

## 2.4 Have you Earned your Tomorrow

### ICE BREAKERS

Q. 1. Complete the following web.



Q. 2. Discuss with your partner about the different idioms/proverbs related to word 'tomorrow'.

(The answers are given directly and underlined.)

Ans. (a) Never put off until tomorrow what you can do today.

(b) Tomorrow's battle is won during today's practice. (Japanese Proverb)

(c) Today must not borrow from tomorrow. [German Proverb]

(d) Yesterday, today and tomorrow – these are the three days of man. [Chinese Proverb]

Q. 3. When you make your future plans you think of -

Ans. (1) Career

(2) Higher studies

(3) Retirement-plans/Financial security

(4) Family life

(5) Goal in life to be accomplished/Success in the plan.

Q. 4. 'Plan your tomorrow' by completing the table given below.

(The answers are given directly and underlined.)

<u>Examination</u>	<u>College Function</u>	<u>Function at your home</u>
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<u>Complete studying portion.</u>	<u>Preparing the list of duties.</u>	<u>Cleaning the house.</u>
<u>Clarify doubts.</u>	<u>Delegate jobs.</u>	<u>Arrangements for sending invites, preparation and service of food.</u>
<u>Revision.</u>	<u>Confirm date/ time with resource.</u>	<u>Seating arrangements and other conveniences for guests.</u>

## BRAINSTORMING

**(A1) Discuss with your friend how she/he spent the whole day that was beneficial for others.**

**Ans.** As a volunteer I spent my whole day with police to help in traffic control.

(a) As a teacher I spent my whole day with uneducated persons to educate them.

(b) Being a good human, I celebrated my birthday with orphan children.

(c) Being a good citizen, I spent my whole day in cleanliness campaign in my city.

**(A2) (i) ...'was it well or sorely spent'? Explain the meaning and give illustrations.**

**(Note: Most of the textual 'Wh' questions are converted to Activity Format.)**

**Ans.** The poet asks the reader again and again if he/she spent each day well or wasted it -'sorely spent. We all are busy with our own lives, acting for our own benefit. The poet inspires us to be mindful and must be of use to the world around us. The poet prompts us to speak kindly and unselfishly help, at least one fellow human everyday. The message is implied throughout the poem. He asks if you have made one person happy, some stranger who had lost all hope, to find some hope again. So he will speak well of you. Is someone grateful to you at the end of (each) the day?

**(ii) 'As you close your eyes in slumber do you think that God would say, You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today?'**

**Elaborate the idea expressed in these lines.**

**Ans.** The poet indirectly means that each day we exist we must make our living useful. We are not sure if we shall wake in the morning. We pray we do. But for God to grant us one more day -tomorrow we have to justify our existence today. Did we put today to use? Did we help at least one fellow-human? Did we extend the help without expecting any returns? Did at least one person feel grateful for your act of help? If nothing, we can make the effort to speak a kind word to a stranger we may pass by in our daily hurry. So one has live mindfully, unselfishly and look for ways to be of help to someone in need. That is the minimum expected by God. Or to have lived as a human would be futile.

(iii) The poet suggests that one should do good to others. Complete the table by giving examples of doing good to following people. (The answers are given directly and underlined.)

Family members	Friends	Neighbours
<u>Help with household chores/run errands.</u>	<u>Be ready to help in unexpected situations.</u>	<u>Be mindful not to intrude or cause disturbance.</u>
<u>Take care if someone is sick.</u>	<u>Share resources whenever possible.</u>	<u>Be cooperative when we all have to work together for the common good.</u>

(A3) (i) Pick out the describing words from the poem and add a noun of your own. One is done for you.

(Toiling) time	(Toiling) time
(Happier) anybody	(Kindly) word
(Cheerful) greeting	(Churlish) howdy
(Grateful) someone	(Rejoicing) heart
(Fading) hopes	(Slipping) days

(ii) Match the words given in column A with their meaning in column B :

A	B
(1) Cheerful	(a) with the feeling of disappointment
(2) Selfish	(b) lack of satisfaction
(3) Sorely	(c) happy
(4) Discontent	(d) concerned with one's own pleasure

Ans. (1) Cheerful - happy

(2) Selfish - concerned with one's own pleasure

(3) Sorely - with the feeling of disappointment

(4) Discontent - lack of satisfaction

(iii) There are a few examples of homonyms in the poem. For example 'spoke'. List homonyms from the poem and give their meanings.

Ans. Passed :

(1) (of a candidate) be successful in (an examination, test, or course).

(2) went past/left behind

Deed :

(1) an action that is performed intentionally or consciously.

(2) a legal document that is signed and delivered, especially one regarding the ownership of property or legal rights.

**Waste :**

(1) use or expend carelessly, extravagantly, or to no purpose.  
(of a person or a part of the body) become progressively weaker and more emaciated.

(2) (of a material, substance, or by-product) eliminated or discarded as no longer useful or required after the completion of a process.

**(iv) Find out expressions/phrases which denote, 'going away', from each stanza.**

**Ans.** 1. Stanza 1: "is almost over"

2. Stanza 1: "passed his way"

3. Stanza 1: "is almost over"

4. Stanza 2: "vanish in the throng"

5. Stanza 2: "rushed along"

6. Stanza 3: "were fading now"

**(A4) (i) The poet has used different poetic devices like Alliteration and Interrogation in the poem. Identify them and pick out the lines.**

**Ans.**

No.	Poetic Device	Lines
1.	Alliteration	'Were you selfish pure and simple as you rushed along the way' 'As you close your eyes in slumber do you think that God would say', (The sounds 's' & 'sh' are repeated in both lines.)
2.	Interrogation	The first, the second and the fourth lines of stanzas 1, 2 and 4 are all questions Interrogation. The second and fourth lines in the stanza 3 are questions.

