

Columbia Foundation School

English Notes - Class – XII

Going Places Chapter Wise Important Questions Class 12 English

Short Answer Type Questions (3 Marks, 30-40 Words)

Question.1. Why is Sophie attracted to Danny Casey? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. Danny Casey is a young and successful football player from Ireland. He is also quite handsome, which adds to his popularity among his fans, especially young girls of Sophie's age. Naturally, Sophie is attracted to him. Besides, her family members are also huge football fans and Casey is a hero for them.

Question.2. How are Jansie and Sophie different from each other? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. Jansie and Sophie have contrasting characters and an altogether different approach towards life. Jansie is quite practical and her feet are grounded in reality, whereas Sophie is a daydreamer and lives in an imaginary world. Jansie is mature and accepts the truth that people of their stature can only become workers in a biscuit factory. On the other hand, Sophie tries to escape from reality and dreams of becoming an actress, a manager or a fashion designer.

Question.3. Why did Sophie long for her brother's affection? (All India 2014)

or

Why did Sophie like her brother Geoff more than any other person? (Delhi 2013)

Answer. Sophie found in her brother, Geoff a patient listener to all her fantasies and also one she could confide in. The other members of her family and even her friend Jansie made fun of her fantastic stories. This made her quite fond of Geoff. She also looked upon Geoff as someone widely travelled. His world remained a fascination for her and she longed that someday he might take her there.

Question.4. Did Geoff keep up his promise? How do you know? (All India 2013)

or

Did Geoff keep his promise to Sophie? How do you know? (Delhi 2011)

Answer. Geoff didn't keep his promise to Sophie. Sophie told Geoff about her meeting with Danny Casey at the Royce's. Geoff told the story to Frank who in turn told his sister, Jansie, about it. However, Geoff never revealed the full story, as he did not tell anyone about Sophie's supposed 'date' with Danny Casey.

Question.5. Why was Sophie jealous of Geoff's silence?

Answer. Geoff never spoke much. Sophie always pondered over the areas of his life which he never talked about. His world remained a fascination for her. She felt that when he was not speaking, his mind was away at some unknown place, and so she felt jealous of him.

Question.6. Why did Sophie not want Jansie to know anything about her meeting with Danny Casey? (All India 2012)

or

Why didn't Sophie want Jansie to know about her story with Danny? (Delhi 2011)

Answer. Sophie did not want Jansie to know anything about her meeting with Danny Casey because she knew that Jansie was a blabber mouth. The moment Jansie knew of someone's secret, the whole neighbourhood would get to know of it. Sophie did not want to be ridiculed before others.

Question.7. How did Sophie's father react when Geoff told him about her meeting with Danny Casey? (Delhi 2011)

Answer. Sophie's father is a realist to the core. He does not believe in Sophie's story at all and dismisses it as another of her wild fantasies. When Geoff tells him about Sophie's chance encounter with Danny Casey, the Irish prodigy, he expresses disdain and rubbishes her story. He changes the topic by saying that he once knew a man who knew another famous English footballer named Tom Finney. He warns Sophie that such concocted stories would land her into trouble some day.

Question.8. What thoughts came to Sophie's mind as she sat by the canal? (All India 2011)

Answer. Sophie felt doubts stirring inside her, as she sat by the canal waiting for Danny Casey. When she saw no sign of him, she remembered Geoff's words that Casey would not come. She wonders what she would tell her family. She thinks that Geoff would be disappointed. She is saddened by the fact that she will never be able to show her family that they are wrong to cast doubts on her.

Question.9. Which was the only occasion when Sophie got to see Danny Casey in person? (All India 2011)

Answer. The only occasion when Sophie got to see Danny Casey in person was when she went to watch the match with her family. Sitting amongst the spectators, Sophie saw Casey from a distance. The power of her imagination was such that she concocted a story of her brief encounter with him and almost got an autograph from him.

Question.10. Why did Jansie discourage Sophie from entertaining thoughts about the sports- star, Danny Casey? (All India 2011)

Answer. Jansie was a realist, and not a daydreamer like Sophie. She discouraged Sophie from having such dreams because her dreams were wild and impossible. She had neither the means nor the skills to achieve them. She feels sad because she knows that both of them will have to work at the biscuit factory after they pass out of school. It was preposterous for her to live in such a dream world and it could lead to depression or low self-esteem.

Question.11. Why did Sophie wriggle when Geoff told her father that she had met Danny Casey? (Foreign 2011)

Answer. When Geoff told her father about Sophie's chance encounter with Danny Casey, Sophie wriggled because she knew that her father wouldn't believe it. Her father was a practical, realistic person and Sophie was sure that he would be angry with her and reprimand her for concocting such stories. She feared that she would have to add more details to the story to make it sound authentic.

Question.12. "Damn that Geoff, this was Geoff thing, not a Jansie thing," Why did Sophie say so? (Delhi 2010)

Answer. Sophie knew that her classmate Jansie poked her nose into every matter, She was a rumour monger. Jansie came to know about the Sophie-Casey encounter through Frank, her brother, who was friends with Geoff. Sophie was annoyed with Geoff because this story was meant only for him. Sophie knew that Jansie would spread this information like wildfire and it could draw lots of people to her house to enquire about Casey.

Question.13. Does Geoff believe what Sophie says about her meeting with Danny Casey? (All India 2010)

Answer. Geoff does not believe Sophie's story about her meeting with Danny Casey, the Irish football star. Although he had a strong bond with his sister, as she shared all her secrets with him, he dismissed the whole story as a most unlikely thing. He does not hesitate to tell her that Casey would never keep his promise of meeting her again to give her his autograph.

Question.14. What did Sophie imagine about her meeting with Danny Casey? (All India 2008)

Answer. Sophie imagines that she has met Danny Casey, the Irish football prodigy, at Royce's. She cooks up details about his appearance and says that she asked him for an autograph but could not get it as neither of them had paper or pen. They talked for a while about the clothes in the shop. Casey promised to meet her again next week.

Long Answer Type Questions (6 Marks, 120-150 words)

Question.1. Has Sophie met Danny Casey? What details of her meeting with Danny Casey did she narrate to her brother? (Delhi 2014 Modified)

or

Did Sophie really meet Danny Casey? (NCERT)

Answer. No Sophie has never really met Danny Casey. She has just seen Danny Casey on the field when she went to watch team United play a football match. There, she was one of the spectators and could see Casey playing only from a distance. However, Sophie lives in an imaginary world. Casey was a young sportstar and Sophie worshipped him as her hero. Her meeting with Casey was just another of her wild fantasies. She was so engrossed in her daydreams that what she imagined seemed real to her.

Sophie told her brother Geoff that she met Casey near Royce's. As she was looking at the clothes, Casey came and stood beside her. She wanted to take his autograph for her younger brother Derek, but neither of them had a pen or paper. Casey then suggested that they could meet again next week, and then he would also give his autograph.

Question.2. What were Sophie's plans for her future? Why would you call her dreams unrealistic? (Delhi 2014; Modified)

Answer. Sophie planned to open a boutique after she passed out of school. When Jansie told her that it would require a lot of money, she said that she would become a manager and save money for her boutique. She later also added that she would either become an actress or a fashion designer. For a girl from a lower middle class family such dreams are certainly far from reality. Sophie's friend Jansie, who is quite practical, knows that they will ultimately have to work in the biscuit factory. She even dissuades Sophie from indulging in such childish fantasies. Sophie wants to materialise all those things which were simply not possible practically. Never for once in the story does the girl think practically or come out of her dream world.

Question.3. Sophie was a dreamer. The lesson 'Going Places' reminds us that mere dreams will not help us to accomplish anything. What qualities, do you think, would help Sophie to realise her dreams? (Foreign 2014)

Answer. Sophie lives in a world of dreams, which is far from reality. It is not unreasonable to have high hopes and ambitions for one's future, but such dreaming can be justified only when one is prepared to work hard to realise one's dreams.

