

**CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature**  
**Moments Chapter-4 In the Kingdom of Fools**  
**Test Paper-07**

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**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

1. “As the servants sharpened the stake and got it ready for the final impaling of the criminal, it occurred to the minister that the rich merchant was somehow too thin to be properly executed on the stake. He appealed to the king’s common sense.”
  - a. Why was the merchant being hanged?
  - b. Was the king worried by this?
  - c. What does the king do?
  - d. Find a synonym for ‘execution’ from the extract.
2. “When the bodies were taken down to be thrown to crows and vultures the people panicked. They saw before them the dead bodies of the king and the minister. The city was in confusion.”
  - a. Why does the king and his minister decide to get executed?
  - b. Why was the city in confusion?
  - c. Who were made the new king and minister?
  - d. How did the king and minister come instead of the guru and his disciple?

**Short Answers type Questions (30-40 words)**

3. Why were the guru and his disciple astonished at the shops of the city?
4. Why was the disciple chosen for the execution?
5. Why were the guru and his disciple ready for the execution?
6. Why was the city in confusion when they saw the dead bodies of the king & the minister?
7. Who was the new king and minister of the kingdom of fools?
8. How does the merchant try to escape the execution?

**Long Answer type Questions (100-150 words)**

9. Write the character sketch of the guru in the story - “In the Kingdom of Fools”.
10. “It is believed that fools are so dangerous that only very wise people can manage them”. Justify the statement on the basis of the chapter – “In the Kingdom of Fools”.

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**Answers**

1.
  - a. According to the king, merchant's father was the real murderer since he was dead and someone must be punished so he choose the merchant, who would inherit his father's wealth as well as sins.
  - b. Yes, the king was worried.
  - c. He ordered the servants to find someone fat enough to fit the stake.
  - d. Implementation.
2.
  - a. The king and the minister decided to get executed because they wanted to be the king and minister in their next birth (as said by the guru).
  - b. The city was in confusion because the guru and his disciple were to be hanged but the dead bodies were of the king and minister. The citizens were worried about their future.
  - c. The guru and the disciple were made the new king and minister.
  - d. Before the execution, the king and his minister went to prison and set the guru and his disciple free. They disguised as the king and minister.
3. The guru and his disciple were astonished because they found that everything at the shop costed the same — a single duddu. Whether they bought a measure of rice or a bunch of bananas, it was of the same price. The guru and his disciple were delighted. They had never heard of anything like this. They could buy all the food they wanted for a rupee.
4. It occurred to the minister that the rich merchant was somehow too thin to be properly executed on the stake. He appealed to the king's common sense, the king ordered to find someone who is fat enough to fit at the stake. So, the disciple was chosen for the execution as he had fattened himself with lots of food.
5. The guru made a plan to confuse the king and fool him by saying that the new stake is the stake of justice and whoever first dies on it would be the king and second one would be the minister. He explains that he and his disciple are sick of their ascetic life. And so, they are ready to die.
6. The city was in confusion because the guru and his disciple were to be executed but when

they saw the dead bodies of the king and the minister they wondered how did they died of the guru and disciple duo. All night they mourned and discussed the future of the kingdom.

7. After the death of king and his minister some people suddenly thought of the guru and the disciple and caught up with them as they were preparing to leave town unnoticed. They begged the guru and the disciple to be their king and their minister. It didn't take much arguments to persuade the disciple, but it took longer to persuade the guru.
8. The merchant said that he didn't put up the wall. It was the fault of the man who built the wall. Since he didn't build it well, so it fall on the burglar. Believing his words, the king had to punish the bricklayer.
9. The Guru was indeed a wise man. He was an intellectual who advises his disciple not to stay in the city as it was full of fools and they are very unpredictable by nature and it can harm him. He warned his disciple beforehand to save him. But the disciple was attracted to cheap and good food and decided to stay there.

Later, when the disciple was chosen for the execution, he came back to the guru and prayed him to listen to his call from wherever he was. The guru saw everything in a vision with his magical powers (because of which he could see the future alongwith the present and the past). He arrived at once to save his disciple, who had got himself into such a soup out of his sheer love for food. He whispered something to the disciple and soon they both get ready for the execution. He confuses the king by asking him to be hanged before his disciple. When asked for the reason for doing so, the guru befools the king by saying that whoever die on the new stake would be the king in his next life and second one would be the minister.

Hence, it can be concluded that the guru was very shrewd and turned out to be the ultimate saviour of his disciple.

10. The king, the minister and the citizens were idiots in the kingdom of fools. They did not want to run things like other kings, so they did weird things like - they turned the day to night and night to day. They ordered that everyone should be awake at night, till their fields and run their businesses only after dark and go to bed as the sun rises. And whether they bought a measure of rice or a bunch of bananas, it costed just a duddu (currency of the kingdom) in the city. The disciple in the story was chosen for the execution just because the merchant, who is the actual culprit was too thin to fit the stake, according to king!

The guru who was a wise man, came to save his disciple. With his wisdom he planned a trap and fool the king by saying that whoever would die on the new stake, which is the stake of justice, would be the king in their next round of life. So, the king wanting to be the king in his rebirth too planned his own execution. After death of king and his minister, the guru and the disciple were made the new king and minister by the people. After which, normal routine was followed, the night was to be night again and day would be day; even the uniform value of things, which was a duddu, was also removed. It became like other kingdoms. Thus, the statement - "It is believed that fools are so dangerous that only very wise people can manage them" - can be aptly justified through the chapter - 'In the Kingdom of Fools'.