

**CBSE TEST PAPER-04**  
**Class - 12 English Core (Tiger King)**

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**General Instruction:**

- Question No. 1 to 7 carry three marks each.
  - Question No. 8 and 10 carry six marks each.
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1. Why was the Maharaja sunk in gloom even after having killed seventy tigers?
2. When did the Tiger King stand in danger of losing his kingdom?
3. What happened to the tiger provided by the Dewan Saheb?
4. Did the Tiger King shoot the hundredth tiger? Give reasons for your answer.
5. How did the Tiger King celebrate his victory over the killing of the hundredth tiger?
6. Why did the Dewan decide to give up his own tiger to be killed by the Maharaja?
7. How was the Tiger King brought up?
8. Why did Maharaja decide to double the land tax?
9. What did the astrologers predict on the birth of the Tiger King? How did he respond?
10. Comment on the ending of the story 'The Tiger King'. Do you find it convincing?  
Why/Why not?

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**Answers**

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1. During ten years, the Maharaja had managed to kill seventy tigers. As a result, the tiger population became extinct in his kingdom. This made the Maharaja anxious because he thought he would not be able to achieve his target of killing a hundred tigers and so his life would be in danger.
2. Once a high-ranking British officer visited Pratibandapuram. He was very fond of hunting tigers and being photographed with them. However, the Maharaja refused to give him permission to hunt tigers because he feared that other British officers too would turn up with the same request. It was because of his refusal that the Maharaja stood in danger of losing his kingdom.
3. The tiger provided by the Dewan Sahab was very old and stood in complete submission. The Maharaja took aim and fired, but actually the bullet missed the tiger and the tiger only fainted from the sharp sound of the bullet. As nobody wanted the Maharaja to know about it one of the hunters himself shot the tiger later.
4. The Tiger King actually did not shoot the hundredth tiger. The tiger being a weak one, fainted from the shock of a bullet whizzing past him and the ignorant king celebrated his achievement. Later, when the hunters took a closer look at the tiger, it woke up as if from a deep slumber.
5. When the Maharaja thought that he had killed the hundredth tiger, his joy knew no bounds. The elated king returned to his capital and ordered his staff to bring the dead tiger in a grand procession. The tiger was buried and a tomb was erected over it.
6. The Maharaja refused to leave the forest unless he killed the hundredth tiger that had been sighted by the villagers. The Maharaja was furious and sacked many officers. He ordered the Dewan to double the land tax of the village and when the Dewan tried to stop him, the Maharaja asked him to resign. So, to save his job, the Dewan decided to arrange for a tiger to be killed by the Maharaja.
7. As a child the Tiger King was brought up by an English nanny and tutored in English by an Englishman. He was given the milk of an English cow. Like many other Indian crown princes, he watched only English movies.
8. When the Maharaja got depressed due to non-availability of hundredth tiger, he was

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informed that sheep were disappearing from the hill. On reaching there, he found there was no tiger. His anger reached its peak and he decided to call the Dewan. The Maharaja called the Dewan and ordered him to immediately double the tax of the villagers who had informed him of a tiger in the forest because despite his best efforts he was unable to locate the beast. This infuriated the Maharaja and in anger, rage and fury, he ordered to double the land tax.

9. When Tiger king was born, the astrologer was brought to predict about his future. It was predicted that the royal prince was born in the hour of bull and as Tiger is the enemy of bull so his death would come from a tiger. Having heard the prediction, he got angry and proclaimed that he needed not to be afraid of tigers rather tigers needed to be afraid of him. Since then he started hunting tigers not only in his kingdom but also in the neighbouring all kingdoms as well. He also married the girl whose kingdom had highest number of tigers and hunted them. The astrologer had also predicted that the hundredth tiger would be the cause of Maharaja's death. Thus, he went on a mindless tiger hunt and became popular as the Tiger King. But as destined his doom came from a wooden toy tiger. As predicted by the astrologer, his death came from not the real but a wooden toy tiger.
10. The ending of the story 'The Tiger King' seems tame and unconvincing rather contrived. It seems unnatural and unrealistic. It is beyond comprehension that how a king of indomitable courage who has over-powered ferocious beast like tiger with bear hands succumbs to a minor wound caused by a prick from a silver of a wooden tiger. It is astonishing to find how the infection flares in Maharaja's hand and within four-days the prick develops into a suppurating sore and spreads all over the arm. Even after "successful" operation by three surgeons the king could not be saved! It seems that the author has tried to impose astrologer's prophecy on king's fate by force. Readers with superstitious belief may accept it at ease but it becomes a bitter pill to swallow for the people with rational outlook.