Sophie too needs to work hard to achieve her dreams, instead of just imagining a bright and successful future for herself, or fantasising about her meeting with Danny Casey. She should accept the reality that she belongs to a middle class working family. Initially, she would face some difficulties because of her poor financial condition, but if she persists with sincere devotion, she could certainly raise her status to the level from where she would actually have the company of successful people like Danny Casey. Besides, with better educational qualifications, increased opportunities, hard work and more savings, she could even own a boutique in future.

Question.4. Attempt a character sketch of Sophie as a woman who lives in her dreams. (Delhi 2012)

Answer. Sophie has been portrayed as the central character in the story 'Going Places'. She perfectly represents the girls of her age who live in poor families.

Sophie always lives in a dream world, dreaming impossible things. The opening scene of the story clearly tells what sort of girl she is. She is not ready to accept the reality of her family's condition and dreams of having a boutique of her own.

She makes up the story of meeting Danny Casey, a charming and upcoming footballer. Nobody believes her but she refuses to accept that it is her dream. Rather, she starts believing that she has met him and to prove that she is telling the truth, she makes up another story that she has fixed a date with him.

She is so lost in her dreams that she actually goes to the canal and waits for him. He does not show up. She knows that he will not come, but still she becomes sad. Such is the character of Sophie.

Question.5. Contrast Sophie's real world with her fantasies. (Delhi 2009)

Answer. The story 'Going Places' is a journey into the dream world of the protagonist, a schoolgirl named Sophie who drifts from one dream to another. The world of dreams is so fascinating for her that even her wildest thoughts can find refuge in it. Sophie finds the reality of her life too harsh to accept. She belongs to a lower middle class family where nobody encourages her to dream of better prospects. Still she dreams of owning the best boutique, becoming a manager in some store or at other times becoming an actress or a fashion designer.

In her dream world, she visits the Royce's, meets Danny Casey, the sports icon, and even fixes up a date with him. It's all in her mind but she considers it true and actually waits for him to show up at a specified spot and time. The flight of her imagination is such that it flips from one dream to another, from one place to the other.

Aunt Jennifer's Tigers Chapter Wise Important Questions Class 12 English

Extract Based Questions (4 Marks)

Question.1. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow.

When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie

Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by

The tigers in the panel that she made

Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid

(a) Who is the aunt mentioned here?

(b) Why is she "ringed with ordeals"?

(c) What is the difference between her and the tigers?

(d) Why has Aunt Jennifer created the tigers so different from her own character?

or

(a) Why are Aunt Jennifer's hands terrified?

(b) Why did she make the tigers?

(c) What will happen to her tigers after her death? (Delhi 2012; Modified)

(d) How are Aunt Jennifer's tigers different from her?

Answer.(a) The aunt mentioned here is Aunt Jennifer, the protagonist of Adrienne Rich's poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'; she is a woman going through unpleasant experiences in her married life.

(b) The 'ring' here refers to her wedding band or ring, which has brought with it a host of family responsibilities. She feels so surrounded (i.e. ringed) by her marital constraints that it seems like an ordeal to her.

(c) Aunt Jennifer is quite weak and submissive, whereas the tigers are strong, bold and powerful. She is bound by the constraints of her married life, while the tigers are free to move about in the green woods.

(d) The tigers created by Aunt Jennifer are an expression of her desire to free herself from the constraints of her married life. She wants to be bold and fearless like her tigers.

or

(a) Her hands are 'terrified' (actually she is terrified) as she is passing through the very hard and bitter experience of married life. Here the poet has used her hands to represent her.

(b) She made the tigers because they are beasts of prey. They are chivalric and confident and do not fear men, which is totally contrasting with her own nature.

(c) The tigers will still keep prancing over the panel even when Aunt is dead. They will outlive her.

(d) Aunt Jennifer's tigers provide a striking contrast to her. The old lady is weak and- scared of men, whereas the tigers symbolise strength, power and fearlessness.

Question.2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,

Bright topaz denizens of a world of green

They do not fear the men beneath the tree,

They pace in sleek chivalric certainty

(a) How are Aunt Jennifer's tigers described?

(b) Why are they described as denizens of a world of green?

(c) Why are they not afraid of the men? (Delhi 2010; Modified)

(d) What are her tigers symbolic of?

Answer. (a) Aunt Jennifer's tigers have been described as golden yellow in colour. They prance fearlessly across a screen in sleek chivalric certainty.

(b) They have been called as denizens of a world of green because they are the natives of dense green forests.

(c) They are not afraid of men because they are brave, strong, fearless and full of confidence.

(d) Her tigers are symbolic of Aunt Jennifer's desire for freedom. They are also symbols of strength and self-confidence.

Short Answer Type Questions (3 Marks, 30-40 words)

Question.1. What are the difficulties that Aunt Jennifer faced in her life? (Delhi 2014)

or

What are the ordeals that Aunt Jennifer faced in her life? (Foreign 2009)

Answer. Aunt Jennifer was probably a victim of oppression at the hands of the patriarchal society. She was subjugated by her

husband and the weight of the wedding band i.e. her wedding ring, felt heavy on her hand. She was so terrified that her hands fluttered even when she carried something so light as wool.

Question.2. How are Aunt Jennifer's tigers different from her? (All India 2014)

or

How are the tigers different from her? (Foreign 2009)

Answer. Aunt Jennifer's tigers are created by her on the tapestry. However, they present a sharp contrast to their creator. While the Aunt is weak, meek and submissive and is scared of expressing her feelings openly, the tigers are strong, fearless and confident. They are bold creatures and are scared of no one. The aunt is in bonded in matrimony and faces several restrictions. On the other hand, the tigers move about freely.

Question.3. How does Aunt Jennifer express her bitterness and anger against male dominance? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. Aunt Jennifer is too terrified to openly resist the oppression that she is victim of. She expresses her bitterness and anger against male dominance silently through her art. She creates tigers on her tapestry; animals that are symbolic of bravery, fearlessness and strength. Besides, she portrays these tigers as creatures unafraid of the men around them. The tigers she creates are wild and free from any kind of bondage.

Question.4. What will happen to Aunt Jennifer's tigers when she is dead? (Delhi 2013)

Answer. The tigers created by Aunt Jennifer are eternal. They will keep on prancing even after her death. She probably wants to convey that the tigers which represent the Aunt's inner sense of freedom will stay forever.

Question.5. What lies heavily on Aunt Jennifer's hand? How is it associated with her husband? (All India 2013)

or

What is the weight that lies heavy on Aunt Jennifer's hand? How is it associated with her husband? (Foreign 2010)

Answer. The weight that lies heavy on Aunt Jennifer's hand is the wedding band, which symbolises the weight of her married life. Probably, the weight has burdened her so much that she feels subjugated. Aunt Jennifer had a troubled married life with a dominating and oppressive husband.

Question.6. Why did Aunt Jennifer choose to embroider tigers on the panel? (Delhi 2012, All India 2009)

Answer. Aunt Jennifer chose to embroider tigers on the panel because for her, the tigers were the symbols of bravery, fearlessness and strength. These creatures are not afraid of the men around them. Her embroidering the tigers is perhaps an expression of her own bitterness and anger against male dominance.

Question.7. How do the words, 'denizens' and 'chivalric' add to our understanding of Aunt Jennifer's tigers? (All India 2012)

or

How do 'denizens' and 'chivalric' add to our understanding of the tiger's attitudes? (Delhi 2011)

Answer. 'Denizens' denotes occupants or citizens and 'chivalric' points to fearlessness, honour, bravery and majesty. Tigers are very possessive about their territory. They live on their own terms and fear none, as they regard themselves superior in their own domain. The poet finds similarities between the propensity of tigers and men.

