b) hard (c) smooth (d) colourful

10. Are you **deliberately** trying to confuse me?

(a) Badly (b) suspiciously (c) intentionally (d) judiciously

11. I really can't permit them to **wreck** my poor ship.

(a) Destroy (b) buy (c) sell (d) mount

12. Daddy will be **deliriously** happy.

(a) Extremely (b) badly (c) slowly (d) carefully

13. He is middle aged **unctuous** resonant (clear voiced)

(a) Humble (b) smooth in speech (c) meek (d) authoritative

14. His wife knits **passively**.

(a) Actively (b) quietly (c) tiredly (d) easily

15. His daughter Ellen is a **lively** girl of twenty.

(a) gay (b) vague (c) good (d) unimpressive

Play 3

‘The Oyster and the Pearl’

By

William Saroyan

Questions Answers

Q: What is the theme of the play ‘The Oyster and the Pearl’?

The play “The Oyster and the Pearl” shows that human beings are basically good. With reference to the life in a small town, the writer shows the blessings of a simple, loving and caring life.

Q: What type of play ‘The Oyster and the Pearl’ is?

The play ‘The Oyster and the Pearl’ is a sentimental comedy. The play has humor, a happy ending and implied wisdom. The play has social Orientation.

Q: Where does the play take place?

The play takes place in a town O. K-by-the-Sea in California with population of 909. Most of the action occurs in Harry’s shop.

Q: Why is Harry sitting in the barber’s chair?

Clay, a young boy, is giving Harry a haircut. That’s why Harry is sitting in the barber’s shop.

Q: How does Harry bring merriment to tired human heart?

Harry believes that activities such as composing music, painting, book-writing and knowledge sharing make sad souls happy.

Q: What is Harry’s philosophy of life?

Harry believes in take-it-easy philosophy of life. He is of the view that you can make people happy by keeping things simple.

Q: How much did Harry pay for his shop?

Harry told the seller of the shop that he had only eighty dollars. The seller sold him the shop for seventy five dollars.

Q: How long has he been in O.K-by-the-Sea?

Harry bought the shop twenty-five years ago. This is the time when he came to O.K-by-the-Sea. This means that Harry had been in O.K-by-the-sea for twenty-five years.

Q: How many barbers are there in O.K-by-the-Sea?

O.K-by-the-Sea is a small town. Harry is the only barber in the town.

Q: How much does Harry charge for haircuts?

Harry generally charges a dollar for a haircut. In some cases he charges less. He gives some others even free haircut.

Q: Where is Clay going?

Clay tells Harry that he intends to go to the beach. He wants to look for good stuff at the beach.

Q: Why does the writer not open the oyster?

The writer does not open the oyster. He thought if he opened the oyster Clay and his friends will know that there is not pearl in it. This will make them sad.

Q: Why does Clark return?

Clark reads the ad from his family in which the family had requested Clark to come back. After reading this ad in "The Gull" Clark returned home.

Q: What does the writer do with the oyster?

The writer bought the oyster just to help Clay and his family in a respectable way. Apart from this, he did not have any specific purpose in getting the oyster.

Q: Do you think it is right to allow Clay to believe that there is a pearl in the oyster?

There are two points of view on how to present truth. Miss McCutcheon believes that one should look at life scientifically, and should present facts objectively.

Harry, on the other hand, maintains that human considerations are more important. Harry knew that there was no pearl in the oyster but he did not disclose this fact to Clay. Harry was of the view we should see when to present bitter facts and when not to. Life is not a scientific formula. It is a complex and a sensitive reality. Harry is right in suggesting that we should not present plain truth to the troubled ones.

Q: Why is the writer willing to buy the pearl? What does he mean by saying “As far as I am concerned, the whole thing is a pearl”?

The writer comes to know that Clay needs financial help. His family conditions are very miserable. The writer is a caring and refined fellow. He wants to help Clay in a very respectable way. He wants to buy the pearl to give three hundred dollars to Clay. When he says that for him the whole thing is a pearl, he means that he is buying it for a great cause. There is nothing more valuable than helping a troubled child in a dignified way.

Q: What has attracted Harry and other people at O.K-by-the-Sea? Does this town appeal to you?

Harry and other residents of the town like the town because it is quiet and peaceful. People lead a simple life. They are loving and caring. Although they are poor, but they have the wealth of contentment. One would like to live in such a town. It is true that modern facilities play an important role in the life of a town. Likewise, good social relationships also play an important role. I think that social aspect is more important than the physical facilities.

Q: Discuss Harry’s “take-it-easy” philosophy.

OR

What is author’s view of life?

Harry believes in take-it-easy philosophy. This is also author’s own point of view. This means that we should keep things simple. People should not show off. They should not have double standards in life. Even in difficult situations, people should be patient and contented. Life can be made easy by mutual caring and sharing. Love, sympathy and sacrifice can make one happy even in difficult situations.

Literature and fine arts also play an important role in bringing happiness in the life of troubled people.

Q: Why does Clay need money? (important)

He needs money to bring his father back. He also wants to give a gift to his mother.

Q: What has happened to Clay's father? (important)

Clay's father is a poor man and he cannot fulfill the basic needs of his children. His wife always quarrels with him for this reason. Therefore, he has left the house and has gone to Salinas to earn money.

