

CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature
Moments Chapter-1 The Lost Child
Test Paper-04

Read the following passages and answer the questions

1. “How did you get here, child? Whose baby are you?” the man asked as he steered clear of the mass.
 - a. Who spoke the above lines?
 - b. What has exactly happened?
 - c. Describe the child’s situation.
 - d. What do you mean by ‘steered clear of the mass.’
2. The man, still trying to make the child happy, bore with him to the gate where the flower seller sat. “Look! Can you smell those nice flowers, child! Would you like a garland to put round your neck?”
 - a. Why was the man trying to make the child happy?
 - b. Where did they reach?
 - c. How was the man trying to make the child happy?
 - d. What do you think was the child’s response to this?

Answer the following questions in about 30 words:

3. What did the child do when was taken again to the roundabout?
4. What did the child immediately do when he realized that he was lost?
5. What has been referred by the author’s expression ‘his feet obedient to their call’?
6. Why did the child drop the flower petals?
7. Explain -he was filled with an overwhelming desire to possess them all.
8. What could the child see when they neared the village?

Answer the following questions in about 100 words:

9. Describe the activities in the village fair in detail .
10. Write a detailed note on the child’s parents and their behaviour.

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Answers

1.
 - a. The kind man picked the child up and spoke the above lines.
 - b. The man finds the child crying alone in the trampling crowd ,lifts the child in his arms.
 - c. The child was running quickly towards the shrine ,in the hope that he would meet his parents.
 - d. The phrase ‘steered clear the mass’ means making the way through the crowd .
2.
 - a. The man was trying to make the child happy and comfortable with him as he had realized that the child had been lost.
 - b. They reached the place near where the flower seller was selling the flowers.
 - c. The man was trying to get him the gulmohur garland which he thought would make him happy.
 - d. The child turned away his nose indicating his disapproval for it.
3. When was taken to the roundabout, the man asked him if he would like to have ride on the horse. The child had lost his interest in it. So he just screamed or his father and mother.
4. The child turned back and realized that he had been separated from his parents, he gave a full, deep cry. He gave a jerk to his body and started finding his parents. He cried in fear and shouted ‘father and mother,’
5. The author has used the expression ‘his feet obedient to their call’, to indicate that though the child was interested in various things, whenever had been called by his parents he quickly rushed to them. Here the author makes the figurative use of synecdoch.
6. The child dropped the flower petals which he had collected in his hands as he heard the cooing of the doves. He at once forgets or lost interest in the showering petals and got attracted towards the doves. It shows his quickly shifting interests.
7. The author mentions that the child had an overwhelming desire of possessing them all. This refers to the colourful balloons the child had seen with the balloon seller. He wished to have them all for him.

8. The child was going to the village fair along with his parents. As they neared the village, he could see many footpaths full of throngs, converging to the whirlpool of the fair and felt at once repelled and fascinated by the confusion of the world he was entering into.
9. The author Mulk Raj Ananad has given a detail description of a typical village fair. All the activities are described vividly.

It had been spring festival and the narrow lanes were crowded by people. Some were walking or being transported in bullock carts. There had been shops of toys lined up and the child in the story was attracted to them. There were beautiful mustard fields along the way which were made more attractive by insects, butterflies and dragonflies etc. There was a shady grove where the child and his parents preferred to sit and rest. There had been thick crowd of people near the shrine which ultimately had been centre of attraction of the fair. One could see the balloon seller selling colourful balloons, flower seller, sweetmeat seller hawking variety of different sweets. Many artists, performers had been trying their skills and earning money like a snake charmer, roundabout runner etc. There were lively colourfully dressed people gathered around such centers of attractions. In this way, the story gives a beautiful background and setting of a village fair.

10. The story 'The Lost Child', rightly titled tells about the psychology of a child. This child was lost in the crowd and lost his interest in all those activities which he was interested earlier.

The story comes with the a good theme and useful message. It mainly throws light on the child's curious nature, but surely one can have a good understanding of the parental nature too. The father appears to be a typical stern father who doesn't entertain any of the demands of his child. It's perhaps because that was not the time when parents display the mentality of granting every wish of their children and pampering them. Even the child knows this fact. He was well aware of his father's unkind nature. The author also uses certain phrases like familiar tyranny to describe their non considerate nature. They had lot of excuses with them which even the child was fully aware of.

The mother of the child appears to be simple minded person. She was a bit careful about child's feelings. After every refusal, she used to divert the child to something else. They were cautious enough to be attentive to the child in the crowd, but somewhere a moment of negligence invited a mishap that they lost their child in the crowd.