Question.8. Why do you think Aunt Jennifer created animals that die so different from her own character? What might the poet be suggesting through this difference? (All India 2011)

Answer. Aunt Jennifer is a weak and terrified person who, all through her life, was suppressed by the constraints of marriage. The animals that she is creating in her panel are very different, as they are chivalric and do not fear men. They are a symbol of strength, fierceness and beauty. They represent Aunt Jennifer's suppressed desire to become bold and fearless, and free from oppression. The poet wants to emphasise the spirit and desire for freedom which is innate in all human beings.

Question.9. How does the poet describe Aunt Jennifer's tigers? (Delhi 2008)

or

Describe the tigers created by Aunt Jennifer. (All India 2008, Delhi 2009)

Answer. According to the poet, Aunt Jennifer's tigers are golden-yellow in colour. He describes them as prancing across the screen. They are denizens of a world of green. The tigers are sleek, chivalric, majestic and elegant. Also, they are brave and fearless.

Indigo Chapter Wise Important Questions Class 12 English

Short Answer Type Questions (3 Marks, 30-40 words)

Question.1. Why did Gandhiji feel that taking the Champaran case to court was useless? (Delhi 2014 Modified)

Answer. When Gandhiji got to know about the plight of the peasant groups in Champaran from his discussion with the lawyers, he came to the conclusion that the poor peasants were so crushed and fear-stricken that law courts were useless in their case. Going to courts overburdened the sharecroppers with heavy litigation expenses. What really needed to be done was to make them free from fear.

Question.2. How did the Champaran peasants react when they heard that a Mahatma had come to help them? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. When the Champaran peasants heard that a Mahatma had come to help them, they assembled in Motihari in large number. Thousands of peasants held a demonstration around the courthouse where Gandhiji was supposed to appear. The crowd was so uncontrollable that the officials felt powerless, and Gandhiji himself helped the authorities to regulate the crowd.

Question.3. What made the Lieutenant Governor drop the case against Gandhiji? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. When Gandhiji was asked to appear in the court in Motihari, thousands of peasants held a demonstration around the courthouse. The officials felt helpless and the government was baffled. The trial was postponed, as the judge didn't want to aggravate the situation. He held up the sentence for several days, after which Gandhiji was released without bail. All these events made the Lieutenant Governor drop the case against Gandhiji.

Question.4. Why did Gandhiji oppose when his friend Andrews offered to stay in Champaran and help the peasants? (Foreign 2014)

or

Why did Gandhiji object to CF Andrews' stay in Champaran? (Foreign 2009)

Answer. CF Andrews, an English pacifist, was a devoted follower of Gandhiji. The lawyers thought that being an Englishman, Andrews could be of immense help to them in their cause of fighting the battle of Champaran. Gandhiji, however, was against this because he felt that enlisting an Englishman's help showed weakness. Their cause was just, and they had to win the battle by relying on themselves. This would make them self-reliant.

Question.5. Why do you think Gandhi considered the Champaran episode to be a turning point in his life? (All India 2011)

Answer. The Champaran episode began as an attempt to alleviate the distress of poor peasants. Ultimately it proved to be a turning point in Gandhiji's life because it was a loud proclamation that made the British realise that Gandhiji could not be ordered about in his own country. It infused courage to question British authority in the masses and laid the foundation of non-cooperation as a new tool to fight the British tooth and nail.

Question.6. What did the peasants pay to the British landlords as rent? (Foreign 2011)

Answer. The British landlords had entered into a long-term contract with the farmers according to which they compelled all tenants to plant 15% of their holdings with indigo. The sharecroppers had to surrender the entire indigo harvest as rent.

Question.7. Why did Gandhiji decide to go to Muzaffarpur before going to Champaran? (Foreign 2011)

Answer. Rajkumar Shukla had given quite a lot of information to Gandhiji about the indigo sharecroppers of Champaran. However, Gandhiji wished to obtain more complete information about the conditions than Shukla had imparted. He visited Muzaffarpur, which was en route to Champaran, to inquire from the lawyers there about the issue, as they frequently represented the peasant groups in the court.

Question.8. Why do you think the servants thought Gandhi to be another peasant? (Delhi 2010)

Answer. The servants knew that Rajkumar Shukla was a poor farmer who pestered their master to help the indigo sharecroppers. Since Gandhiji accompanied Shukla and was dressed simply, they mistook him for a peasant. Gandhiji's modesty and unassertiveness also led to the assumption that he was a peasant.

Question.9. "The battle of Champaran is won!." What led Gandhiji to make this remark? (Foreign 2010)

Answer. The lawyers first decided to return home if Gandhiji was arrested. But they soon realised their mistake. When they declared that they would fight for the peasants' cause in the event of Gandhiji's arrest and volunteered to court arrest for the cause of the sharecroppers, Gandhiji was very pleased and exclaimed, "The battle of Champaran is won!."

Question.10. Why did Gandhi agree to the planters' offer of a 25% refund to the farmers? (Delhi 2009)

Answer. Gandhiji agreed to a settlement of 25% refund to the farmers in order to break the deadlock between the landlords and peasants. For him the amount of the refund was not very important. The fact that the landlords had been obliged to surrender a part of their money as well as their prestige gave a moral victory to the farmers. Thus, Gandhiji not only made the landlords accept their dishonesty but also made the farmers learn a lesson in defending their rights with courage.

Question.11. How was Gandhi able to influence the lawyers? Give instances. (All India 2009)

or

How was Gandhiji able to influence the lawyers? (All India 2008)

Answer. Gandhiji's sincerity towards the peasants' cause and convincing arguments and negotiations, thoroughly influenced the lawyers. He chided them for overcharging the peasants and encouraged them to court arrest for the peasants' noble cause. He even rejected their proposal to seek Mr Andrews help in their battle against the Britishers in order to be self-reliant and independent.

Long Answer Type Questions (6 Marks, 120-150 Words)

Question.1. Why is the Champaran episode considered to be the beginning of the Indian struggle for independence? (All India 2014 Modified)

Answer. The Champaran episode was one of the major events in the struggle for independence. It was in the course of this small but significant movement that Gandhiji decided to urge the departure of the British from India.

A close examination of the problems of the Champaran peasants opened Gandhiji's eyes to the unjust policies of the British. He realised that people had to be made free from fear and only then could they be freed from foreign oppression. The spontaneous demonstration of the people proved that Gandhiji had the nation's support in his fight against the Britishers. It also aroused patriotism in the heart of the Indians.

The triumph of The civil disobedience at Champaran motivated the launching of the movement on a large scale during the freedom movement. Gandhiji's winning the case of the sharecroppers proved that British authority could be challenged. Hence, the Champaran episode served as a stepping stone to the Indian struggle for independence.

Question.2. Gandhiji's loyalty was not a loyalty to abstractions; it was a loyalty to living human

beings. Why did Gandhiji continue his stay in Champaran even after indigo sharecropping disappeared? (All India

2014 Modified)

Answer. After the Champaran battle was won and the land reverted to the peasants, Gandhiji continued to stay on in the region. His loyalty was, indeed, to living human beings and he realised that a lot needed to be done for the upliftment of the peasants in the villages of Champaran. Gandhiji took the initiative and began the work of eradicating their cultural and social backwardness. Primary schools were started so that the poor peasants and their children could be educated. Gandhiji appealed to teachers, and many of his disciples, including his wife and son, volunteered for the work.

Health conditions in the area were also miserable. Gandhiji got a doctor to volunteer his services for six months. All this goes to prove that Gandhiji's loyalty was not to abstractions, but his politics was always intertwined with the practical day to day problems of the millions.