Q: What has Clay put in the local paper?

In his ad Clay requests his father to return home. His family is missing him a lot.

Q: Who is Miss McCutcheon? How does she feel about her job?

She is a new teacher at the school of O.K.-by-the-Sea. She is unhappy about her job because the children do not take her seriously.

Q: What is Miss McCutcheon looking for? How does she feel about the children of the town?

She is looking for the children to examine their interests and habits. She does not feel good about the children of the town because they are careless and do not take her seriously.

Q: What does Harry advise her to do? (important)

He advises her to go back to San Francisco. He thinks that she is a young and pretty girl who needs excitement. He also asks her to marry a young man.

Q: What kind of haircut does Miss McCutcheon want?

She wants poodle haircut.

Q: Can Harry give a poodle haircut?

No, he cannot give a poodle haircut.

Q: What does Miss McCutcheon think that a poodle haircut will do for her appearance?

She wants to change her appearance by poodle haircut. She thinks that this haircut will make her simple and plain. Then she will easily adjust herself to the surroundings.

Q: Where has Clark Larrabee been? How does he get to O.K.-by-the-sea?

He is working in Salinas. He comes to O.K.-by-the-sea by truck.

Q: What does Clark give Harry? For what purpose?

Clark gives Harry thirty dollars to give them to Clay so that Clay could give the money to his mother.

Q: How far is it to Hollywood from O.K.-by-the-sea?

Hollywood is about two hundred miles away from O.K.-by-the-sea.

Q: What work does the man do?

He is a writer.

Q: What did Clay find near black rock? (important)

He found one oyster near a black rock.

Q: What does Clay believe in the oyster? How much is it worth?

Clay believes that there is a pearl in the oyster worth of two to three hundred dollars.

Q: Does Miss McCutcheon believe that there is a big pearl in the oyster?

No, she does not believe that there is a big pearl in the oyster.

Q: Why does Miss McCutcheon have a chair with three legs?

Like many other people she has brought this chair from the beach. She does not mean to use it.

Q: What kind of judge is Judge Applegarth?

He is not judge of any court. Once he judged the dogs at the county fair that gave him the name of judge Applegarth.

Q: What year is it?

It is 1953.

Q: What does Greely have in a bottle?

He has sea water in the bottle.

Q: Who suggests that they should open the oyster?

Miss McCutcheon suggests that they should open the oyster.

Q: Why do they want Wozzeck to come? (important)

Wozzeck is a watch repairer, therefore, they think that he can open the oyster without damaging its pearl.

Q: How does Harry describe the inhabitants of O.K.-by-the-sea? (important)

Harry says that poor families live in the town. Every family has garden and children. They do not have jobs and earn their living mostly by selling vegetables and eggs. Those who get the job can work only two months. A few get the pension.

Q: How does Miss McCutcheon view Harry's thinking about the pearl in the oyster?

She thinks that Harry is encouraging people to tell a lie. Instead, he should show the people reality that there is no pearl in the oyster.

Q: Why does judge think that Miss McCutcheon will not last a teacher? What kind of teacher does he think they needed?

He thinks that she is young and beautiful and can't control the children. He favors an old experienced teacher to teach and control the children.

Q: What is Applegarth complain about the sea? (important)

He complains that the quality of stuff washed up by sea is not good.

Q: What kind of gadget does the writer describe?

He describes the gadget that is found in New York. He says that it is like a safety razor and with its help anyone can have his haircut.

Q: Who buys the oyster? How much does he pay?

The writer buys the oyster for three hundred dollars.

MULTIPLE CHOICES

1. The scene of the play occurs at the:

- (a) Bus station (b) barber's shop (c) doctor's clinic (d) highway

2. In which town does the play take place?

- (a) Delhi (b) OK-by-the-Sea (c) New York (d) Uganda

3. Harry is a

- (a) painter. (b) Singer (c) dancer (d) barber

4. Miss McCutcheon is

- (a) An actress (b) a nurse (c) a teacher (d) a tailor

5. What is the number of population of OK-by-the-Sea?

- (a) 909 (b) 808 (c) 707 (d) 606

6. Clark Larabee is

- (a) writer (b) fisherman (c) barber (d) day's father

7. What is the year of the scene "The Oyster and the Pearl"?

- (a) 1882 (b) 1952 (c) 1953 (d) 1854

8. What is Harry reading?

- (a) a novel (b) a newspaper (c) a Journal (d) a book

9. Who is giving Harry a haircut?

- (a) Clark (b) Applegarth (c) Clay (d) The Man

10. What is Harry's philosophy?

- (a) play (b) work (c) compose music (d) the take-it-easy way

SYNONYMS

1. Who will bring **merriment to the tired old human heart?**

- (a) Happiness (b) spirit (c) contentment (d) endorsement

2. Almost all of them are **unruly.**

- (a) Official (b) creative (c) not viable (d) undisciplined

3. Clark Larrabee has **scarcely noticed her.**

- (a) Speedily (b) frequently (c) efficiently (d) hardly

4. Miss McCutcheon opens her **parasol with anger.**

- (a) Parcel (b) box (c) purse (d) umbrella

5. Compose a **symphony, paint a picture, and write a book.**

- (a) Poem (b) piece of music (c) treatise (d) free verse

6. The sea **washes up some pretty good things.**

- (a) Clears (b) cleans (c) throw out (d) takes away

7. Your fishing tackle's in the closet **safe and sound.**

- (a) Fair (b) upset (c) good (d) secure

8. There isn't an **eligible bachelor in town.**

- (a) Good (b) courageous (c) suitable (d) friendly

9. In my sleep, in a **nightmare**, I would not cut your hair.

(a) Isolation (b) terrible dream (c) company (d) office

10. I'm **determined** to teach here.

(a) Staying (b) optimistic (c) alive (d) resolute

Poetry

1- The Rain

Q.1: How can a rainy day be enjoyed?

