

# English

## (Honeycomb) (Chapter - 1) (Three Questions) (Class - 7)

### Comprehension Check I

#### Question 1:

Why did the king want to know answers to three questions?

#### Answer 1:

The King was eager to know the answers to the three questions because of a thought that came to his mind that he would never fail if he knew the answers to the three questions.

#### Question 2:

Messengers were sent throughout the kingdom

(i) to fetch wise men.

(ii) to find answers to the questions.

(iii) to look for the wise hermit.

(iv) to announce a reward for those who could answer the questions.

Mark your choice.

#### Answer 2:

(iv) to announce a reward for those who could answer the questions.

### Comprehension Check II

#### Question:

Complete the following sentences by adding the appropriate parts of the sentences given in the box.

1. Many wise men answered the king's questions, \_\_\_\_\_
2. Someone suggested that there should be a council of wise men \_\_\_\_\_
3. Someone else suggested that the king should have a time table \_\_\_\_\_
4. The king requested the hermit \_\_\_\_\_
5. The king washed and dressed the bearded man's wound, \_\_\_\_\_

- *but the bleeding would not stop.*
- *to answer three questions.*
- *but their answers were so varied that the king was not satisfied.*
- *and follow it strictly.*
- *to help the king act at the right time.*

#### Answer:

1. Many wise men answered the king's questions, but their answers were so varied that the king was not satisfied.
2. Someone suggested that there should be a council of wise men to help the king act at the right time.
3. Someone else suggested that the king should have a timetable and follow it strictly.
4. The king requested the hermit to answer three questions.
5. The king washed and dressed the bearded man's wound, but the bleeding would not stop.



## Working with the Text

Answer the following questions.

### Question 1:

Why was the king advised to go to magicians?

#### Answer 1:

Some people said that there were some things which could be urgent. These things could not wait for the decision of the council. In order to decide the right time to do something, it was necessary to look into future. Only magicians could look into future. The king, therefore, would have to go to the magicians.

### Question 2:

In answer to the second question, whose advice did the people say would be important to the king?

#### Answer 2:

In answer to the second question, some said that the people most necessary to the king were his councilors, other said, the priests. A few others also chose the doctors. Yet the others said that his soldiers were the most necessary.

### Question 3:

What suggestions were made in answer to the third question?

#### Answer 3:

In answer to the third question, some said science. Others chose fighting and yet others religious worship.

### Question 4:

Did the wise men win the reward? If not, why not?

#### Answer 4:

No, the wise men did not win any reward because he kings got different answers for all the three questions. The king was not satisfied with the answers he got.

### Question 5:

How did the king and the hermit help the wounded man?

#### Answer 5:

The king and the hermit gave the wounded man shelter and protected him from the army. The king washed and covered the wound with his handkerchief. The king re-dressed the wound until the bleeding stopped completely. They gave him fresh water to drink and carried him into the hut where he laid for rest.

### Question 6:

(i) Who was the bearded man?

(ii) Why did he ask for the king's forgiveness?

#### Answer 6:

(i) The bearded man was enemy of the king who swore to revenge him for seizing his property and putting his brother to death.

(ii) He asked for the king's forgiveness because the king saved his life. He came there to take revenge from the king but instead the king helped him to get better.



**Question 7:**

The king forgave the bearded man. What did he do to show his forgiveness?

**Answer 7:**

The king was happy that he made peace with his enemy so easily and to have won him over as a friend. The king not only gave the bearded man but also said that he would send his servants and his own doctor to look after him. He also promised that he would return the man his property.

**Question 8:**

What were the hermit's answers to the three questions?

Write each answer separately. Which answer do you like most, and why?

**Answer 8:**

In reply to king's first question, the hermit said that there is one important time 'Now'. It is the only time when you have the power of act. In answer to king's second question, the most important person is with whom we are at present. In response to king's last question, the hermit said that the most important thing is to do that person good.

I like the answer for first question because time has the supreme power. It can take you to heights if you do something good and also make you fall on ground if you won't. One should live and act according to present.

### Working with Language

**Question 1:**

Match items in List A with their meanings in List B.

fainted:

**A**

- (i) wounded
- (ii) awoke
- (iii) forgive
- (iv) faithful
- (v) pity
- (vi) beds
- (vii) return

lost consciousness

**B**

- got up from sleep
- give back
- small patches of ground for plants
- severely injured
- pardon
- loyal
- feel sorry for

Use any three of the above words in sentences of your own. You may change the form of the word.