Question.3. Describe how, according to Louis Fischer, Gandhiji succeeded in his Champaran campaign. (Compartment 2014)

Answer. The Champaran campaign was an attempt to free the poor peasants of Champaran from injustice and exploitation at the hands of the Britishers. Gandhiji succeeded in this campaign using his method of satyagraha and non-violence. He visited Muzaffarpur to obtain complete information about the actual condition of the sharecroppers. He first appealed to the concerned authorities, but when there was no positive response, he organised a mass civil, disobedience movement with the support of the peasants.

Gandhiji's main objective was to remove the fear of the British landlords from the heart of the poor peasants and mould a new free Indian, who could participate in the freedom movement of the country.

He made the peasants aware of their rights and gave them a new-found confidence for fighting their own battles. He also taught them to be self-reliant by refusing to take the help of CF Andrews, his English friend.

Question.4. Why did Gandhiji agree to a settlement of 25% refund to the farmers? How did it influence the peasant-landlord relationship in Champaran? (All India 2013)

Answer. Under an ancient arrangement, the peasants of Champaran were sharecroppers. The landlords forced the Indian tenants to plant 15% of their holding with indigo and surrender the entire indigo harvest as rent.

After Germany developed synthetic indigo, the landlords wanted to dissolve the agreement, as synthetic indigo would be cheaper. They asked the peasants for compensation to release them from this arrangement. Most of them signed it willingly, but felt cheated after they learned about synthetic indigo.

Gandhiji fought their case and the evidence that he collected was so overwhelming that the landlords were asked to repay. When Gandhiji asked for 50% repayment, the landlords offered to pay only 25%, as they wanted to create a deadlock, and thus prolong the dispute. To everybody surprise, Gandhiji agreed to a refund of only 25%. Gandhiji explained that the amount of refund was not important. What mattered was that the landlords were obliged to surrender a part of their money and with it, part of their prestige.

Question.5. Give an account of Gandhiji's efforts to secure justice for the poor indigo sharecroppers of Champaran. (All India 2012)

Answer. In the course of his journey to Champaran with Rajkumar Shukla, Gandhiji stayed at Muzaffarpur where he met the lawyers and concluded that fighting through courts was not going to solve the problem of the poor sharecroppers of Champaran. He declared that the real relief for them was to be free from fear.

With this intention, he arrived in Champaran and contacted the Secretary of the British Landlord's association. The Secretary refused to provide him any information. After this, Gandhiji met the Commissioner of the Tirhut division who served a notice on him to immediately leave Tirhut.

Gandhiji accepted the notice by signing it and wrote on it that he would not obey the order. He was even willing to court arrest for the cause of the peasants.

After four rounds of talks with the Governor, an official commission of inquiry was appointed in which Gandhiji was made the sole representative of the peasants.

Through this commission Gandhiji succeeded in getting 25% of the compensation award for the poor sharecroppers from the British landowners.

Question.6. The Champaran episode was a turning point in Gandhiji's life. Elucidate. (All India 2012)

Answer. Gandhiji himself accepted the proposition that the Champaran episode was a turning point in his life. It was then that he decided to urge the departure of the British from India.

In fact the Champaran episode was the first experiment of civil disobedience in India. When Gandhiji was on his way to Champaran, he stayed in Muzaffarpur, where he met the lawyers who were fighting cases for the sharecroppers. The peasants were so crushed and fear-stricken that Gandhiji concluded that law courts were useless. The real relief for them was to be free from fear. The spontaneous demonstration by the peasants showed that they were instilled with a new strength and spirit. Gandhiji showed the poor peasants how to fight the British with 'satyagraha'. He made them aware of their power and the power of ahimsa.

All this laid the foundation of his future movements and served as a great source of strength and motivation for all Indians.

Memories of Childhood Chapter Wise Important Questions Class 12 English

Short Answer Type Questions (3 Marks, 30-40 words)

Question.1. Why was Zitkala-Sa in tears on the first day in the land of apples? (All India 2014)

Answer. Zitkala-Sa was in tears on the first day in the land of apples because she was forced to part with her heavy, long hair. To avoid it, she even hid herself under the bed but she was soon found out and tied fast to her chair. She cried in protest but it all went in vain and she felt the blades of the scissors against her neck and heard them gnaw off her thick braids.

Question 2. What comic incident did Bama narrate to her brother? Why was he not amused?

(Foreign 2014)

Answer. While walking back home from school, Bama saw an elder of her street walking towards the landlord, carrying a food packet by its strings without touching it. This made her shriek with laughter. When she narrated the incident to her brother, he was not amused and told her that people of their caste were considered untouchables and that is why the elder carried the packet by its string.

Question 3. Which words of her brother made a deep impression on Bama? (Delhi 2014)

Answer. Bama's brother had told her that because they were born in a particular caste, they were stripped off all honour and dignity. For them, the only way to get their due respect was to make progress by studying hard. Bama took her brother's words very seriously and excelled in academics to stand first in her class.

Question 4. What is common between Zitkala-Sa and Bama? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. Both Zitkala-Sa and Bama had experienced discrimination in their childhood. While Zitkala-Sa had been a victim of oppression at the hands of the whites in her boarding school, Bama felt and experienced untouchability early in life for being born a 'dalit'.

Question 5. What sort of shows or entertainment attracted Bama? (All India 2013)

or

Which activities of the people would Bama watch keenly in the bazaar?

or

Which actions of the people would Bama watch keenly in the bazaar? (Foreign 2011)

Answer. The bazaar on the way home was always buzzing with activities. The snake charmer, street plays, puppet shows and stunt performances were a few interesting things going on there.

Bama used to love all these things.

Question 6. What were the articles in the stalls and shops that fascinated Bama on her way back from school? (All India 2013)

Answer. On her way back from school, Bama witnessed a variety of interesting things which fascinated her. She saw the dried fish stall, the sweet stall and the stall selling fried snacks. Then there were wild lemons, needles, clay beads and instruments for cleaning out the ears on sale. She loved to watch the waiters cool the coffee and the chopping up of onions.

Question 7. What did Zitkala-Sa feel when her long hair was cut? (Delhi 2011)

Answer. When her long hair was cut, Zitkala-Sa felt anguished and pained. She thought that she was a wooden puppet who had been tossed about in the air. She was really distressed by the fact that nobody came to comfort her like her mother did. She missed her mother very much and felt like an animal driven by a herder.

Question 8. What was the advice that Annan gave to Bama? Did she follow it? (All India 2011)

Answer. Annan told Bama that because they were born in a particular community, they were stripped of all honour, dignity or respect. The only way to get all this back was to study hard and make progress. Annan told Bama that education was the key to acceptance by the society so she must learn her lessons really well. Yes, Bama paid heed to his advice and stood first in her class.

Question 9. "I felt like sinking to the floor," says Zitkala-Sa. When did she feel so and why?

(All India 2011)

Answer. When Zitkala-Sa's shawl was removed from her shoulders, she felt very embarrassed due to her clinging dress. That was when she felt like sinking to the floor. She considered herself as one of the little animals driven by a herder.

Question 10. What did Judewin tell Zitkala-Sa? How did she react to it? (All India 2011)

Answer. The hostel authorities were going to cut the long hair of girls. Wearing short hair was against Zitkala-Sa's culture. Judewin told her that they would have to submit, for they could not fight the strong authorities. However, Zitkala-Sa disagreed and decided to put up a fight and resist it.

Question 11. What does Zitkala-Sa remember about the first day in the land of apples? (Foreign 2011)

Answer. The first day in the land of apples was a 'bitter-cold one' firstly because the snow still covered the ground and the trees were bare. Secondly, the atmosphere of the school was not at all cordial. It was dictatorial and regimental. The author did not understand the language spoken there or the culture followed.