Ans: A rainy day can be enjoyed by listening to the sweet music which raindrops create. One can enjoy the rainy day by watching the scene of rainfall. People may go to parks with their families. They may bathe in the rain.

Q.2: What would happen when the rain stops? or What happens when the sun shines brightly?

Ans: When the rain stops, the sun will shine bright and a wonderful light will fill every dark drop. It will be a beautiful scene.

Q.3: What does the poet hope at the end of the poem?

Ans: The poet hopes that after the rain stops, the sun will come out. A pleasant change will occur in the environment. Everything will have a new awesome look. Symbolically the sun stands for equality and end of exploitation.

Q.4: What is the theme of the poem "The Rain"?

Ans: The theme of the poem is the rain is a blessing of God. It is necessary

for the plants and human being. The rain washes away the dust and the sunshine after the rain is a lovely scene.

Q.5: What impression does the sound of the rain falling on the leaves give to the poet?

Ans: The poet hears the raindrops falling on trees with their musical sound. The raindrops fall from the higher leaves and branches onto the lower ones drop after drop and then on the ground musically. The poet feels as if the leaves are drinking rain water.

Q.6: Briefly explain the symbolic importance of the rain?

Ans: “The Rain” is a symbolic poem in which upper leaves of trees represent the rich and the lower leaves represent the poor of society. The sunshine symbolizes the day when the darkness of poverty will come to an end and there will be a fair distribution of the blessings of nature.

Q.7: How does the rain fall on poor leaves?

Ans: The rain falls on poor and feeble leaves ‘**drop by drop**’. It first falls on fresh leaves then the poor leaves get the water from upper leaves because they are not directly exposed to the rain and sun.

2- The Night Mail

Q.1: What does the Night Mail bring?

Ans: The night mail is a train that comes from across the border. It brings postal orders, cheques, and letters for the people of all the walks of life. It brings mail for rich and poor people, shopkeepers, businessman and private parties. There are hurdles in its way but it is never late.

Q.2: What is the reaction of birds on the arrival of Night Mail?

Ans: The birds turn their heads to see the coach. They keep sitting in their nests in the bush. They are not afraid at all.

Q.3: What is the effect of Night Mail on life in the farms?

Ans: Night Mail does not disturb the life in the farms. The people and animal in the farm know her well. They are now familiar to the coach. So, they just keep on with their work when she passes by.

Q.4: What is the reaction of sheep dogs on the arrival of Night Mail?

Ans: The sheep dogs do not bother to look at the train when she passes as they know they cannot change its course. They just keep sleeping with their paws across.

Q.5: From where does Night Mail pass?

Ans: She passes from plains and hills. She passes from the farms and cotton fields. She also passes from moorland and miles of fields of wind-bent grass.

Q.6. What is the theme of the poem "Night Mail"?

Ans: The theme is the beautiful journey of the night mail and how it delivers to the people. It brings different types of mail. It delivers the letters to everyone whether rich or poor. It travels through different lands. It is very punctual. It creates great noise but does not disturb the life of animals and human beings.

Q.7: Why does the poet call the coaches of the Night mail as “Blank Faced”?

Ans: The poet calls the coaches of Night mail as “**blank faced**” from the point of view of birds. To them the train appears empty and impression less. This suggests the attitude of the people who must be concerned with its arrival, for it brings letters, cheques and postal orders for them.

3- Loveliest of Trees, the Cherry Now

Q.1: What is the theme of the poem 'Loveliest of trees the cherry now'?

Ans: The poem is about the unusual emotions of poet's love for nature, nostalgia for the past and pathos for man's short stay in this world.

Q.2: Describe the beauty of the cherry tree as described in the poem.

Ans: Cherry is covered with snow. It is totally white and looks graceful standing along the path. It is full of bloom and its boughs are bending down with a load of bloom.

Q.3: What does the poet wish in the last stanza?

Ans: The poet wants to spend his remaining life enjoying the beauty of the cherry tree. He wishes to go to the woodland to see the cherry tree in bloom.

Q.4: Which fruit is mentioned the poem?

Ans: 'Cherry' fruit is mentioned in the poem.

Q.5: What time of the year is mentioned in the poem?

Ans: Easter time is mentioned in the poem and it is celebrated in spring season in the month of March.

Q.6: What is the significance of Easter among Christians?

Ans: Easter comes once in a year in March or April. It is a Christian feast in celebration after Jesus Christ's coming to life after death again. The dawn of Easter Sunday with its message of new life is important.

Q.7: What connection does the poet form between the cherry and Easter?

