

CBSE TEST PAPER-02
Class 12 English Core (Lost Spring)

General Instructions:-

- All questions are compulsory.
 - Question No.1 to 7 carries 3 marks each.
 - Question No. 8 to 10 carries 6 marks each.
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1. Where had Saheb's family come from and why?
2. Why did the writer say, they got the ration cards?
3. Seemapuri, a place on the periphery of Delhi yet miles away from it, metaphorically. Elucidate.
4. Why was Seemapuri drowned in an air of desolation?
5. How could the children be partner in survival?
6. How was the acquaintance of the writer with barefoot boys of Seemapuri?
7. What is the meaning of Saheb's full name? Does he know it? How does he conduct himself?
8. And survival in Seemapuri means rag-picking. Through the years, it has acquired the proportions of a fine art. Elaborate the phrase to show what the writer wanted to say.
9. Why did the writer say that she was embarrassed at having made a promise that was not meant?
10. "For children, garbage has a meaning different from what it means to their parents" - Explain.

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Answers

1. Saheb's family had come from Bangladesh. Their home in Dhaka was amidst the green fields. Because of the frequent floods, they were unable to grow anything there. They came to India as refugees.
2. The writer said they got the ration cards because the politicians would provide them for votes, but they procured them to get the ration for food as more important than an identity.
3. Seemapuri, a place on the periphery of Delhi yet miles away from it, metaphorically. Delhi is the capital of India and is very beautifully developed whereas Seemapuri which was on its periphery was a wilderness with no sewage, drainage or running water.
4. Seemapuri was drowned in an air of desolation because it was just a jungle on the outskirts of Delhi. There was no development, no sewage, drainage or water. The refugees who had come from Bangladesh in 1971 used to pitch their tents and stayed there.
5. The children were partners in survival because they helped their families in their daily earnings. They used to collect rags from the garbage. These ragpickers hardly earned much money to get two-square meals a day so the earnings by the children helped them.
6. The acquaintance of the writer with barefoot boys of Seemapuri had turned very solid. They used to meet regularly. Over the period of months of meeting, she had come to recognize each one of them.
7. Saheb's full name is 'Saheb-e-Alam', it means Lord of the Universe. No, he does not know the meaning of his name, had he known it, he would hardly have believed it. He roams around the streets barefoot along with the rag-pickers. This group of barefoot boys appear in the morning and disappears in the afternoon.
8. 'Survival in Seemapuri means rag-picking. Through the years, it has acquired the proportions of a fine art'. The writer wants to convey that the squatters who had come from Bangladesh during or after the 1971 war had settled in Seemapuri and picked rags for their survival. They had become proficient in collecting rags from the garbage that they would be able to get something valuable within no time. It was their expertise that they would find a rupee note or a ten rupee note or even a silver coin. This proficiency

has been termed as fine art.

9. The writer says that she was embarrassed at having made a promise that was not meant. The writer had asked Saheb why he didn't attend a school. To this Saheb replied that there was no school in the neighborhood. She asked him, if she built a school would he attend it. Saheb was more than happy and the next day he went running to the writer to ask whether her school was ready. At this she realized that she had made a promise which she didn't want to keep. She was embarrassed to have made such a promise. She could understand that these children's life is full of promises that are never kept.
10. Small children scrounge heaps of garbage with the expectation of getting some coin, note or valuable thing in it. Sometimes, they find a rupee or even ten rupee note. This lures them to find more and more of it, they search it with excitement. Therefore, for children garbage is wrapped in wonder; while for elders it is means of survival. Thus, garbage has different meaning for different people, for children it wonder and for their parents it is job.