

CBSE TEST PAPER-03
Class 12 English Core (Indigo)

General Instructions:-

- All questions are compulsory.
 - Question No.1 to 7 carries 3 marks each.
 - Question No. 8 to 10 carries 6 marks each.
-

1. Who was Charles Freer Andrews? Why did Gandhiji turn down his offer to stay in Champaran?
2. What does Gandhiji mean by 'conflict of duties'?
3. What happened when Raj Kumar Shukla took Gandhiji to the house of Rajendra Prasad in Patna?
4. Why did Gandhiji decide to go to Muzaffarpur? Where did he stay there?
5. How did Gandhiji express his inability to accompany Raj Kumar Shukla?
6. How do we know that ordinary people too contributed to the freedom movement?
7. Why did Gandhiji feel that taking the Champaran case to the court was useless?
8. Which factors helped the fear-stricken peasants of Champaran to achieve freedom?
9. How did the Champaran episode prove to be a turning point in Gandhiji's life? Explain with the reference to the text, 'Indigo'.
10. How was the Champaran episode a big success? Elucidate.

CBSE TEST PAPER-03
Class 12 English Core (Indigo)
Answers

1. Charles Freer Andrews, the English pacifist who had become a devoted follower of the Mahatma, came to bid Gandhiji farewell before going on a tour of duty to the Fiji Islands. Gandhiji was opposed to C.F. Andrews helping him in Champaran because he was an Englishman. He felt that a foreigner help should not be sought to free India of foreigners.
2. By 'conflict of duties' Gandhiji meant that he did not want to set a bad example as a law breaker by refusing to comply with the eviction order. He also wanted to render the 'humanitarian and national service' for which he had come to Champaran. He respected the lawful authority but disregarded the order to leave to obey the voice of his conscience.
3. When Raj Kumar Shukla took Gandhiji to Rajendra Prasad's house, the servant's there mistook him to be a peasant. Since Gandhiji was quite simple in his dress and manners and did not show his leadership qualities. The servants did not allow him to draw water from the well lest it will be polluted.
4. Gandhi decided to go first to Muzzafarpur, which was en route to Champaran, to obtain more complete information about conditions than Shukla was capable of imparting. Gandhiji stayed there for two days in the home of Professor Malkani, a teacher in a government school.
5. Gandhiji told Shukla he had an appointment in Cawnpore and was also committed to go to other parts of India. Shukla accompanied him everywhere. Then Gandhiji returned to his ashram near Ahmedabad. Shukla followed him to the ashram. For weeks he never left Gandhiji's side.
6. The ordinary people stood with Gandhiji at every juncture. At Motihari, they flocked in thousands as they learnt that the Mahatma had some trouble with the authorities. They were ready to do anything at his bidding. So, the ordinary man's contribution to the freedom movement was not less in any way.
7. When Gandhiji realised that the poor peasants were disheartened and fear-stricken, he concluded that the law courts were useless in their case. Going to courts would burden the sharecroppers with heavy litigation expenses. He got to know about the plight of the peasant groups of Champaran from his discussion with lawyers. It was more important to

make them fearless before taking up the case.

8. The peasants were sharecroppers with the British planters. According to an old agreement, the peasants had to produce indigo on 15 percent of the land and give it as rent to the landlords. Meantime, Germany had developed synthetic indigo. So, the British did not require the indigo crop. To release the farmers from old agreement, they demanded compensation from them. As most of the farmers were illiterate, they agreed to it. Some of them refused to do so. Lawyers were then engaged to take the matter to the court. At that time, Gandhiji appeared in Champaran. He fought a long battle for the poor peasants and managed to get justice for them. The peasants now became fearless and became aware about their rights. Along with the political and economic struggle, Gandhiji worked on the social level also. He arranged for the education, health and hygiene of the peasants. They were self-reliant and thus, free from rule of British people.
9. The success of the Champaran episode prodded Gandhiji for British eviction from India. He identified that the root cause of the problem was the fear of the illiterate farmers. He became aware about the miserable condition of the peasants and realised how Britishers exploited them with their unfair policies. The spontaneous demonstration of the peasants was the beginning of their liberation from fear. Though it began as an ordinary attempt to free the poor from injustice and exploitation, it was important because it drove away the mortal fear from their hearts. Civil Disobedience Movement had won for the first time in colonial India. Gandhiji made the point clear that British could not order him in his own country. Thus, it was the turning point of his life and served as a source of motivation and strength for future his movements.
10. The fight and the success of Champaran was the success of Civil Disobedience Movement started by Gandhiji. It was the attempt of the poor peasants who were helpless to the fraud meted out to them. One of the sharecroppers, Raj Kumar Shukla, contacted him and told him about the condition of the peasants in his village. Gandhiji's presence in Bihar raised a huge row in Champaran. Thousands of peasants held a demonstration to protest against the government. The government was baffled. The orders for Gandhiji to leave Champaran were disobeyed by him. After which an inquiry commission was set to collect the information, which later ordered the sharecroppers to get 25 percent of their money. Thus, the rule of British had to leave, and it was huge success for the farmers.