Ans: The poet connects the white and pink cherry flowers to the white and pink colour of the Easter clothes. The cherry gives flowers in spring and Easter is also celebrated in this season. The beauty of the cherry and the joys of the people at Easter satisfy him.

4- O' where are you going?

Q.1: What does the fearer tell the farer?

Ans: The fearer tells the farer about the discomforts in the way. He tells him that there is no food and water, there is darkness everywhere in the way. The pass through the mountains will take him nowhere and he will be lost forever. In this way, he tries to scare him.

Q.2: What are the qualities of the rider as described in this poem?

Ans: The rider is a brave and courageous person. He is optimistic and daring. He is a determined and challenge-taking person.

Q.3: What is the significance of the title of the poem?

Ans: The title of the poem 'O' where are you going' gives us a message that there are always such people who will scare you of the dangers in your way. They will ask you not to go there. They will give you various negative remarks about your destination and journey. It is a kind of warning that realizes us to reconsider our direction of decisions.

Q.4: What does the reader tell the rider about the valley?

Ans: The reader is a timid and negative character. He tells the rider not to go there. He tells that the valley is fatal. The furnaces burn there. There is Yonder's midden with its bad smell. He tells that the hole you see is actually a grave where we all will be buried.

Q.5: What does horror say to hearer?

Ans: The horror tries to scare the hearer in various ways. He says that everything is strange there. The trees are shapeless. The angel of Death is coming behind you. He tells him that he has a shocking disease.

Q.6: What kind of feelings does the poet create in the minds of the reader?

Ans: He creates the feelings that if we want to reach our destination then we should be courageous and determined. We should face hardships and trials with patience.

Q.7: What does the bird and twisted trees represent in the poem?

Explain.

Ans: The bird or the shape of the bird in the trees represents the problems and misfortunes that come suddenly. It is not easy to face these problems or to understand them well. The twisted trees stand for the uncertain conditions of life.

Q.8: What does the poet tell about the “gap” in the poem?

Ans: The poet says that the gap on the way is a kind of grave where bold and adventurous people end up.

Q.9: What is the theme of the poem?

Ans: The poem suggests that the way to glory and success is vague and full of dangers but it can be paved through courage, hard work and determination.

5- In the street of Fruit stalls

Q.1: What are the feelings of the poet standing in the dark?

Ans: The word 'dark' signifies the hardships of the world. The poet is feeling the inner state of the children in the street eating juicy fruits. The poet reflects that the children are a happy creature as they do not bother to worry about what is happening in the world.

Q.2: Why has the poet used 'cannonballs' to describe the fruits?

Ans: The poet has used cannon balls to describe the fruits because they look like cannonballs in the dim light of the lantern. Glowing fruits like cannon balls reflect the hardships of life. Hardships change everybody's point of view.

Q.3: What do the children do with the fruit?

Ans: They break the fruit and enjoy the taste of the fruit. A gold or silver fountain of the juice wets their mouths, fingers, cheeks, noses and chins. The light of the lantern brightens their jolly faces.

Q.4: How does the poet describe the fruits piled in the fruit stalls at night?

Ans: The fruits like the melon, guava and mandarin are placed one upon another. The fruits are piled like a pyramid. They shine brightly in red and golden colors.

Q.5: What is the theme of the poem 'In the Street of the Fruit stalls'?

Ans: The world is threatened by war, poverty and misery. But all these have failed to crush man's pleasure for pleasure. Children enjoy the sweet spray of the juice forgetting all the misery they live in.

Q.6: What is the significance of the repetition of the word "Dark" in the poem?

Ans: The poet is sad by the gloom and misery surrounding the world. The repetition of the word "dark" stresses the distress and desolation in the world.

6- The Sindhi Woman

Q.1: What did the poet reflect when he saw the woman? or Who stand most straight in “Sindhi Woman”? Why?

Ans: The graceful and erect walk of the woman with a jar on her head catches the attention of the poet. He reflects and comes to the conclusion that only those people who bear the burden of life manfully; they live with grace and dignity.

Q.2: What kind of picture of Karachi slums do we get after reading the poem?

Ans: While reading the poem, we observe the poor and miserable condition of the dirty areas of Karachi. The narrow and unpaved streets of Karachi are filled with stones, pieces of glasses and bread.

Q.3: How does the Sindhi woman walk through the bazaar and what impresses the poet most in her movement?

Ans: The Sindhi woman walks barefoot beautifully in a wavy manner. She walks smoothly, balancing the stone jar on her head. The cloth on her face is blown back in the blowing air and this adds to her charm. The poet feels impressed by the barefoot movement, devotion, hard work and appearance of the Sindhi woman. She walks at a balanced and constant speed. She is absorbed in her work.

Q.4: How does the poet compare himself with the Sindhi woman and what conclusion does he arrive?

Ans: The poet compares his bent body with the erect and smart body of the Sindhi woman. He concludes that those who work hard and walk erectly carrying weights like the Sindhi woman remain bodily fit.

Q.5: What is the Sindhi woman carrying on her head and how does she succeed in keeping her balance?

Ans: The Sindhi woman is carrying a stone jar on her head. She keeps her balance because she is walking at a constant speed keeping her body erect.

Q.6: What is the most appealing quality of the Sindhi woman?

