

**CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature**  
**Moments Chapter-4 In the Kingdom of Fools**  
**Test Paper-03**

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

“Your Highness, when my brother was pursuing his ancient trade, a wall fell on him and killed him. This merchant is to blame. He should have built a good, strong wall. You must punish the wrongdoer and compensate the family for this injustice.”

- a. Who says this to whom?
  - b. Why does the speaker blame the merchant?
  - c. What does the king did for justice?
  - d. Find out a word from the extract which has meaning- “chase or follow.”
2. “It’s not right for us to give over the kingdom to others in the next life. Let’s go on the stake ourselves and we’ll be reborn as king and minister again. Holy men do not tell lies.”
- a. Who says this to whom?
  - b. Why does the speaker say this?
  - c. Who are the ‘Holy men’ in the extract given?
  - d. Do you think the speaker has taken a right decision?

**Short Answer type Questions (30-40 words)**

3. How did king and his minister run things in their kingdom?
4. Why does the disciple didn’t want to leave the kingdom?
5. How did the thief die in the story “In the Kingdom of Fools”?
6. What reason does the goldsmith says to escape the execution?
7. Why does the king sent out messengers to bring in the bricklayers?
  1. On what condition did the guru and his disciple agree to rule the kingdom?

**Long Answer type Quesitons (100-150 words)**

9. Describe the strange things of the kingdom of fools.
10. How does the guru save his disciple?

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**Answers**

1.
  - a. The thief's brother says this to the king.
  - b. Because, he thinks that the merchant should have built a strong wall so that it would not have killed his brother.
  - c. The king summoned the owner of the house.
  - d. Pursuing means chase or follow.
2.
  - a. The king says this to the minister.
  - b. The king wants to be the king of his kingdom for his next life too, as per the guru said.
  - c. 'Holy men' refers to the guru and his disciple.
  - d. No, he is really a foolish king to follow the guru.
3. The king and his minister don't want to run things like other kings, so they decided to change night into day and day into night. They ordered that everyone should be awake at night, till their fields and run their businesses only after dark and go to bed as the sun rises. Anyone who disobeyed would be punished with death.
4. The disciple doesn't want to leave the place because everything was cheap in that kingdom. All he wanted was good and cheap food. The disciple stayed on, and ate bananas, ghee, rice, wheat and grew fat like a street-side sacred bull.
5. The thief broke into a rich merchant's house, he made a hole in the wall and sneaked in, and as he was carrying out his loot, the wall of the old house collapsed on his head and he died on the spot.
6. Goldsmith agrees that he made the dancer come many times to his door. Because he has to finish, making jewelry for the rich merchant's orders for their coming wedding, and they wouldn't wait. So, he was unable to make dancer's jewelry. By that he blames the merchant for the death of the thief.
7. The merchant blames the bricklayer for building a weak wall which has fallen on the thief and killed him. So, the king held bricklayer as culprit for the death of thief.
8. The guru and his disciple finally agreed to rule the kingdom of the foolish king and the silly minister, on the condition that they would change all the old rules. From then

onwards, night would be night and day would be day, and we could get nothing for a duddu.

9. The king in the kingdom of fools didn't want to run things like other kings, so he decided to change night into day and day into night. He ordered that everyone should be awake at night, till their fields and run their businesses only after dark and go to bed as soon as the sun rises. Anyone who disobeyed would be punished with death. The people did as they were told with the fear of death. The king and the minister were delighted at the success of their project. When the shops were open, the guru and his disciple went to buy some groceries. To their astonishment, they found that everything cost the same, a single duddu — whether they bought a measure of rice or a bunch of bananas, it cost a duddu. The guru and his disciple were delighted. They had never heard of anything like this. They could buy all the food they wanted with a rupee.
10. As the merchant was too thin to fit in the stake it was ordered by the king to find a man fat enough to fit the stake. So, the servants choose the disciple, who had fattened himself by eating. At that time the disciple remembers the guru's words of wisdom and he prayed to his guru in his heart, asking him to hear his cry wherever he was. The guru saw everything in a vision; he had magic powers, he could see far, and he could see the future as he could see the present and the past. He arrived at once to save his disciple. On reaching the kingdom he whispers to his disciple something and then he requests the king to hang himself first then his disciple. He plans a trap, the king by saying that the stake is the god of justice. It's new, it has never had a criminal on it. Whoever dies on it first will be reborn as the king of this country. And whoever goes next will be the future minister of this country. So, the king decides to be the king of his kingdom in his next life too. At night he and his minister went to the prison and released the guru and his disciple, disguised themselves as the two, and as arranged beforehand with loyal servants, were taken to the stake and promptly executed.