**Answer 1:**

**A**

- (i) wounded
- (ii) awoke
- (iii) forgive
- (iv) faithful
- (v) pity
- (vi) beds
- (vii) return

**B**

- severely injured
- got up from sleep
- pardon
- loyal
- feel sorry for
- small patches of ground for plants
- give back



### Question 2:

Each of the following sentences has two blanks. Fill in the blanks with appropriate forms of the word given in brackets.

He has \_\_\_\_\_ to help me. Do you think he will remember his \_\_\_\_\_? (promise)

He has *promised* to help me. Do you think he will remember his *promise*?

- (i) The \_\_\_\_\_ said that only fresh evidence would make him change his \_\_\_\_\_. (judge)
- (ii) I didn't notice any serious \_\_\_\_\_ of opinion among the debaters, although they \_\_\_\_\_ from one another over small points. (differ)
- (iii) It's a fairly simple question to \_\_\_\_\_, but will you accept my \_\_\_\_\_ as final? (answer)
- (iv) It isn't \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_ should always be the mother of invention. (necessary)
- (v) Hermits are \_\_\_\_\_ men. How they acquire their \_\_\_\_\_ no one can tell. (wise)
- (vi) The committee has \_\_\_\_\_ to make Jagdish captain of the team. The \_\_\_\_\_ is likely to please everyone. (decide)
- (vii) Asking for \_\_\_\_\_ is as noble as willingness to \_\_\_\_\_. (forgive)

### Answer 2:

- (i) The *Judge* said that only fresh evidence would make him change his *Judgement*.
- (ii) I didn't notice any serious *difference* of opinion among the debaters, although they *differed* from one another over small points.
- (iii) It's a fairly simple question to *answer*, but will you accept my *answer* as final?
- (iv) It isn't *necessary* that *necessity* should always be the mother of invention.
- (v) Hermits are *wise* men. How they acquire their *wisdom* no one can tell.
- (vi) The committee has *decided* to make Jagdish captain of the team. The *decision* is likely to please everyone.
- (vii) Asking for *forgiveness* is as noble as willingness to *forgive*.

## Speaking and Writing

### Question 1:

Imagine you are the king. Narrate the incident of your meeting the hermit. Begin like this:

The wise men answered my questions, but I was not satisfied with their answers. One day I decided to go and meet the hermit...

### Answer 1:

As the king I was aware that the hermit helped only the ordinary men, so I left my servants and bodyguards there. I went and met him wearing simple clothes. He was an old man who used to live in a hut amidst the woods. He was digging the ground in front of his hut when I went there. He greeted me and continued his work. I told him the purpose of my visit, but still he kept on digging the ground. He was looking very tired so I offered him to help. He agreed, so I took the spade from him and started digging the ground.

After digging for many hours, I repeated my questions, but the hermit did not answer. As evening was approaching and I thought of returning back. Suddenly, the hermit showed me a bearded man who was running towards us.



**Question 2:**

Imagine you are the hermit. Write briefly the incident of your meeting the king. Begin like this:

One day I was digging in my garden. A man in ordinary clothes came to see me. I knew it was the king...

**Answer 2:**

One day I was digging in my garden. A man in ordinary clothes came to meet me. I knew he was a king.... but I still pretended to be unaware of his identity. He told me that he had come to me to get answers for his three questions.

I greeted him and continued digging the ground. I was tired digging the ground; the king noticed this and offered his help. I agreed and gave my spade to him. After digging two beds in the ground the king repeated his questions, I ignored him again and rather asked him if he was tired and would like me to dig the ground. But he refused to do so and continued the task.

Evening approached and it seemed that he was ready to leave, at that very moment we saw a man running towards us.



## Working with the Poem

### Question 1:

Why does the poet say the squirrel “wore a question mark for tail”? Draw a squirrel, or find a picture of a squirrel sitting on the ground. How would you describe its tail?

#### Answer 1:

The poet said that the squirrel “wore a question mark for a tail” because its tail is twisted appearing like a question mark.

### Question 2:

Do we usually say that an animal ‘wears’ a tail? What do we say? (*Think: Does an animal wear a coat? Consult dictionary if you like, and find out how ‘wear’ is used in different ways.*)

#### Answer 2:

We usually say that an animal ‘has’ certain characteristics or features rather than saying ‘wear’. The poet, however, uses the word ‘wear’ to indicate the external characteristics of the squirrel. The dictionary meaning of ‘wear’ suggests something of an outer covering, for instance clothes.

### Question 3:

“He liked to tease and play”. Who is teasing whom? How?

#### Answer 3:

The poet liked to tease and play with the squirrel. Whenever the poet went a little close to the squirrel, the squirrel would run away in the other direction.