

CBSE TEST PAPER-03
Class - 10 English Communicative
(The Frog and the Nightingale)

General Instruction: Question No. 1 to 6 carry Four marks, Question No. 7 carry Eight mark.

1. Read the given extract and answer the following questions.

Neither stones nor prayers nor sticks,
Insults or complaints or bricks
Stilled the frog's determination
To display his heart's elation.

- a. Who were the stones thrown at ?
- b. What was the frog determined to do ?
- c. Identify the figure of speech in line 1 ?
- d. Who were throwing the stones?

2. Read the given extract and answer the following questions

"Well, poor bird she should have known
That your song must be your own.
That's why I sing with panache
Koo-oh –ah! ko- ash !ko-ash!" And the foghorn of the frog
Blared unrivalled through the bog.

- a. Who is referred to as the "poor bird" in the first line?
- b. What is that "she should have known" ?
- c. "panache" here means?
- d. How had the frog ensured that he remained unrivalled ?

3. What was the frog's reaction when the earnings from the box office dropped?
4. Whose influence did the nightingale come under? What was the effect of the influence?
5. How did the frog impress the nightingale when he first met her ?
6. Prove that the frog was not as good a singer as he professed to be.
7. To a large extent the nightingale was herself responsible for her sad end than the ruthless frog. As frog write your views on the nightingale in the light of the above remark in the form of a diary entry.

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[Answers]

1. Answers

- a. The stones were thrown at the frog
- b. He was determined to sing to his heart's elation.
- c. Repetition
- d. The other creatures in the Bog who were tired of the frog's horrible singing.

2. Answers

- a. The poor bird is the Nightingale
 - b. After having completely destroyed her, the frog says that she should have known that one's talent is one's own and one cannot copy somebody else and hope to survive .
 - c. Panache here means confidence with attitude.
 - d. He forced her to sing in his way and she strained herself so much that she burst a vein and died. Thus the frog made sure that he had no rival.
3. The box office earnings had dropped because the Nightingale's singing had become uninspired and monotonous. The audience could sense that she was no longer singing from her heart. When the earnings dropped the frog was very angry and made her practice without a break ,even in the rain . He also insisted that she add more frills and trills to her song to draw in the audience.
4. The naïve Nightingale came under the influence of the Frog who made her believe that he was a good singer and a reputed critic. Under his influence she lost her innate skills and tried to mould herself to the expectations of the frog, in the process killing herself.
5. The Nightingale was impressed by the Frog's confidence and his claim that he was the owner of the Sumac tree on which she sat. He also claimed that he was known in the bog for his baritone , and he was a critic for The Bog Trumpet. The innocent nightingale believed his promise to make her a better singer.

6. The opening lines of the poem tell us about the falsity of the frog's claim that he was a good singer. We see the other creatures of the Bog throwing stones ,sticks and even bricks at him when he started singing. Their pleadings , insults and complaints fell on deaf ears. And these same creatures come in droves to hear the Nightingale sing, proving that the Frog was a bad singer.

7. Sunday

23.08.

Dear Diary,

Everybody seems to be blaming me for the nightingale's death. I just can't understand how I'm responsible. Did I beg her to listen to me? Did I force her to do as I said? I gave her my honest opinion on her singing and suggested how she could improve according to my judgment. She had made the choice to follow my advice. If she knew better she should have followed her instinct.

Everyone must know what is good for them. They should listen to opinions and take their own call. How can you blame others for advising you? One has to be aware of one's talent and be confident of themselves like I am.

Those other creatures in the Bog don't appreciate my talent and are constantly criticizing me but did I stop? She should have remembered that one's talent is one's own.