She detested the way in which even the day to day activities like eating and dressing up were done 'by formula'. Even the teachers seemed to be ruthless.

Question 12. Why was Zitkala-Sa so averse to having her hair cut? (Foreign 2011)

Answer. Zitkala-Sa did not wish to get her hair cut because her mother's words were deeply embedded in her mind. Her mother had told her that only the hair of prisoners of war was shingled by captors. In their culture, short hair was worn by mourners and shingled hair by cowards.

Question 13. Why did the landlord's man ask Bama's brother on which street he lived? What was the significance? (Delhi 2010)

Answer. One day, when Annan was returning home from the library, one of the landlord's men approached him and asked him his name. Thereafter the man asked him in which street he lived. He specifically asked this question because it was aimed at finding out his caste. Annan narrated this incident to Bama to let her know the indignity and humiliation their community had to suffer.

Question 14. Why was Zitkala-Sa terrified when Judewin told her that her hair would be cut short? (All India 2010)

Answer. Zitkala-Sa is an American Indian. In her culture, short hair is worn by mourners. As it is, she was disturbed and embarrassed by the rooms of the school. She got all the more terrified when Judewin told her that her hair would be cut short.

Questopn.15.Why did Bama take thirty minutes walking home from school when she could have covered the distance in ten minutes? (All India 2009)

Answer. On her way back from school, Bama got attracted by the little trivialities on the street. The buzzing market, the snake charmers, the lemurs in cages etc., all caught her attention. Thus, it took Bama thirty minutes to return from school, when she could have covered this distance in ten minutes.

Questopn.16.When did Bama first come to know of the social discrimination faced by the people of her community? “(Delhi 2009)

Answer. Bama was a Tamil Indian belonging to the dalit community. She first came to know about the social discrimination faced by the people of her community when she was a student of class three. She saw, on her way back from school, an elderly man carrying a small packet containing some eatables by a string without touching it. She found it very funny but was shocked to know from her brother that since that bag was for the landlord, it was not to be touched by the dalit who was carrying it. Thus it was carried in such a manner.

Questopn.17.How did Zitkala-Sa try to prevent the shingling of her hair? (Delhi 2009)

Answer. To escape from her hair being cut, Zitkala-Sa crept upstairs unnoticed. She entered a large room and crawled under the bed in the dark. However, she was ultimately found, was dragged out, carried downstairs and tied to a chair. Finally, despite her fierce resistance, her long braid were chopped off.

Questopn.18.Describe the experience Bama had on her way back home which made her feel sad. (Foreign 2009)

Answer. One day, when Bama was on her way back home, she saw that an elder of ‘her street’ was carrying a small packet of vadai or green banana bhajji. He was holding the packet by its string without touching it. This was because he was an untouchable and his touch would have rendered it unfit for the consumption of the upper caste landlord. This experience made her feel sad because the incident portrayed that from the beginning, our society has been divided on rigid caste lines. The lower castes have suffered untold miseries and humiliations by the upper caste people.

Long Answer Type Questions (6 Marks, 120-150 words)

Questopn.19.What activities did Bama witness on her way back from school? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. Bama’s home was a ten-minute walking distance from her school but it usually -took her from half an hour to an hour to reach. On her way back, many activities and sights caught her attention.

Bama got attracted to many novelties and oddities on the street like the performing monkey, the snake charmer’s snake, the wild lemur in a cage, the cyclist and spinning wheels, the Maariyaata temple and its huge bell, etc. She also noticed the pongal offerings being cooked in front of the temple. There was a dried fish stall near the statue of Gandhiji. There was a sweet stall and a stall selling fried snacks.

Puppet shows, street plays, public meetings of political parties were other entertaining activities. She would see the waiters pouring coffee and vendors chopping onions. She admired the various fruits that flooded the market according to the seasons.

Questopn.20.What are the similarities in the lives of Bama and Zitkala-Sa though they belong to different cultures? (All India 2009)

Answer. Bama and Zitkala-Sa belong to different cultures. But both have experienced oppression and discrimination in their childhood.

Bama was born a ‘dalit’ and was upset to see the humiliations borne by the members of her community. They were considered untouchables, were made to live apart, run errands and bow humbly to people of the upper castes.

On the other hand, Zitkala-Sa was a victim of severe prejudice that prevailed against the native Americans. In the boarding school, her blanket was forcibly taken off her shoulders. At the same time, the forced cutting of her long hair only made her feel like a defeated warrior, for in her culture, short hair was only worn by mourners.

Thus, both Bama and* Zitkala-Sa have suffered as young members of marginalised communities.

Questopn.21.What oppression and discrimination did Zitkala-Sa and Bama experience during their childhood? How did they respond to their respective situations? (All India 2008)

Answer. Zitkala-Sa was a native American who was forcibly sent to a Christian school. She resisted the strict regimentation of the school. She hated cutting of her hair because in her culture short hair is worn by mourners. When her friend Judewin told her that they would have to give in, she disagreed and decided to fight against it.

Bama, on the other hand, belonged to a marginalised, untouchable community. She was upset to know the discriminatory treatment meted out to the members of her community. She was infuriated at this inhuman practice of casteism.

Both Zitkala-Sa and Bama refused to accept any type of oppression, exploitation or victimisation. Zitkala-Sa throughout her career as a writer criticised dogma and dedicated her entire life to fight against tyranny and oppression. Bama became a Tamil dalit writer and ushered a newness and freshness in her writings. Both of them tried to shed light on the atrocities committed by the oppressors on the hitherto marginalised communities.

On The Face of It Chapter Wise Important Questions Class 12 English

Short Answer Type Questions (3 Marks, 30-40 Words)

Question.1. Why did Mr Lamb help Derry? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. Mr Lamb and Derry were both victims of physical impairment or deformity. However, unlike

Derry, who became enr^ittered because of it, Mr Lamb was always full of life. His physical suffering had failed to damper his

spirit. Thus, Mr Lamb helped Derry because he wanted him to change his perspective towards life and enjoy every moment of it.

Question.2. In what sense is the friendship between Mr Lamb and Derry fruitful? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. The friendship that flourished between Mr Lamb and Derry was indeed fruitful. Mr Lamb's unending enthusiasm and unceasing zeal to live life despite all odds helped Derry change his outlook towards life. Derry, who was just carrying on an unhappy existence, was able to see some meaning to his life after meeting Mr Lamb.

Question.3. If you were to give a different ending to the story, 'On The Face of It' how would you end it? (All India 2013)

Answer. The ending of the story, 'On the face of It' is very sad as Mr Lamb is probably dead. In my opinion, such a beautiful story should not have such a tragic ending. In the end, Derry should have saved Mr Lamb from falling by holding the ladder at the last moment. This would have given a message of hope.

Question.4. How does Mr Lamb keep himself busy when it is a bit cool? (Delhi 2012)

Answer. Mr Lamb was a person who could survive and enjoy in all circumstances and seasons. When it got cooler, Mr Lamb kept himself busy by breaking the crab apples from the trees in his garden and making jelly from them.

Question.5. Why does Mr Lamb leave his gate always open? (All India 2011)

Answer. Mr Lamb always left his gate open because he did not mind strangers entering his house or garden. Probably also because he was not afraid of anything.

Question.6. What is the bond that unites the two—Mr Lamb, the old and Derry, the small boy?

How does the old man inspire the little boy? (Foreign 2011)

Answer. It is physical disability in different forms, the empathetic feeling that creates a bond, which unites the old man and Derry. Although both face the same problem, there is a vast difference in the attitude to and perception of the problem. The old man has an upper hand in life and experience due to his age, which gives him the zest to inspire the little boy.

