

CBSE TEST PAPER-05
Class 12 English Core (Lost Spring)

General Instructions:-

- All questions are compulsory.
 - Question No.1 to 7 carries 3 marks each.
 - Question No. 8 to 10 carries 6 marks each.
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1. Why do women must veil their faces before elders?
2. Why is it an offence to employ children in a glass blowing industry?
3. What was the fate of the people of Firozabad?
4. What is 'suhag'? How is it related to bangles?
5. Why was Firozabad called a shanty town?
6. Why didn't Mukesh dream of flying an aeroplane?
7. How is Mukesh's attitude to his situation different from that of his family?
8. What could be some of the reasons for the migration of people from villages to cities?
9. How could the life of people of Firozabad be improved?
10. Why should child labour be eliminated? How can it be eliminated?

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Answers

1. It was a custom in India that exists in some parts of the country even now that women must veil their faces before elders as a mark of respect.
2. It is an offence to employ children in a glass blowing industry because it is a hazardous industry. Hot furnaces and glass polishing can cause blindness. Our law doesn't permit children below fourteen to be employed in any industry, including hazardous industry.
3. The fate of the people of Firozabad was to pursue the business of bangle making. They were forced by the association of Sahukars, middlemen and others to continue in the business as they gained from their slogging.
4. 'Suhag' means auspiciousness in marriage. A married woman, till her husband is alive, is considered 'suhagan' and she must put on glass bangles to maintain the sanctity of marriage.
5. Firozabad was called a shanty town because there were stinking lanes choked with garbage, homes that remain hovels with crumbling walls, wobbly doors, no windows, crowded with families of humans and animals coexisting in a primeval state.
6. Mukesh didn't dream of flying an aeroplane because very few planes flew over Firozabad. He was more of a practical person and dreamt of what he could achieve against all odds. He had the determination and will power to achieve what he wanted.
7. Mukesh belonged to a poor family of bangle-makers. But his attitude is very different from his family. He wants to break the family tradition of bangle making. He is daring and determined. He has hopes and dreams. He is practical and thus dreamt of what he could achieve, he wanted to be a motor mechanic.
8. Migration of people from villages to cities has been a regular feature not only now but it has been a trend through ages. There are many factors that cause migration of people from villages to cities. Some villagers voluntarily move to the cities in search for jobs and better civic and health facilities, etc. Others are forced to migrate when natural disasters like flood, storm, drought, famine, etc. destroy their houses and properties. History has records of large scale migrations caused by wars. Also, many villagers who are better off than others manage to send their children to study in the cities. Cities offer better facilities in education, trade, medicine, business and recreation, this also attracts

migration. Easy facilities of travelling by air or train also prompt people to migrate to cities. Communal and religious clashes, caste issue are other factors that lead to the migration. In 'Lost Spring', Saheb and his family migrates to Seemapuri from Dhaka after their houses were destroyed in the storms.

9. Life of people of Firozabad can be improved by allowing them to organize and form association or cooperatives. The vicious cycle of Sahukars, middlemen, policemen, keepers of law, bureaucrats and politicians force their baggage on these poor people. They were not allowed to change their profession and if they dared, they were dragged to jails as if they did something illegal. The cycle of these people need be removed and they be provided opportunities to achieve their dreams and follow the profession of their choice. Enforcement of laws would also take the children out of the hazardous glass blowing industry and they would get proper education to improve their future.
10. Child labour is a terrible curse that has been gnawing our society since time immemorial. Born into abject poverty, many children are condemned to the murky world of labour as domestic helps, dish-washers at roadside eateries, etc. The hazardous industries of glass bangles, bidi, crackers recruit children in great numbers and squash whatever little dream they ever have. Their childhood is stolen and they are forced to grow up quickly, under-nourished, unfed, uneducated children - they lose the charm of the spring of their life.

Child labour can be eliminated only if government agencies, NGOs, co-operative societies and political parties form a common platform to eradicate this curse from the society. Their concerted efforts and proper enforcement of laws preventing child labour can only do the needful in solving this serious problem. Those who relinquish their jobs should be given proper rehabilitation, food, clothes, education and shelter so that they can swim back to the mainstream of society. Their feelings and emotions need to be valued and respected so that they can find themselves to be part of this society.