

English

(Honeycomb) (Chapter – 8) (A Homage to our Brave Soldiers) (Class – 7)

Comprehension Check

Question 1:

Where is the National War Memorial located and what is its significance?

Answer 1:

National War Memorial is located in Princess Park, near India Gate, New Delhi. It is built in memory of all Indian soldiers who have made the supreme sacrifice for the country post-Independence.

Question 2:

What is the nation's highest gallantry award?

Answer 2:

The nation's highest gallantry award is the Param Vir Chakra. Order of precedence of these awards is the Param Vir Chakra, the Ashoka Chakra, the Mahavir Chakra, the Kirti Chakra, the Vir Chakra and the Shaurya Chakra.

Question 3:

What do the walls of Chakras portray?

Answer 3:

The National War Memorial consists of 4 concentric circles which are known as Amar Chakra, Veerta Chakra, Tyag Chakra and Raksha Chakra around a 15-meter-tall central obelisk with the eternal flame—the Amar Jawan Jyoti.

Question 4:

Find in the lesson the paragraph/s and the sentence that evoke the feelings given below.

- (i) feeling of wonder
- (ii) heartening
- (iii) sense of motivation
- (iv) pride
- (v) visually inspiring
- (vi) sadness
- (vii) gratitude
- (viii) inspiration

Answer 4:

(i) Feeling of wonder: This made me wonder, who were these brave Indian people? They fought to protect our country and sacrificed their lives so that we could lead our lives in peace.

(ii) Heartening: It was heartening to know that our government has recognised the sacrifice of brave soldiers.

(iii) Sense of motivation: Then the teacher shared with us the citation of Param Vir Chakra awardee Lance Naik Albert Ekka. It touched my heart and also motivated me. We were awestruck and humbled by his bravery. I aspire to be courageous like him when I join the army!

(iv) Pride: It truly is a majestic site that filled me with pride for our nation.

(v) Visually inspiring: The overall environment created an emotive experience that was visually inspiring. I felt as if I had developed bond with the place.

(vi) Sadness: It was sad to think about the massive devastation and loss of life caused by wars.

(vii) Gratitude: They exchange letters and share their feelings of gratitude for the freedom they enjoy because of the sacrifices made by the brave-hearts of the country.

(viii) Inspiration: Let me begin by asking you to guess the name of the monument that I found most inspiring.

Comprehension Check

Question 1:

Which book does Ananda want to read and why?

Answer 1:

Ananda want to read the book a memoir titled Tiger of Drass- Capt. Anuj Nayyar – 23 – Kargil Hero written by his mother Meena Nayyar.

Question 2:

How did Ananda feel after reading about the National War Memorial?

Answer 2:

When Ananda received the Soumya's letter and after reading about the National War Memorial Ananda feel It was such a pleasure. I enjoyed reading your experience of the visit to the National War Memorial in Delhi, as well as your observations and feelings during the visit.

Question 3:

Why was she reminded of the poem Pushp ki Abhilasha?

Answer 3:

When I think back about my visit where everyone was dedicating flowers as a mark of respect to our soldiers, I was reminded of the following poem: Pushp ki Abhilasha

Question 4:

Reading the letter from Soumya, Anada is inspired to act. What actions does she intend to take up. Fill in the table citing the sentences from the text.

(i)	visit	
(ii)	mobile app	
(iii)	sharing ideas	
(iv)	creating a collage	
(v)	joining the army	
(vi)	website	

Answer 4:

(i)	visit	I enjoyed reading your experience of the visit to the National War Memorial in Delhi.
(ii)	mobile app	We have found out a mobile app 'National War Memorial and Museum'.
(iii)	sharing ideas	I really like to receive letters from you, not just because of the ideas that you share but also because the envelope of your letters often comes with beautiful stamps, that make me happy.
(iv)	creating a collage	I think it would be great to create a collage capturing the lives and stories of people that can inspire us each day.
(v)	joining the army	I feel motivated and I am seriously thinking of joining the Armed Forces for serving my motherland.
(vi)	website	Here is the website link for National War Memorial https://nationalwarmemorial.gov.in/ . Share it with your friends to learn more about it.

Working with the Text

Question 1:

Why are war memorials built?

Answer 1:

They link the past to the present and enable people to remember and respect the sacrifice of those who died, fought, participated or were affected by conflict(s). Memorials can be an important source of information for young people in understanding the sacrifices made by past generations.