Question.7. What qualities of Mr Lamb attracted Derry to him? (All India 2009)

Answer. Mr Lamb was a person full of life. Sadness or negativity found no place in his world. His physical impairment and people's humiliating remarks had failed to dampen his spirit. His undying optimism and ever friendly attitude drew Derry towards him. For Derry, Mr Lamb was his source of inspiration.

Question.8. What did Derry's mother think of Mr Lamb? (All India 2009)

Answer. When Derry informed his mother of Mr Lamb and that he wanted to sit with him, she did not like it. She thought that he was not a good man and she did not want her son to remain in touch with him for any purpose.

Question.9. How does Mr Lamb try to remove the baseless fears of Derry? (All India 2008)

Answer. Mr Lamb tries to remove the baseless fears of Derry by telling him that nothing in this world is so worthless that it deserves to be considered as trash. Even weeds have their own value. He advises Derry to ignore people's comments and think of beautiful objects. He tells him to hear only those things that are worth hearing. It is attitude that matters.

Long Answer Type Questions (6 Marks, 120-150 words)

Question.10. What is the bond that unites the two—the old Mr Lamb and Derry, the small boy?

How does the old man inspire the small boy? (Delhi 2013)

Answer. Derry, a small boy, had a side of his face burnt as acid had fallen over it. Thus he grew up to be withdrawn and defiant.

The old Mr Lamb got one of his legs blown off in a war and had a tin leg in place of it. He lived alone, but unlike Derry, he did not let his handicap rule his life.

The physical impairment somehow united the feelings of both of them. But their attitudes to their respective situations were totally different. Mr Lamb came as an angel in the sad life of Derry. He told Derry that beauty is not limited to looks but it is in how you feel from inside. He taught him to enjoy life to the fullest.

Mr Lamb's encouraging words elevated Derry's confidence. For the first time in his life, he wanted to live for himself. Thus he was inspired by the old man.

Question.11. The lesson, 'On the Face of It' is an apt depiction of the loneliness and sense of alienation experienced by people on account of a disability. Explain. (VBQ)

Answer. Mr Lamb and Derek both were victims of physical impairment. Mr Lamb had an artificial leg made of tin and Derek had a scared face. Undoubtedly, both had suffered humiliations in life on account of their handicaps.

Derek, however, suffered not only from his handicap but also from low self-esteem, lack of confidence, desolation and withdrawal. He felt that nobody wanted him or loved him. They feared looking at his ugly face.

Looking at Derek's example, we feel that people with physical impairment need genuine concern. They can perform better than average individuals who do not suffer from any disability, provided they get the right opportunities to prove themselves.

Question.12. Derry and Mr Lamb both are victims of physical impairment but their attitudes towards life are completely different. Explain. (Delhi 2009)

Answer. Derry, a fourteen year old boy, did not expect anything out of life. A pessimist, he had lost all self-regard and led an isolated existence. He felt unwanted because he had a scared face. Mr Lamb, on the other hand, was full of life. Although he lived alone and had a tin leg, he kept himself busy by tending to his garden, his bees and making toffee and jelly. He welcomed everybody to his house and garden. He enjoyed sitting in the sun, reading books and gardening. Although kids mocked him by calling him 'Lamey Lamb' he did not bother about it. He was an apostle of optimism, enthusiasm and hope.

Thus we see that there is a striking contrast between Mr Lamb and Derry.

Question.13. Do you think Derry's chance meeting with Mr Lamb would prove meaningful to him?

Answer giving valid reasons. (Foreign 2009)

Answer. When Derry met Mr Lamb, he was a fourteen year old boy who had lost all zest for life. He had lost all self-regard and suffered from a terrible inferiority complex due to his scared face. He hated meeting people and remained withdrawn. After meeting Mr Lamb, Derry was filled with enthusiasm for life. Mr Lamb's words had a profound effect on him and he changed drastically. He was not overtly conscious of his ugly face any longer. We could get a reflection of Derry's transformation in Scene two, when he reached his house after a brief encounter with Mr Lamb.

He told his mother, "You shouldn't believe all you hear." He categorically told her that he wanted to go back to Mr Lamb to listen to bees singing and him talking.

In the end, he rushed to meet his mentor to keep his promise to the old man. Looking at these developments, one is bound to conclude that Derry hopefully would not become secluded once again. Derek would certainly be confident and happy in the future.

Question.14. How did Mr Lamb's meeting with Derry become a turning point in Derry's life?

(Delhi 2008)

Answer. Derry's brief association with Mr Lamb changed him from a bitter, pessimistic and complex-ridden boy to a mature and confident person. His attitude towards life underwent a transformation.

He got encouraged by Mr Lamb's unending enthusiasm and unceasing zeal to live life. Thus Mr Lamb's unfailing optimism helped transform Derek completely. Mr Lamb's conversation with him about everything and everybody being essentially the same, his notion of beauty being relative, his talk about pretty girls and love, his concept of the world and friendship and the incident of the timid man, all fascinated and inspired Derek.

Gradually, Derek was able to shed his old self and rediscover life. He was able to experience the joy of little things of life like rain drops falling pitter-patter on the roof. He even told his mother, "You shouldn't believe all you hear."

Thus, Derek's brief association with Mr Lamb became a turning point in his life.

The Enemy Chapter Wise Important Questions Class 12 English

Short Answer Type Questions o Marks, 30-40 words)

Question.1. Why did Dr Sadao treat the American soldier even though, it was an unpatriotic act

On his part? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. Dr Sadao treated the American prisoner of war because as a doctor, he was trained to save lives. He could not have let the injured soldier die even though he was his national enemy, as that would have been against his professional ethics.

Question.2. How did Hana help Dr Sadao? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. Hana was an impeccable wife and stood by her husband in all his decisions. She helped Dr Sadao when he was operating upon the enemy and also nursed and washed the prisoner herself when the servants had flatly refused to do so.

Question.3. Why did the General not order immediate arrest of Dr Sadao who had sheltered a

Whiteman? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. The General did not usually keep in good health and trusted no other surgeon but Dr Sadao in his time of need and could have needed his services anytime. This is why he did not order immediate arrest of the doctor for harbouring an enemy in his house.

Question.4. What forced Dr Sadao to be impatient and irritable with his patient? (All India 2013,2010)

Answer. The wounded white man urgently needed an operation as he was critically injured. Hana was with Sadao when, he started operating on the prisoner. Hana, who had never seen an operation in her life, vomited at the sight of blood. Sadao wanted to help her in her distress but he could not leave his patient. This made him impatient and irritable.

Question.5. What made a cool surgeon like Sadao speak sharply to his wife and what was her reaction? (All India 2013)

Answer. Hana had never seen an operation before. When Sadao started operating, blood began to flow. Hana choked at this moment. Sadao sharply told her not to faint because if he had stopped, the wounded man would surely have died. Hana clasped her hands to her mouth and ran out. Sadao heard her vomit.

Question.6. Why had Hana to wash the wounded man herself? (Delhi 2012)

or

Why did Hana wash the wounded soldier herself? (Delhi 2011)

Answer. Hana had to wash the wounded man herself because her servants and even her maidservant flatly refused to wash an enemy American out of superstition and fear.

Question.7. How did Dr Sadao ensure that the American sailor left his house but he himself remained safe and secure? (Delhi 2011)

Answer. The night the man escaped as per the plan, Dr Sadao slept well. One evening standing on the verandah, Dr Sadao looked towards the island. There was no signal of the flashlight. It meant that the man had gone, safe on a Korean fishing boat. In this way, he ensured the American's departure and his own safety and security.

Question.8. How does the writer indicate that Dr Sadao's father was a very traditional and conventional man? (Delhi 2011)

Answer. Sadao's education had been his father's chief concern, who even sent him to America at the age of twenty-two to study surgery and medicine. Sadao's father was a true patriot and took immense pride in Japanese culture and traditions. That is why Sadao married Hana only after confirming that she was a Japanese, as he did not want to upset his father. This suggests that Sadao's father was a very traditional and conventional man.

