

## My first Day in an Examination Hall

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It was Friday the First of March; It was the first day of my examination. I was to appear in English Paper A. So, I got up early in the morning. I had my breakfast, touched the feet of my father and mother and got up early in the morning. I had my breakfast, touched the feet of my father and mother and got their blessings. I saw some of the boys were having The Shining Way To- English Paper I, and other pocket books, They were revising and cramming the expected essays and letters. Everybody had a pen and an ink pot in his hand.

The bell rang. The examinees went in. The superintendent read out the instructions and asked us all to take out the help books from our pockets and leave them on the stage. 'Some of the students took out the help books and surrendered them to the Superintendent.

It was now exact nine. Answer books with a piece of blotting paper were distributed to all of us. There was now pin drop silence. We were going through the question paper and marking which questions were to be attempted first.

I read the question paper twice. I had divided the time for solving the questions: a longer period for longer questions and shorter period for shorter questions. I began to solve the questions. I finished the whole of the paper half an hour before. The superintendent was announcing the time after every half an hour.

When I looked around me I found that some of my class fellows were perturbed. Probably they could not finish the paper by that time. The school compound was covered with a beautiful shamiana. It was tastefully decorated with buntings and balloons. A stage was set up for speeches and cultural programmes. Under the shamiana, tables and seats were arranged for the students and teachers. I could not help thinking "Action is thy duty; reward is not thy concern".