Ans: The most appealing quality of the Sindhi woman is that she is carrying a heavy load on her head, faces hard conditions of life and still remains **”upright.”** He symbolizes resilience in the face of hardships.

7- Times

Q.1: Explain the message in the first eight lines of the poem “Times’ in your own words.

Ans: The poet says that Allah has created the universe with a sublime purpose and a scheme. There is a time for everything to happen. There is a time for every season. There is a time to come in this world and there is a time to depart. Likewise there is a time for sowing the seed, and there is a time for ploughing the field, for watering the plants, and for reaping the harvest. Joy and grief play hide and seek in our life. Sometime we are very happy and sometime very sad.

Q.2: What is the role of time in human life?

Ans: Time plays an important role in human life. There is a time for every human being to be born and a time to die. The schedule of life and death does not change even for a moment.

Q.3: How important is the time for a gardener and a farmer?

Ans: The gardener and the farmer need to be very punctual. They must sow the seeds on time, and they must pluck the flowers and reap the harvest on time.

Q.4: What is the significance of time for a builder?

Ans: Sometimes the builder has to raze an old building to the ground because it is not safe enough. Another time he builds it again.

Q.5: What is the significance of time in human relations?

Ans: Time plays a significant role in human relations. Sometimes the two persons are bosom friends, and another time they become bitter enemies.

Q.6: What do you understand by the lines: “A time to keep silence, And a time to speak”?

Ans: These lines underline the importance of our actions. Both silence and speech have their own value but the point is we must choose proper time to speak and to keep silent.

8- OZYMANDIAS

Q.1: Who was Ozymandias?

Ans: Ozymandias was an ancient Egyptian king. He was a very arrogant and cruel king. He committed great atrocities just to satisfy his feelings of pride and arrogance.

Q.2: what was the condition of statue standing in the desert?

Ans: The statue was completely destroyed. It was a trunkless statue. It was decayed and ruined under the crushing pressure of time. Its head was lying half-buried in the sand. It was shattered and broken.

Q3: What did the features of the statue reflect?

Ans: The features of the statue reflected the arrogance and cruelty of the king. They showed that the king had committed many great acts of cruelty just to satisfy his feelings of pride.

Q.4: What was written on the pedestal of the statue?

Ans: It was written there: ‘My name is Ozymandias, king of kings: Look on my works, Ye Mighty and despair.’

Q.5: What is the theme of the poem Ozymandias?

Ans: The theme of the poem is the mortality of humans. No man can be immortal. One day everything vanishes under the pressure of time. Even the memorials do not live long.

Q.6: Give a short character sketch of Ozymandias?

Ans: Ozymandias was the powerful king. He wore a proud frown on his face. His lips were wrinkled in anger. He seemed to be a cruel and merciless king.

Q7: What moral lesson do we learn from the poem ‘Ozymandias’?

Ans: The moral lesson we learn from the poem is that worldly power and glory are short-lived. Our feelings of pride and arrogance are merely self-deception. So, we should never become proud and arrogance,

Q.8: What kind of feelings does the poem create in the reader’s mind?

Ans: Shelley points to the bitter reality of time. An individual does pass away, and with him all signs of his existence and superiority disappear. There remains nothing behind but sand which stand for wastefulness and total destruction.

Q.9: What did the traveler see in the desert?

Ans: The traveler saw the ruined statue of Ozymandias in the desert. He saw two vast trunkless legs standing in the desert. The head of the statue was lying half sunk in the sand. It looked shattered.

9- THE FEED

Q.1: What does a sparrow hold in her beak?

Ans: A sparrow holds a grain of millet in her beak

Q.2: Which line in the first stanza tells us that the young ones have no feathers?

Ans: The following line tells us so:

“From head to toe they are beaks”.

Q.3: How many young ones are to be fed?

Ans: There are ten young ones to be fed.

Q.4: What is the condition of the young ones?

Ans: The young ones are very small and hungry. They are so small that they do not have a bird-like appearance. They do not have feathers. They always keep crying for food.

Q.5: How does the mother sparrow feed her young ones?

Ans: The mother sparrow feeds her young ones by breaking one small grain of millet into tiny pieces. There are ten young ones to be fed, but the mother sparrow successfully feeds them all.

Q.6: Whom do the young sparrows represent?

Ans: The young sparrows represent the hungry population of the world.

Q.7: What is the dilemma of the mother sparrow?

Ans: The dilemma of the mother sparrow is that her young ones are ten in number but she has only one grain of millet to feed them. The mother sparrow is unable to decide which of her young ones she should feed first.

Q.8: What do you feel after reading the poem ‘The Feed’?

Ans: Apparently the poet has described the love of a mother for her young ones but in reality he is asking man to invent not weapons but means to distribute

food among the hungry people of the world. After reading the poem we feel that we should use our energy and resources in constructive works. We should avoid doing anything destructive. We should share our pleasures with other human beings and be a source of solace and satisfaction to them.

10- HOLLOW MEN

Q.1: Why does the poet call us hollow men?

Ans: The term ‘hollow’ means having empty space inside. The poet calls us hollow men because we are inwardly empty and soulless. We have no moral and spiritual qualities. We do not have the noble ideas. We, the modern men, are soulless, faithless and characterless.

Q.2: What does the terms “stuffed men” mean in the poem?