Question.9. Why did the messenger come to Dr Sadao? What did Hana think about it? (All India 2010)

Answer. The messenger had come to Dr Sadao's house to inform him that the old General was in pain again and had to be attended to. When Hana first saw the uniformed messenger, she got frightened, for she thought that he had come to arrest her husband for harbouring an enemy in their house.

Question.10. Why did the General spare the American soldier? (All India 2009)

Answer. The General spared the American soldier because he was a selfish man. He thought of nothing but his own life. He needed Sadao for his operation and he forgot about his promise in his pain.

Question.11. Why was Dr Sadao not sent to the battlefield? (All India 2009)

Answer. Dr Sadao was not sent abroad with the troops because the ailing General trusted no other surgeon but Dr Sadao and could have needed his expert services anytime.

Question.12. How did Dr Sadao get rid of the enemy soldier? (Foreign 2009)

Answer. Dr Sadao planned out everything beforehand. He put his boat on the shore with food and extra clothing. He asked the American prisoner of war to row to a little island near the coast and then wait for a Korean ship to pass. He also gave the American his flashlight complete with instructions on how to signal him in a time of distress.

Question.13. What secret plan did the General have about the American soldier staying under the care of Sadao? (All India 2008)

Answer. The General planned to get the American soldier staying under the care of Dr Sadao assassinated by his private assassins. He assured the doctor about the removal of the dead body also.

Question.14. Hana told Yumi to wash the soldier. How did Yumi react? (Delhi 2008)

Answer. When Hana asked Yumi to wash the soldier, she bluntly refused to do so, saying that she had never washed a white man and she would not wash a dirty one. Yumi obstinately told Hana that she was a poor person and did not want to associate with the man.

Question.15. Why did the servants leave Dr Sadao's house?

Answer. The servants left Dr Sadao's house because they did not approve of the white man staying in the surgeon's house. They thought that Sadao's stay in America during his education had erased all his sentiments for his country. Also, they did not want to be in trouble with the authorities if Sadao was arrested as a traitor.

Long Answer Type Questions (6 Marks, 120-150 Words)

Question.16. What was the General's plan to get rid of the American prisoner? Was it executed?

What traits of General's character are highlighted in the lesson? (All India 2014)

Answer. Dr Sadao informed the General about the presence of the American prisoner at his house. The General decided that his private assassins would take care of him and even take his body away. Sadao agreed to the General's proposal. However, the General's assassins did not arrive for the next three days. Consequently the General's plan was not executed. Sadao spent three restless nights in waiting for the assassins; ultimately he helped the prisoner escape.

When Sadao informed the General about the escape of the prisoner, the General replied that he was sick and thus forgot about the whole affair. He further wanted that Sadao must not inform anybody about this.

This shows that the General was highly selfish. He had regard only for his own safety and pride. Also, he did not send Sadao to the battlefield as he needed his services himself. He considered himself more important than the lives of thousands of soldiers.

Question.17. What conflicting ideas arise in Dr Sadao's mind after he has brought the wounded American soldier home? How is the conflict resolved? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. From the day Dr Sadao found the wounded soldier outside his house, he had been caught up in a web of conflicts and difficulties.

The first difficulty arose when Sadao decided to operate upon the soldier. He was caught between his duty as a doctor and loyalty towards his nation. Nonetheless, Sadao emerged a champion in this regard. As an ethical and sincere doctor, he saved the life of the soldier and as a responsible citizen, he also informed the General about the presence of the soldier. Next, when the General's men did not arrive to kill the enemy, Sadao was again caught in a conflict as to how to get rid of the white man. His innate virtues of compassion and benevolence forbade him from killing the man. Thus, he decided to let the prisoner escape by sending him off to an unguarded island.

This is how Dr Sadao successfully resolved the conflict.

Question.18. Do you think Dr Sadao's final decision was the best possible one in the circumstances? Why/Why not? Explain with reference to the story, 'The Enemy'. (Delhi 2013)

Answer. Dr Sadao's final decision was the best possible one in the given circumstances. He has the instincts of a doctor. When Tom, the prisoner of war, was found wounded, the first thing he did was to save his life. As a doctor, he was duty bound to save lives.

Next, he completed the duty towards his nation by informing the General about the presence of the prisoner.

But finally, he helped the enemy escape. His compassionate heart rose above the narrow confines of hatred and war. As a doctor, Sadao could not have left the wounded prisoner of war unattended and so he decided to operate upon him and save his life. However, at the same time, he discharged his duty towards his nation by informing the General about the enemy. And finally, the surgeon helped the enemy escape because his compassionate heart forbade him to kill the same person whom he had saved.

Question.19. What impression do you form about Dr Sadao as a man and as a surgeon on your reading the chapter 'The Enemy'? (All India 2012)

Answer. After going through the chapter, 'The Enemy', we come to the conclusion that Dr Sadao was an excellent surgeon

and a human being per excellence. He appeared to be a man full of; compassion and a surgeon in the truest sense of the word. Although he had a bitter experience of Americans being prejudiced when he was a student in America, he did not let that bitterness overwhelm him and the doctor and fine human being in him prevailed. He knew that, if being found that he had harboured an American POW in his own house, he would be labelled a traitor. His conscience did not permit to let a human being die before his eyes and he took the risk of being called a traitor. It was not that he was a traitor. He promptly informed the General about the whole incident. It showed that he was not a coward. He was ready to face the consequences.

Question.20. Why did Sadao help the American soldier to escape? How did he do it?

Answer. Sadao's expertise in his profession and compassion as a human being were his most dominant personality traits. As a dutiful doctor, he could not have let the prisoner die of his injuries and so he saved his life. At the same time, he acted like a responsible citizen and informed the General of the presence of the enemy. However, when the General's men did not come to kill the American Sadao decided to save his life.

Dr Sadao gave his boat to the young soldier, arranged food for him and provided him valuable information which helped him escape successfully. This is how Sadao helped the American soldier flee and thereby saved his life.

Question.21. Why did Sadao Hoki go to America? Narrate his experiences there. (All India 2012)

Answer. Sadao Hoki went to America to study surgery and medicine as it was the wish of his father. His experience of living in America was not very good but he was grateful to have some good professors who taught him so well. Also, he was grateful to the professor at whose home he had met Hana and immediately liked her. But he did not like the smell of their food, their small room and the wife of his professor, who was very talkative, although she tried hard to be kind.

Initially, he had faced great difficulty in finding a place to live in America because he was a Japanese. He perceived that Americans were full of prejudice and for him it was a bitter experience to live with them.

Question.22. Dr Sadao was compelled by his duty as a doctor to help the enemy soldier. What made Hana, his wife, sympathetic to him in the face of open defiance from the domestic staff? (All India 2011)

Answer. As a doctor, it was Dr Sadao's moral responsibility to save Tom, the American prisoner of war, but Hana was under no such compulsion. In spite of this, she abided by her husband's decisions because she was a dutiful wife who pledged to support her husband even through the most difficult times.

Secondly, Hana being a woman, was soft-hearted. She could not see a wounded person being left in the lurch. As a woman, she adorned the role of a life-giver and a preserver. She could not have been a destroyer. That is why she cleaned the prisoner when her maid was unwilling to do so. She also assisted her husband in the operation on the American, despite the fact that she could not stand the blood, and started vomiting when she saw it. She was thus a dutiful wife and life-giver.

