

CBSE TEST PAPER-02
Class - 10 English Communicative
(Mirror)

General Instruction: Question No. 1 to 3 carry Eight marks.

1. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:

She rewards me with tears and an agitation of hands.

I am important to her. She comes and goes

Each morning it is her face that replaces the darkness.

- a. Who is 'She' here?
- b. What does it reflect faithfully?
- c. Why is the mirror important to her?
- d. Why does 'she' reward the mirror with tears?

Just as it is, unmisted by love or dislike.

I am not cruel, only truthful

- a. What does 'I' refer to in the given lines?
- b. What do you mean by 'unmisted' here? What does the speaker want to convey when he says that it is 'unmisted by love or dislike'?
- c. How does the poet consider the mirror to be?
- d. What is the poetic device used in the given stanza?

2. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each:

- a. What is the mirror busy with most of the time? Why does it flicker?
- b. Who are the liars in the poem 'The Mirror'? Why does the woman turn to those liars?
- c. What makes the woman angry? How does she express her anger?
- d. What is the poetic device used when the mirror says 'I swallow'?

3. Answer any one of the following questions in 80-100 words:

Do you agree that mirror is like a god and a lake? Justify your answer.

OR

Though the mirror claims 'I am not cruel' it gives a lot of pain to the woman. Is its claim justified? Why do think so?

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Answers

1. (i) Answers

- a. The woman/writer is mentioned as 'she' in the poem.
- b. It faithfully reflects the image of the woman/things.
- c. The mirror is important to her because it shows her true reflection without any preconception.
- d. Because she is sad to see her waning beauty.

1. (ii) Answers

- a. In the given lines 'I' is used for the mirror.
- b. 'Unmistaken' means 'unaffected'. It implies that emotions like love or hatred do not influence at all.
- c. The poet considers mirror to be truthful and not cruel.
- d. The poetic device used in the stanza is personification.

2. Answers

- a. The mirror is busy looking at and contemplating at the opposite wall most of the time which is pink in colour. This wall has a few speckles on it. The pink wall with the speckles, has become such an integral part of the mirror that it considers it as a part of its heart. Sometimes the mirror flickers as its routine meditation is disturbed by faces that appear before it to see themselves and the darkness that restricts the mirror to contemplate.
- b. The mirror declares the candle and the moon to be the liars. They are the liars because they tend to hide the ugliness of the woman. Otherwise the dull face of the woman shines and looks beautiful in the glow of the candle and the moon.
- c. The woman is angry to see her waning beauty in the mirror and she is so sentimental that she starts crying. She shows her disappointment and resentment in the form of agitation of her hands that she shows to the mirror as if she is scolding some person.

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- d. The poetic device used in the expression 'I swallow' is personification. Here human traits associated with eating are used. Apart from this, the poet has made use of the personal pronoun 'I' that lends it to make a perfect example of personification.
3. The mirror in this poem compares itself with two things. First, it boldly declares that it has 'the eye of a little god, four-cornered'. Just as the God who surveys the world from all the corners and directions, similarly the mirror feels that it too can view things from all four directions. Just as the God is symbolic of truth, the mirror is also truthful. It also compares itself to a lake that also acts like a mirror because the water in it reflects the faces and images exactly as a mirror does. A lake is also symbolic of depth wherein the aquatic life breeds in harmony. Similarly, a woman looks into the depths of the mirror to trace its lost beauty.

OR

3. The mirror claims "I am not cruel" but it gives a lot of pain to the woman. The mirror's claim is justified because it reflects our true self. It reflects the true image and that agitates the woman. It is the age that made her ugly not the mirror. She is not satisfied because it shows her speckled looks and wrinkles. It is the reality anyone with the passage of time grows old and ugly. The mirror does not tint or distort the reality. It is the fear of the humans those who are afraid of ageing and graying. So, they do not accept the true image and reality. But, the mirror is not worried by their anxieties and worries. Mirror continues to reflect what it sees, it may be painful to the woman but the mirror's claim is justified.