Ans: The stuffed men are the men whose minds are filled with worthless straws and not with wisdom. Such people seem to be wise but in fact they are silly and stupid.

Q.3: Who has been called hollow men?

Ans: The modern men are called hollow because they have become materialistic and have lost traits of love, sincerity and sympathy with their fellow men. They have bad intentions and trivial actions, so their personalities are strong based on moral and ethical norms.

Q.4: What is the shape of hollow men?

Ans: Their shapes have no forms. They are deformed. They lack good human qualities.

Q.5: What does the phrase leaning together mean?

Ans: It means that the hollow men are living with the support of each other. Otherwise they have no guts to live on.

Q.6: Why are our voices hollow?

Ans: Our voices are hollow because we do not have strong feelings such as love, affection, compassion etc. In fact we have inwardly become soulless, worthless and even dead.

Q.7: How do the whispers of the hollow men sound?

Ans: The whispers of hollow men are quiet and meaningless. They sound like the wind through the dry grass or like the creeping sounds of rats over the pieces of glass.

Q.8: What is the theme of “The Hollow Men”?

Ans: T.S. Eliot says modern men have deprived themselves of the entire heritage that once marked the glory of their ancestors. They have become soulless. They are just stuffed with greediness and selfishness. They are, therefore, spiritually dead and intellectually paralyzed.

11- LEISURE

Q.1: How does the poet compare modern man with animals?

Ans: The poet says that the cows and the sheep are better than humans. They spend more time with the green leaves and trees. But man is so busy that he can not stand so long as sheep or cows do to enjoy the beauties of nature.

Q.2: When does the life of a man become poor?

Ans: Man has made his life poor by so much involvement in the worldly gains that he has no time to enjoy the beauty of nature.

Q.3: What makes our life full of care?

Ans: It is the worldly pursuits and the superficial gains that take away all our time, and we live a poor and dull life. The poet regrets that the mechanical haste of the modern age has deprived us of simple, innocent pleasures of life.

Q.4: What lesson does the poet want to convey in the poem, “Leisure”?

Ans: He wants us to pay heed to the beauty spreading around. He says that the life which is full of cares is a poor life. We should not live a poor life. We should enjoy the beauty of nature.

Q.5: How do we react to Beauty’s glance?

Ans: Here beauty is personified as a young pretty girl who looks at us with loving and smiling eyes, but we are so busy in worldly matters that we do not have time to reciprocate her loving glance.

Q.6: What is the central idea or theme of the poem?

Ans: Nature stands for purification and enrichment of our souls. But our mechanical haste and modern lifestyle have made our life poor by spoiling our peace of mind and depriving us of aesthetic pleasures.

12- RUBA'YAT

Q.1: Who was Abraham?

Ans: Abraham was the prophet of Allah who was thrown into fire by his opponents, but he was saved by his faith in God.

Q.2: What is faith according to Allama Iqbal?

Ans: Faith is total submission to Allah's will and according to Allama Iqbal, true faith is like the faith of Abraham who jumped into fire, and he was saved by his strong faith in God.

Q.3: What is worse than slavery and why?

Ans: According to Allama Iqbal to have no faith is worse than slavery.

Q.4: Who cannot compete with the culture of civilization of Makkah?

Ans: Europe cannot compete with the civilization of Makkah as Europe (West) is devoid of faith in God, and so the westerns have no such binding force as Makkah which unites the Muslims and makes them a nation.

Q.5: What has made the efforts of Muslim fruitless?

Ans: Modern age has captivated the Muslims and made them materialistic and dependent on the Europeans who are faithless and spiritually dead. The prayers of the Muslims are, therefore, cold, and their efforts fruitless.

Q.6: What is the present condition of the Muslims as given in the last stanza of the poem?

Ans: The present condition of the Muslims is lamentable. They have become slaves to materialistic gains. They are devoid of love's madness that brings courage, independence and self-honour.

Q.7: The blood runs thin in the Muslims' veins, what does it mean?

Ans: It means that the Muslims are not firm in their belief. They do not love God fully. They do not follow God's orders. It also means that people have become selfish and they lack brotherhood.

Q.8: What is the moral lesson of the poem?

Ans: The moral lesson is that true faith in God gives us fearlessness, self-honour, and a passion for sacrifice. The Muslims should have firm faith in God. Faith frees us from the shackles of race, colour, creed, and caste. It knits all human beings into universal brotherhood.

Q.9: Why are our ranks broken, hearts perplexed, and prayers cold?

Ans: The Muslims have no unity, no peace of mind and no spirit in their prayers as they do not have true faith in God. He says that the Muslims of the present age are devoid of love's madness that is why our hearts are perplexed, ranks broken and our prayers cold.

13- A TALE OF TWO CITIES

Q.1: Why do the people in the poem look powerless and helpless?

Ans: Atom bomb was dropped on them. Everything was destroyed. Thousands of men died in no time. Those who survived were powerless and helpless. They were wounded, burnt and frightened to death.

Q.2: Under what circumstances had the victims to pass through?

Ans: Everything was destroyed. All the beautiful things and the eatables were smashed. The people were in terrible condition. They could do nothing but weep and wail. They were powerless and helpless.

Q.3: Describe the scene of devastation.