Evans Tries An O-Level Chapter Wise Important Questions Class 12 English

Short Answer Type Questions (3 Marks, 30-40 words)

Question.1. What kind of person was Evans? Why did he want to sit for the O-level German examination? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. Evans was a young prisoner who had tried to escape thrice from the prison. For this reason, he was also known as 'Evans the Break'. He seemed to be quite a pleasant and astute person, but he was basically a kleptomaniac. His desire to sit for the O-level German examination was only a plot to hoodwink the authorities and escape from the prison.

Question.2. What were the contents of the small suitcase that McLeery carried? (Delhi 2012)

Answer. The suitcase that McLeery carried had a sealed question paper envelope, a yellow invigilation form, a special authentication card from the Examination Board, a paper knife, a Bible, the current copy of the Church Times and a small semi-inflated rubber ring.

Question.3. What were the precautions taken for the smooth conduct of the examination? (Delhi 2011)

Answer. The prison authorities had taken elaborate precautions to ensure the smooth conduct of the examination. Evans' cell was thoroughly frisked a night before. All sharp edged objects like razor, scissors, etc., were taken away. Even the suitcase of the invigilator was carefully checked and the prison officers kept a close watch on him (Evans) throughout the process.

Question.4. How did the Governor react to the two phone calls he received in quick succession? (All India 2011)

Answer. The Governor had a sharp presence of mind and wanted to give Evans no chance to escape. As a part of his multi-step elaborate precautions, he verified the first phone call he received. However, he did not do so with the second call as he thought he was being paranoid and that he had taken all possible precautions for the safe conduct of the examination.

Question.5. How did the question paper and the correction slip help the prisoner and the Governor? (Delhi 2010)

Answer. The purpose of the cleverly superimposed photocopied sheet on the question paper and the correction slip was to finalise the details of the plan of escape. This information had to reach Evans. It was also meant to make the authorities believe that the wounded man was McLeery himself. The question paper and correction slip helped the Governor to locate the place where Evans was hiding. Thus, the two clues helped both the prisoner and the Governor.

Question.6. Why did Evans not take off his hat when Jackson ordered him to do so? (All India 2010)

Answer. Evans knew that the duplicate McLeery, who was to invigilate during the O-level German examination, had short hair. So he cropped his hair to pass off as McLeery later. The "bobble hat was an important part of the plan to conceal Evans' cropped hair."

Question.7. How does McLeery explain the presence of a small semi-inflated rubber ring? What did it actually contain? (All India 2010)

Answer. McLeery tells Jackson that he is suffering from haemorrhoids (piles) and the ring helps him when he has to sit for a long time. In reality, the ring contained pig blood, which Evans would splatter on his head and escape from the hospital as McLeery who had been injured.

Question.8. What clues did the answer sheet of Evans provide to the Governor? (Delhi 2009)

Answer. The index number 313 and the centre number 271 on the answer sheet proved to be the clues for the Governor. Putting the two together and with the help of the Ordnance Survey Map for Oxfordshire, he managed to catch Evans in the hotel.

Question.9. How did Evans outwit the Governor in the end? (Foreign 2009)

Answer. Evans was recaptured by the Governor and handcuffed by a prison officer. He was given farewell by the Governor, who thought he was sending Evans back to Oxford jail. Ironically, it was not so. The prison officer, who was actually a friend of Evans in disguise, took Evans to the police van and unlocked the handcuffs as soon as the Governor was out of sight. Evans finally escaped to Newbury. Thus, Evans outwitted the Governor and had the last laugh in this case.

Long Answer Type Questions (6 Marks, 120-150 Words)

Question. 10. Describe the precautions taken by the prison officers to prevent Evans from escaping. (Delhi 2014)

or

What precautions were taken by the prison authorities for the smooth conduct of the examination? (Compartment 2014)

Answer. As Evans had tried to escape before, the prison authorities had taken all possible precautions for the smooth conduct of the examination.

Evans' cell was thoroughly frisked a night before and all sharp-edged objects like razor, nail-file, scissors, etc., were taken away from him. The suitcase of the invigilator McLeery was carefully checked. Also, the Governor had himself decided to supervise the examination by listening in through the microphone connected to Evans' cell. Prison officer Stephens was deployed to observe Evans from the peep-hole every minute or so. Another prison officer Mr Jackson was in constant contact with the Governor on the phone. Both the gates of the wings of Evans' cell were locked tightly.

Thus the authorities left no stone unturned in ensuring the smooth and safe conduct of the examination.

Question.11.How did the negligence of the prison officers prove to be a boon for Evans? (Foreign 2014)

Answer. The prison authorities had taken multi-step detailed precautions for the safe conduct of the examination. However, some lapses on their part at critical moments proved to be a boon for Evans.

First of all, no one tried to verify the identity of the invigilator McLeery and that turned out to be a key mistake in this case. Similarly, the identities of the van driver and the officer who handcuffed Evans were not verified. All of them later turned out to be Evans' accomplices. The Detective Superintendent also acted hastily and did not drive the injured McLeery to the hospital. This gave Evans the chance to escape. Finally, the Governor, who had a sharp presence of mind and hawk-eyed vigil, made the greatest blunder. When he nabbed Evans at the hotel, he did not bring him to the jail with himself and sent him with a driver and 'silent' prison officer. Thus, Evans escaped yet again.

Question.12.Give a character sketch of the Governor of Oxford Prison based on your understanding of the story, 'Evans Tries an O-level'. (All India 2013)

Answer. The Governor of the HM Prison, Oxford, appears to be kind-hearted fellow at the start as he arranges for an O-level exam for a prisoner renowned for his ability to escape. He was, though, quite skeptical of Evans and made every arrangement to make sure that Evans had no means to escape.

He was also very proud and self-conscious. He did not want Evans to disgrace him by escaping from his prison. He had a sharp presence of mind, which was clear from the fact that he cross checked every call that was made to the prison that day.

However, he got over-confident of his arrangements and gave Evans the opportunity to escape.

Also, he was a person who did not mind showering praise on a prisoner. When Evans revealed the secret plan to him, he admired him.

At last, he proved to be just another good-for-a-giggle, gullible Governor when again Evans tricked him and successfully escaped. His overconfidence and self-praise let him down.

Question.13.How was the injured McLeery able to befool the prison officers? (All India 2012)

Answer. Evans acted really well as the 'injured' McLeery. The fake blood that was supplied to him by his invigilator friend was pouring down from his head. With a 'feeble' hand, he got his handkerchief and held it to his bleeding head. In fact in that process, he was able to hide his face from the eyes of the prison officer. He was in so much pain that he could hardly utter a coherent word! In this way, he concealed his voice and was able to dodge the officers. The moment he heard the suggestion of bringing in an ambulance, he interrupted and asked them to call the police; he offered them his help in tracing Evans whom the authorities thought had escaped. This was a part of his plan in which all officers were trapped.

Evans acting as the injured McLeery fooled all the officers and he became successful in making them believe that the injured invigilator was really trying to help them. Thus, by his superb acting of an injured person, he was completely successful in befooling and confusing the prison officers.

Question.14. What purpose did the question paper and the correction slip serve? How did they help both the criminals and the Governor? (All India 2012)

Answer. The purpose of the photocopied sheet that was superimposed on the question paper and the correction slip was to

supply the details of the plan of escape to Evans without uttering a single word. It was a well-thought out meticulous plan. It was also meant to make the authorities believe that the wounded man was McLeery himself. And at that moment, it worked as was thought and the authorities got trapped.

/ However, there is a wise saying 'iron cuts iron'. Just like that, if that superimposed question paper and correction slip helped Evans, then the same materials helped the Governor also in locating the place where Evans was hiding.

The six digit number of the correction slip, i.e. the index number and centre number 313/271, helped the Governor. He put these numbers together and with the help of the Ordnance Survey Map of Oxfordshire, he reached the hotel where Evans had decided to hide for the day.