

CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature
Moments Chapter-1 The Lost Child
Test Paper-02

Read the following passages and answer the questions

1. “Look! Can you smell those nice flowers, child! Would you like a garland to put round your neck?”
 - a. Who is the speaker in the above lines?
 - b. What does he want to offer?
 - c. Why does the speaker want to do so?
 - d. How did the child react to this?
2. Having run to and fro in a rage of running for a while, he stood defeated, his cries suppressed into sobs.
 - a. What is the child’s state of mind being described here?
 - b. What was the child exactly doing?
 - c. Why do you think, he stood defeated?
 - d. Explain the phrase-cries suppressed into sobs.

Answer the following questions in about 30 words:

3. What were the things the child enjoyed on his way to the fair?
4. How did the child feel when he saw the sweets?
5. What do you think, happens in the end?
6. Why did the child lose interest in all those things which he wanted earlier?
7. How did the child enjoy in the grove?
8. What message does the author wish to convey through the story?

Answer the following questions in about 100 words:

9. Compare and contrast the child’s reactions to the different things he saw before and after getting lost?
10. What precautions do you think parents should take to ensure that their children should not be lost?

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Answers

1.
 - a. The kind hearted man who was helping the child spoke the given lines.
 - b. The man wants to offer the child the garland of gul mohur flowers.
 - c. The speaker simply wanted to divert the child's attention to comfort him for the time being.
 - d. The child turned his nose away from the basket and reiterated his sob.
2.
 - a. The extract describes the child panic stricken after getting lost.
 - b. The child was running to and fro in search of his parents, at last stood crying when couldn't find them anywhere.
 - c. He stood defeated as his efforts to see them were exhausted and as if he had no hope.
 - d. It means that the child was almost on the verge of crying but was controlling.
3. The child enjoyed many things on his way to the fair. He could see attractive toys, beautiful mustard fields, dragon flies, butterflies, bees and insects, flower petals and cooing doves in the grove. As he came closer to the crowded center of the fair, he was tempted by the sweets, colorful balloons, flower garlands which were being sold by flower seller, a snake charmer entertaining the people etc. Finally the child missed his parents when he was lost watching merry faces of men, women, children at roundabouts.
4. When the child came across a sweetmeat seller hawking gulab jamun, rasagulla, burfi, jalebi. All of them were nicely arranged, decorated with leaves of silver and gold, he stared with open eyed and his mouth watered looking at them. He wished to have his favourite burfi but avoided thinking that his request would not be listened.
5. The author Mulk Raj Anand has not provided any solid end to the story. It's the readers' guessing. I think the kind man must have helped the child to be united with his parents. As it might have been a smaller place, it would have been possible for that man to hand over the child to his parents with little efforts.
6. The child refused all those things which he earnestly wanted earlier like sweets, balloons, garland etc. The reason is quite obvious, after getting separated from his parents in the crowd, he lost his interest in all those things. He just wanted to see his parents and ensure

his own safety and security.

7. The nature lover child was already fascinated by the passing fields, butterflies, insects etc. His parents called him from the shade of a grove. As he entered the grove, a shower of young flowers fell upon the child. He enjoyed gathering the petals. Next, he heard the cooing of the doves. When his parents called him, he was running in wild capers round the banyan tree.
8. The story is open for many interpretations. The message we receive is that we will have many temptations on our way of life, but we must know what is ultimately important for us. Enjoy the things, have the variety of experiences like the child in the story; but not at the cost of our safety.
9. The story 'The Lost Child' gives a beautiful description of the childish curiosity and psychology. The author Mulk Raj Anand successfully brings out the difference in the reactions of the child to the same set of things when he is in different situation. The way we act and react to the people and the things largely depends on our own mind set. The child in the story gets attracted to various things, objects on his way to the fair. He even neglects calls given by his parents. He badly wanted toys. When the sweetmeat seller was hawking the sweets, he was staring at them with open eyes and his mouth watered. He wished he should ask his favourite burfi. He couldn't resist himself from demanding a garland of gulmohur. He had an overwhelming desire of possessing all the colourful balloons. He was enchanted by the music played by the snake charmer, but couldn't listen as his parents had warned him not to listen such coarse music. He was lost in the crowd when he was attracted towards the roundabouts. When he realized that he was no more with his parents, he was panic stricken. The kind man offered him all those things to soothe him, but he then only wanted his father and mother. He refused even to look at those things, turned himself away from those attractions. He was badly in need of being with his parents.
10. The story 'The Lost Child' by Mulk Raj Anand evoke the feelings of love and sympathy for the lost child in the story. Fortunately this child finds a kind man who tries to comfort him, helps to find him his father and mother. The story also teaches us the lesson that we neither parents nor the children should be careless of inviting any mishaps for us. We can feel the pains of such parents or even such children. The situation and people may not always turn favourable for us. Precautions are better than finding cures. We, as the parents, have to be little more

smarter to share the proper and clear instructions with our children. We also fix certain spot or landmark where to meet or come back in the situation if we are separated in the crowd. In case, the child is very small, I think the parents can keep a tag of name and contact numbers attached to the child. Training the child for such situation would also make them courageous to deal with the problem.

I feel that children should also have to be more alert when they are in the similar situation even though the ultimate responsibility of their off springs lie with the parents.