Question 2:

Why is it our duty to pay homage to our brave soldiers?

Answer 2:

It is our duty to pay tribute to our brave soldiers who went beyond their call of duty to protect our motherland and secure our lives.

Question 3:

Why is it a good idea to make a presentation in front of the whole school?

Answer 3:

It a good idea to make a presentation in front of the whole school I am going to share this idea with my classmates and my teacher. I think it would be great to create a collage capturing the lives and stories of people that can inspire us each day.

Question 4:

Why were the students awestruck and humbled - explain in your own words?

Answer 4:

It touched my heart and also motivated me. We were awestruck and humbled by his bravery. I aspire to be courageous like him when I join the army!

Question 5:

Complete the table given below. You may have to find the information from the Internet.

Name of Wars	Dates	Soldiers Associated
Indo-China War		
India-Pakistan Wars		
Kargil War		

Answer 5:

Name of Wars	Dates	Soldiers Associated
Indo-China War	20 October - 21 November 1962	Indian Army and PLA of China
India-Pakistan Wars	1947, 1965, 1971,	Indian Army and Pak army
Kargil War	1999	Indian Army and Pak army

Working with Language

Question 1:

Find the odd one out from the words given in the box.

valiant	martyr	brave	heroic	courageous
memorial	monument	statue	cenotaph	victory
gratitude	thankfulness	appreciation	respect	gratefulness
unique	simple	matchless	exclusive	one-off

Answer 1:

martyr
victory
respect
simple

Question 2:

Fill in the blanks with appropriate form of the word given in brackets.

The Param Vir Chakra signifies the “Wheel of the Ultimate Brave”, and the award is granted for “most conspicuous bravery in the presence of the enemy”. The medal was _____ (institute) as a Gallantry Medal with retrospective effect from 15 August 1947 by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the then President of India. The Medal was _____ (design) by Mrs. Savitri Khanolkar. The designer _____ (draw) inspiration from Sage Dadhichi, a vedic rishi who _____ (make) the ultimate sacrifice by giving up his body so that the gods _____ (can) make a deadly weapon _____ (call) Vajra or Thunderbolt from his spine. The medal is cast in bronze. In the centre, on a raised circle, is the state emblem, _____ (surround) by four replicas of Indra’s Vajra are _____ (flank). The decoration is suspended from a straight swiveling suspension bar, and is held by a 32 mm purple ribbon.

Answer 2:

The Param Vir Chakra signifies the “Wheel of the Ultimate Brave”, and the award is granted for “most conspicuous bravery in the presence of the enemy”. The medal was **instituted** as a Gallantry Medal with retrospective effect from 15 August 1947 by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the then President of India. The Medal was **designed** by Mrs. Savitri Khanolkar. The designer **drew** inspiration from Sage Dadhichi, a vedic rishi who **made** the ultimate sacrifice by giving up his body so that the gods **could** make a deadly weapon **called** Vajra or Thunderbolt from his spine. The medal is cast in bronze. In the centre, on a raised circle, is the state emblem, **surrounded** by four replicas of Indra’s Vajra are **flanked**. The decoration is suspended from a straight swiveling suspension bar, and is held by a 32 mm purple ribbon.

Question 3:

Match the following words with their meanings.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (i) territorial integrity | (i) celebrated |
| (ii) iconic | (ii) engraved |
| (iii) envisioned | (iii) grand |
| (iv) etched | (iv) visualised |
| (v) posthumously | (v) a tapering stone pillar |
| (vi) awestruck | (vi) after death |
| (vii) obelisk | (vii) amazed |
| (viii) majestic | (viii) never dying flame |
| (ix) interminable flame | (ix) very brave |
| (x) valiant | (x) safeguarding nation’s borders |

Answer 3:

Words

- (i) territorial integrity
- (ii) iconic
- (iii) envisioned
- (iv) etched
- (v) posthumously
- (vi) awestruck
- (vii) obelisk
- (viii) majestic
- (ix) interminable flame
- (x) valiant

Meaning

- (x) safeguarding nation's borders
- (i) celebrated
- (iv) visualised
- (ii) engraved
- (vi) after death
- (vii) amazed
- (v) a tapering stone pillar
- (iii) grand
- (viii) never dying flame
- (ix) very brave (x) safeguarding nation's borders

Question 4:

Complete the story of an unknown soldier. Replace the words from the box with the underlined words given in the text below.