Ans: The people of the two cities of Japan passed through great pain, suffering, and terrible death when a nation in its wild passion dropped atom bombs on them. The victims were scarred and burnt, and there were no one to share their moans or to lessen their groans.

Q.4: Who shares the moans and lessened the groans of the people of the two cities?

Ans: No one shares their moans and lessened their groans. It may mean that the misery was too great to be shared and lessened.

Q.5: Were the victims completely destroyed or did they rise again?

Ans: The innocent people of Japan were scarred, burnt, and reduced to ashes in the Second World War, but their faith and spirit could not be destroyed. They did not lose hope again to the heights of glory.

Q.6: What is the moral lesson of the poem?

Ans: The moral lesson of the poem is that war is the most heinous crime against humanity. It's the violation of human rights. War mongers should be condemned and punished. It also gives us a lesson that we do not lose anything if we do not lose our hope and will power. We learn from the poem that those are the great people who bear pain but do not lose heart, and rise again to the height of glory.

14- My Neighbor Friend Breathing His Last

Q.1: When does a person remember God?

Ans: When a person is in pain or trouble, he remembers God because he finds no helper but God.

Q.2: What is the effect of the death scene?

Ans: The death scene shows us the reality of the mortal world. Its shocking effects bring us closer to God.

Q.3: Why does a person feel helpless on the death of a friend?

Ans: Death is a hard reality. This is the final end of life. When a person sees a dear one dying, he feels sad and helpless. He can neither die with him nor prevent the death of his friend

Q.4: What does flare up flames in the heart to height?

Ans: The shock of separation of the poet from his spiritual guide flares up flames in heart to height.

Q.5: Without whose love Bullah is in loss?

Ans: Without Allah's love Bullah is in loss.

Q.6: What conclusion does the poet arrive at as expressed in the last three lines of the poem?

Ans: The poet concludes that one cannot live in this world without the love and mercy of God nor can he do well in the next life without having God's mercy, love and grace.

15- He came to Know Himself

Q.1: Why does the poet emphasize on knowing one ‘self’?

Ans: The poet emphasizes on knowing oneself because the ‘self’ of a person is a mirror to see Allah. One cannot reach Allah without recognizing his ‘self’.

Q.2: What makes a person entangled in love?

Ans: When a person recognizes his ‘self’, he starts seeing unlimited treasures of God. This feeling makes him entangled in love.

Q.3: Why did Mansoor mount the gallows?

Ans: Mansoor was blessed with love of God. In his heart there was nothing but God. This world was meaningless for him. So, he mounted the gallows to reach his God.

Q.4: What is the bare Truth?

Ans: The bare truth is that there is nothing in this world but God. He is in hearts of pious people. Once a man sees His light, he submits himself before Him.

Q.5: What does the poet say about his sojourn on the earth?

Ans: ‘Sojourn’ means brief or short stay. The poet has understood that life in this world is very short. This short life should be lived well in preparation for the everlasting life of heaven.

Q.6: Explain the title of the poem.

Ans: Mansur came to know that he possessed some of God’s qualities. As he told this to everyone, people thought that he was equating himself with God so they killed him. We all possess some of God’s qualities but we do not exhibit them.

16- God's Attributes

Q.1: How many attributes of God are mentioned in the poem?

Ans: Three attributes of God are mentioned in the poem. They are “Knowing”, “Seeing” and “Hearing.”

Q.2: What makes one afraid of sinning?

Ans: God is all “Seeing” makes one afraid of sinning. People know that God is seeing them all the time so they try not to commit sins or evil deeds.

Q.3: What are the effects of God's attributes?

Or

How do the attributes help in refining the character of a person?

Ans: The attributes of God make a person's character exemplary. A person tries to keep himself away from the evil deeds because he knows that God is all knowing, seeing and hearing all the time.

Q.4: God calls Himself “Hearing”. How does this attribute help one in daily speech?

Ans: When a person realizes that God is all “Hearing”, he refrains from using harsh and bad words in his speech.

Q.5: Mention three more attributes of God and Explain.

Ans: The Great Forgiver as He forgives everyone's faults.

The Protector as He protects us from dangers.

The Loving as He loves us.

Q.6: What is the central idea of the poem ‘God's Attributes’?

Ans: God has certain qualities that are not mere vain titles. They show the qualities of God. They stop us from doing something wrong.

17- The Delight Song

Q.1: What do you understand when the poet says “I am the shadow that follows a child”?

Ans: The poet is much impressed by the innocent nature of the child. A child always does the folly and enjoyable tricks. So, the poet also wants to enjoy like the child by following him.

Q.2: How can the crust of snow glitter?

Ans: The crust of snow glitters when the sun rays fall on it.

Q.3: What is the result of man’s good relation with the earth and the lords?

Ans: If a man is in good relation with the earth and lords, he can spend happy and enjoyable life on earth.

Q.4: What is the dream of the poet?

Ans: The poet wishes to be in a happy relationship with all that is on the earth and the people who live here. He wishes to enjoy all the natural phenomena and activities of the fish, birds, animals and all other beautiful creatures.

Q.5: What are the things that keep a person alive?

Ans: All nature, the sky, the earth, the birds, animals and beautiful creatures, the natural phenomena and human beings and their good qualities keep a person alive. His pleasant feelings and thoughts as he lives in the world keep him alive.

