

**CBSE TEST PAPER-01**  
**Class - 10 English Communicative**  
**(Ozymandias)**

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**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:

I met a traveler from an antique land  
Who said: Two vast and trunkless legs of stone  
Stand in the desert. Near them, on the sand,  
Half sunk, a shattered visage lies.

- a. Who did the poet meet?
- b. Where was he coming from?
- c. What did he see there?
- d. 'Two vast and trunkless legs'..... Which poetic device is used in this line?

**OR**

And on the pedestal these words appear;  
"My name is Ozymandias, king of kings:  
Look upon my works, ye Mighty, and despair!"

- a. What was carved?
- b. Where was it carved?
- c. What do you mean by 'despair'?
- d. Why does Ozymandias ask the mighty to look upon his works and despair?

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

- a. "The hand that mocked them and the heart that fed." Whose hand and heart has the poet referred to in this line?
- b. "Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!" Who is Ozymandias referring to when he speaks of Ye Mighty? Why should they despair?
- c. 'Nothing beside remains.' What does the narrator mean when he says these words?
- d. What message is conveyed through the poem?

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

‘Ozymandias’ and ‘Not Marble nor the Gilded Monuments’ are on Time. Compare the two sonnets in terms of the way in which Time is treated by the poets. Write your answer in about 150 words.

**OR**

Imagine that Ozymandias comes back to life and as he sees the condition of his statue. Realization dawns upon him and he pens down his thoughts about the vanity of human glory and power and the power of time as a great leveller. Write his thoughts.

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**[Answers]**

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1. (i) Answers

- a. The poet met a traveller from a distant land.
- b. He was coming from an ancient land.
- c. He saw the ruins of a huge statue.
- d. The poetic device used is alliteration.

1. (ii) Answers

- a. A Small introduction of the king and a message for all was carved on it.
- b. It was carved on the pedestal of the statue.
- c. It means be disappointed.
- d. Ozymandias feels they will never be able to outshine him.

2. Answers

- a. The hand and heart of king Ozymandias has been referred to by the poet in this line.  
Though he was a cruel and wicked king, he took great care of his people.
- b. Ozymandias is referring to his works. He boasts that his works are so magnificent that people can only admire them. Despair here means give up. They should despair whenever they try to imitate or surpass his work.
- c. These words mean that even the greatest are destroyed. Now nothing else except the stones.
- d. The poem conveys an important message that nothing lasts forever. Even the greatest kingdoms and political regimes are sure to crumble so one should never be proud of even the greatest fall one day or the other. So one should not be proud of oneself.

3. Shakespeare in his sonnet 'Not Marble, nor the Gilded Monuments' written on time express that monuments are made for the wealthy to keep the memory of someone alive. Stone can be altered by the immortalities of time.  
This poem will leave behind the material things of life but his poem shall survive longer

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than any gold plated monument. It will be portrayed for all time and his subject will shine when devastating wars of time shall overturn statues. The cause of war (Mars) nor the effects of war (fire) shall destroy the loving memory.

In 'Ozymandias' the poet has treated time in a different manner. He says with the passage of time everything is destroyed, be it king, property or monument. The king was so terrified and those who commanded no longer have any power. Poet comments on temporal nature of the things humans strive for but with time everything vanishes. Ozymandias' empire ceased to exist. His statue will also expire. Only sand will remain.

### OR

Today, true realization has dawned upon time as I see the ruins of my statue. I thought I was the mightiest of all in my real life. I felt myself great and important. But I felt sad to see the condition of my statue lying in dust. It grieves me to see the statue broken and the head cut off from the body. The face is half sunken in the sand. Around it nothing can be seen except vast stretches of bare sand. No one is there to admire and praise it. I once thought myself to be the greatest ruler and the people honoured me. The people should look at it and should know that nothing can be changed. The sculptors who had noted my expression in my statue cannot make right what has been destroyed. It teaches me a lesson that everything comes to an end and nothing remains forever. All my works have disappeared. I wish I had worked for the happiness of my subjects. Really time and Death overcome everything in this world. So one should not be proud of oneself. The ruins of the statue compels me to think of the futility of vanity and pretensions. Human pomp and glory is short-lived. Time is a great destroyer. The ravages of time spare no one, neither the monuments nor statues. So it is wise to lead a modest and fruitful life. All human efforts to seek immortality, fame and power are futile before Time who is a great leveler.