(touched everyone's heart, territorial integrity, inspired, fallen soldiers, posthumously, valour, exemplary courage, awestruck)

He was posted at the Indian border to safeguard our national boundary. He had been motivated by the hundreds of stories of the soldiers who had died in action and were celebrated after their deaths for bravery.

One night as the war intensified, he was asked to take his platoon to the place of action.

He displayed outstanding bravery and led from the front. All the fellow soldiers were amazed at his courage, especially as he made the supreme sacrifice without any hesitation. He too was awarded after he died in the war. His action affected everyone very deeply.

Answer 3:

He was posted at the Indian border to safeguard our territorial integrity. He had been inspired by the hundreds of stories of the fallen soldiers and were celebrated posthumously for valour. One night as the war intensified, he was asked to take his platoon to the place of action. He displayed exemplary courage and led from the front. All the fellow soldiers were amazed at his courage, especially as he made the supreme sacrifice without any hesitation. He too was awarded posthumously in the war. His action touched everyone's heart.

Speaking and Writing

Question 1:

1. Have a class discussion on the topic, 'When there is no dialogue war begins'.

Answer 1:

Student do this discussion in class.

Question 2:

2. Find out any poem or story in your mother tongue/context about the sacrifices/ bravery of soldiers. Make a presentation in the class.

Answer 2:

This is an activity work, so do yourself.

Question 3:

3. People have switched to emails and WhatsApp instead of writing notes and letters to each other. Which form of communication do you prefer and why? Share with your friends in class.

Answer 3:

Emails and WhatsApp are quick form of communication. Hence people prefer these mod. Students are advised write their own preference.

Question 4:

4. Write a paragraph on the army's work during peacetime.

Answer 4:

During peacetime, soldiers are alert to any danger or threat to their country. In addition to training for combat, each branch of the armed forces offers training for hundreds of different job opportunities. These jobs can be in such fields as engineering, medicine, computers, or finance.

Question 5:

5. As the citizens of a nation, we all must fulfill our duty. Write a letter to your friend describing how do you propose to serve your nation? You can choose from the themes given below:

Save the Environment

Health and Well-being

Helping others

Righteous Conduct

Answer 5:

Activity work, so do yourself.

Working with the Poem

Question 1:

Read the lines in which the following phrases occur. Then discuss with your partner the meaning of each phrase in its context.

- (i) velvet grass
- (ii) drinking straws
- (iii) meadow houses
- (iv) amazing mound
- (v) fuzzy head

Answer 1:

- (i) **Velvet grass** – the grass which is very soft, as soft as velvet.
- (ii) **Drinking straws** – A long narrow tube through which butterfly gets the nectar from the flower.
- (iii) **Meadow houses** – the habitat or house of animals where they live like burrows in the ground, nests and ants mound.
- (iv) **Amazing mound** – The 'ant' mound is the place in which the ants of the meadow live.
- (v) **Fuzzy head** – dandelion flowers which are covered by soft fibres like hair, otherwise something fluffy or woolly.

Question 2:

Which line in the poem suggests that you need a keen eye and a sharp ear to enjoy a meadow? Read aloud the stanza that contains this line.

Answer 2:

The line in the poem suggests that you need a keen eye and a sharp ear to enjoy a meadow.

"Oh! Meadows have surprises
And many things to tell;
You may discover these yourself,
If you look and listen well."

Question 3:

Find pictures of the kinds of birds, insects and scenes mentioned in the poem.

Answer 3:

Students will do this by themselves by collecting the pictures of butterfly, rabbit, ants, birds etc.

Question 4:

Watch a tree or a plant, or walk across a field or park at the same time every day for a week. Keep a diary of what you see and hear. At the end of the week, write a short paragraph or a poem about your experiences. Put your writing up on the class bulletin board.

Answer 4:

The beauty of nature is worth appreciation. It is the foundation of life and an abode of livelihood. So I sat down to take a glance on the flowers in my garden. The vibrant colours, the beautiful long-short stems in big beautiful vases are worth a site. For me, roses are the queen of all flowers. Every time I saw those roses, I felt it was an abode of feeling of love, friendship and heaven.