

CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature
Beehive Chapter-6 My Childhood
Test Paper-02

Answer the questions 1 & 2 after reading the passages:

1. After school, we went home and told our respective parents about the incident.
Lakshmana Sastry summoned the teacher, and in our presence, told the teacher that he should not spread the poison of social inequality and communal intolerance in the minds of innocent children. He bluntly asked the teacher to either apologize or quit the school and the island. Not only did the teacher regret his behavior, but the strong sense of conviction Lakshmana Sastry conveyed ultimately reformed this young teacher.
 - a. Who are 'we' in the above passage?
 - b. What was the incident that was narrated by the boys?
 - c. What ultimately happened of the teacher, did he leave the school or reformed himself?
 - d. Who was Lakshmana Sastry?
2. On the whole, the small society of Rameswaram was very rigid in terms of the segregation of different social groups. However, my science teacher Sivasubramania Iyer, though an orthodox Brahmin with a very conservative wife, was something of a rebel. He did his best to break social barriers so that people from varying backgrounds could mingle easily. He used to spend hours with me and would say, "Kalam, I want you to develop so that you are on par with the highly educated people of the big cities."
 - a. What do you understand by 'segregation of different social groups'?
 - b. What did Sivasubramania Iyer, the science teacher say to Kalam?
 - c. What do you think a rebel is?
 - d. Why would the teacher spend hours with Kalam?

Answer the following questions in about 30 words:

3. What was the immediate effect of World War 2 commercially in the island town of Rameswaram?
4. What did Gandhiji declare after the end of the World War 2?
5. How was the social set up in the island town of Rameswaram?

6. When the teacher's wife refused to serve food to a Muslim boy, what was the reaction of the teacher?
7. What was the first casualty, as described in the chapter, in Rameswaram after India was forced to join allied forces in World War.
8. What did the writer and his three brothers & sister inherit from their mother?

Answer the following questions in about 100 words:

9. Quote the incident that reformed the young teacher, who had joined the Rameswaram Elementary School, when the writer was in fifth standard?
10. What was the kind of childhood did the writer have?

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Answer

1.
 - a. 'We' in the above passage were the writer and his friends.
 - b. The incident that was narrated by the boys was about their teacher changing their seating arrangement according to religious status.
 - c. The teacher was summoned by the high priest who told him not to spread the poison of religious difference. No, he did not leave the school but was greatly reformed after the incident.
 - d. Lakshmana Sastry was the high priest at the temple of Rameswaram.
2.
 - a. 'Segregation of different social groups' means division of the society on the basis of their social and religious status.
 - b. Sivasubramania Iyer, the science teacher told Kalam that he wanted him to develop and be on par with highly educated people of the big cities.
 - c. A rebel is a person who goes against the set norms of the society on the basis of social and religious differences.
 - d. The teacher would spend hours with Kalam in order to develop him into an educated and developed person.
3. The immediate effect of World War 2 commercially in the island town of Rameswaram was eruption in demand of tamarind seeds.
4. Gandhiji declared that after the end of the World War 2, India would be able to receive independence and Indians will build their own India.
5. The social set up in the island town of Rameswaram was very rigid in terms of the segregation of different social groups.
6. When the teacher's wife refused to serve food to a Muslim boy, the teacher served him with his own hands and sat down beside him to eat his meal.
7. After India was forced to join Allied Forces in World War, the first casualty in Rameswaram was the suspension of the stoppage of train at Rameswaram station.
8. The writer and his three brothers and sister inherited faith in goodness and deep kindness from their mother.

9. The young teacher, who had joined the Rameswaram Elementary School, when the writer was in fifth standard was an orthodox Hindu Brahmin. He couldn't tolerate Hindu and Muslim boys sitting together on the same bench. In order of religious hierarchy, he rearranged the seating system. However, this system was not liked by the writer and his friend with whom he used to sit. They went to their homes and narrated the incident to their respective fathers. Writer's friend's father was the high priest of Rameswaram Temple. He called the teacher and reprimanded him against spreading religious poison. He asked him either to apologize or leave the town. This incident not only helped the children but also reformed the teacher.
10. The writer was born into a middle-class Tamil family. His father had neither much formal education nor much wealth; despite these disadvantages, he possessed great innate wisdom and a true generosity of spirit. He had an ideal helpmate in his mother. The writer was unable to recall the exact number of people his mother fed every day, but he was quite certain that there were far more outsiders with them than all the members of their own family put together. His austere father used to avoid all inessential comforts and luxuries. But all necessities in terms of food, medicine or clothes were provided for. In fact, the writer had a very secure childhood, both materially and emotionally.