

CBSE TEST PAPER-02
Class - 10 English Communicative
(The Dear Departed)

General Instruction:

- Question No. 1 to 3 carry Eight marks.
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1. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:

“Well, he must have gone to the ‘Ring-o-Bells’ afterwards, for he came in as merry as a sandboy.”

- (a) Who is the speaker?
- (b) Whom is she referring to?
- (c) What is ‘Ring-o-Bells’?
- (d) How did he come in?

OR

They’re coming to talk over poor grandpa’s affairs. Your father sent them a telegram as soon as we found he was dead. (A noise is heard)

- (a) Who is the speaker here of these lines?
- (b) What is the ‘noise’ all about?
- (c) The speaker is amazed because.....
- (d) Who sent the telegram to whom?

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

- a. How does Mrs. Slater plan to outshine the Jordans? What does it reveal about her character?
- b. What is the reason for the Jordans taking a long time to get to the house of the Slaters? What does it show about the two sisters’ attitude towards each other?
- c. Ben appreciates grandfather saying ‘it’s a good thing he did.’ Later he calls him ‘drunken old beggar’. Why does he change his opinion about grandfather?
- d. How does the father come to know that he was presumed to be dead?

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

Compare and contrast Henry's character with that of his wife. Support your answer with evidence from the play.

OR

You are Victoria. You are very upset with the way your family has behaved in connection with your grandfather's inheritance. You don't want your grandfather to depart from the house. What do you think who is responsible for this situation? What can be done to establish cordial relations with the elderly people in the family?

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[Answers]

1. (i) Answers

- a. Mrs. Slater is the speaker.
- b. She is referring to the grandfather.
- c. Ring-o-Bells is a restaurant.
- d. He came in extremely happy and carefree.

1. (ii) Answers

- a. Mrs. Henry Slater is the speaker.
- b. It is the noise of knocking at the door.
- c. She was amazed by hearing the noise because she doubted her sister and her husband would have come.
- d. Father of Victoria sent the telegram to Mrs. Elizabeth and Ben.

2. Answers

- a. Mrs. Slater is doubtful about her sister and her husband, Jordans arrival at grandfather's demise. Mrs. Slater is also anxious about grandfather's insurance premium and looks for it. She also brings grandfather's bureau down from his room. Before her sister arrived, she tried to have every asset of grandfather in possession. She is a ruthless and self-centered person.
- b. Jordans took a long time in getting to reach the Slaters because they had to arrange for the mourning dresses for themselves. Since the ready-mades did not work for Elizabeth, she might have to get them stitched. Both the sisters had rivalry between them for every worthless thing. They could not stand each other.
- c. Ben learnt that grandfather went in the morning to pay his insurance premium, he said it's a good thing he did but later when he came to know from Victoria that he had not gone to pay premium but went to meet Mrs. Shorrocks, and he commented that he was a drunken beggar.

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- d. Both the sisters tried their best to hide the tale of the morning when they had presumed the father to be dead due to their own personal reasons. However, this could not be hidden for long as the two sisters flared up when one blamed the other of robbing furniture from the room of their father, imagining him to be dead. This leads the grandpa to conclude the reason why Elizabeth visited them and why everyone was in black clothes of mourning.
3. Mrs. and Mr. Slater are seen as a couple who complement each other. But this is on the surface. Mrs. Slater is a domineering lady and always wants to have the last word. Henry follows her instructions diligently. When she asks him to wear the grandfather's slippers, as his are torn, he does not say a word. When it comes to shifting the bureau from grandfather's room it is her decision. He walks behind her like a lamb. Mrs. Slater does not allow him to give his opinion on any issue. He is a meek character who is scared of saying anything in front of his wife. Mrs. Slater was a very greedy woman. She pinches the grandpa's bureau when she gets to know he has died. Henry is well aware that both the sisters Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Jordan are very mean, selfish and calculative, so they will not lose any chance to pinch things belonging to their father.

OR

I am the one who truly loved my grandfather, he is such a wonderful person. We have such fun together I have gentle feelings for my grandfather and when my parents are shifting the bureau I ask them, 'Are we stealing it?' I am feeling very low today after seeing the way the elders behave. Nobody was bothered about grandfather. When they were all talking it was only about whether grandfather has paid the insurance or not, how much he has saved and what all he has saved. I am happy that Grandpa is alive. But he has decided to disown Mom and Aunt Elizabeth. Greed and materialism is (are) responsible for this disaster in our lives. I think the senior members in our families deserve great care and love. In return, they should be supportive and adjustable with the new generation. They should understand the problems and challenges in the lives of their children. On the other hand, the children should realize that 'old is gold'. Service to our aged angels is true service of God.