Q.6: “I am a blue horse running in the plains.” What does this line suggest?

Ans: Blue color stands for stability. Horse is a symbol of power and strength. The poet feels strong. The line also shows the freedom that the poet is enjoying.

18- Love- an essence of all religions

Q.1: Why does the poet put emphasize on Love?

Or

What is the effect of Love?

Ans: The poet emphasizes on love because love is an essence of all religions. Love can change a devil person into a pious man. It can make this world a paradise.

Q.2: What is the significance of vinegar becoming sweet wine?

Ans: Love has a purifying effect. Vinegar is the raw stuff. Through processing it become wine. Likewise love purifies the base passion.

Q.3: What is the significance of stake becoming a throne?

Ans: Love makes people brave. Inspired with sublime mission, the faithful fight against heavy odds and become victorious. Thus, the stake becomes a throne.

Q.4: What is the significance of burning fire becoming pleasing light?

Ans: Love has a moderating effect. It can change burning fire of passion into gentle and everlasting feelings.

Q.5: What is the significance of stone becoming soft?

Ans: Love has a softening effect. It can soften stone-hearted people and make them gentle and caring.

Q.6: What is the significance of lions becoming harmless?

Ans: Love has a taming effect. It can tame the lions, the brave ones, and make them behave.

Q.7: Is life worth living without love?

Ans: Without love life is dry and boring. Base passions such as jealousy and hate make life miserable. Love brings harmony and joy in life.

Q.8: What is the significance of thorns becoming roses?

Ans: Love is a great force of life. Thorns are symbol of pain and roses are symbol of delight. In a miraculous way love can change pain into delight. For instance it is painful to remember a departed friend; still we love to remember him.

19 – A Man of words and not of deeds

Q.1: How does the life of a man pass through different phases?

Ans: This poem is about a talkative man. The poet says that a talkative person spends an inactive life and does not use his abilities in the right direction. So, with the passage of time, inactivity ruins his life completely.

Q.2: What happens when the life is not of deed but is full of words?

Ans: The life full of weeds and not of deeds always leads to ultimate destruction.

Q.3: What is the condition of the garden when the weeds start growing?

Ans: The garden becomes useless when the weeds start growing in it because one cannot expect fruits from weeds.

Q.4: What does the flying of the bird and the eagle signify (mean)?

Ans: The flying of the bird shows the flying or getting away of the talkative man from the troubles he creates for himself. The talkative man has many opponents and enemies which he has made through his loose talk. He flies from them like the bird or eagle.

Q.5: What does a talkative person do when the door begins to crack?

Ans: A talkative person is a cowardly fellow in a lion's skin. When he is exposed in front of the people he does not face them straight. He hits people in the back through his Crooked and poisonous talk.

Q.6: How does a talkative person cause one's heart to bleed?

Ans: A talkative person causes discomfort to the people through backbiting and foul talk. A sensitive person becomes even more upset as he comes to know the evil role of the naughty person. In sheer anxiety his heart begins to bleed.

Q.7: Describe the typical traits of a talkative person.

Ans: A talkative person is the one who does not have much work to do. Talking and self-praise go side by side. A talkative person is fond of criticizing other people. With the passage of time talking becomes an addiction. In order to satisfy himself he needs to talk more and more. People feel uncomfortable in

the company of a talkative person. As soon as they find some opportunity, they leave his company. A talkative person is a cowardly fellow in a lion's skin. When he is exposed in front of the people, he does not face them straight. He hits people in the back through his Crooked and poisonous talk.

Q.8: What is the moral of the poem?

Ans: The moral of the poem is that actions speak louder than words.

Q.9: Why does the poet compare a talkative person with a garden full of Weeds?

Ans: The poet believes that a talkative person is simply useless. His idle talk does not help his family, his friends or even his own self. Therefore, the poet compares him with a garden full of weeds.

Q.10: Why does the poet compare a talkative person with a garden full of Snow?

Ans: A talkative person wastes his precious time. His friends are also upset. Like heavy snowfall in a garden, he creates a messy situation for the people around.

Q.11: Why does the poet compare a talkative person with a bird upon the wall?

Ans: During snowfall, birds cannot fly. Shivering with cold they sit quietly on the wall. Just like this, people slip into a corner as they encounter a talkative person.

20- The Broken Images

Q.1: What is the condition of the two persons, one who trusts clear images and the other who mistrusts broken images?

Ans: The person who trusts the clear images assumes fact because he trusts them. But he gets confused when the facts fail him. The second person who mistrusts his broken images always questions their relevance and finds the reality.

Q.2: Why does a person question his senses when the facts fail him?

Ans: The person who trusts clear images or ideas finds society or life to be very different from his thinking. Life is not regular or systematic. So, when he finds facts of life different from his ideas, he begins blaming his feelings and understanding.

Q.3: Who is in a new confusion of his understanding?

Ans: The person trusting his clear images or regular thoughts about life is in a new confusion. He is in confusion when he finds his ideas opposite to the realities or facts of life.

Q.4: What is the moral of the poem?

Ans: The lesson is that we should be ready to change our ideas about life and society as the poet does. It is better to have irregular sets of ideas that are changeable. Our thinking should be flexible.