(ii) The rhyme scheme of the first stanza is 'aabb'. Find the rhyme scheme of other stanzas.

**Ans.** The rhyme scheme of all the stanzas is 'aabb'.

(A5) (i) Write the appreciation of this poem based on the points given below:

1) About the poem poet and the title

2) The theme

3) Poetic style

4) The language/poetic devices used in the poem

5) Special features

6) Message, Values, Morals in the poem

7) Your opinion about the poem

**Ans.** The poet, Edgar Guest's "Have you Earned your Tomorrow", is a thought provoking composition. The title itself pushes our mind to wonder if today we have done something useful.

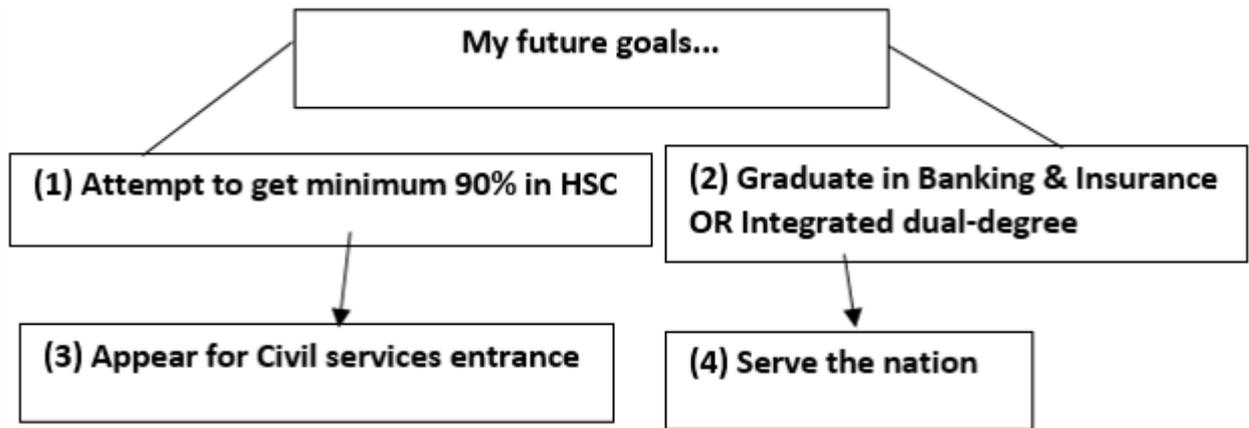
It urges the reader to be thoughtful in everyday life about the people around them. The poet puts forward questions. Each question forces us to ask ourselves if we are kind, unselfish, patient and thoughtful. In our everyday rush, to live our life only for our own benefit, we forget to consider the people nearby who may be less fortunate..

There is interrogation in eleven lines of the sixteen-line poem. The language is simple. There is alliteration and rhyme. The poem has four stanzas of four lines each. The first stanza has four lines, each having fourteen syllables. The second, third and fourth stanzas also with four lines, have fifteen syllables each.

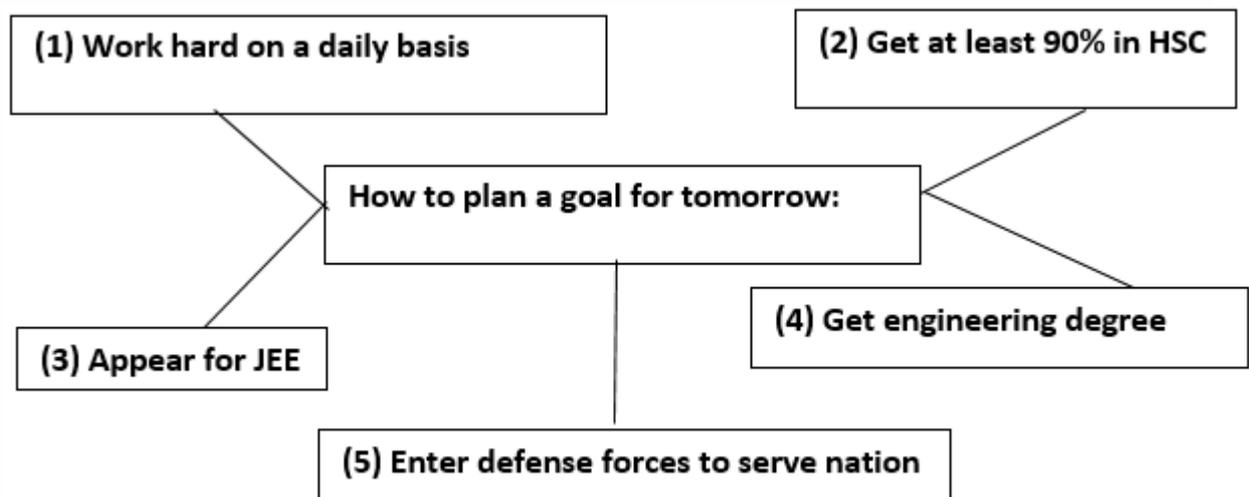
The clear message of the poem is one's life is meaningful only if it is useful for humanity at large. The poet says one's conscience has to know that your existence is justified. Or one cannot feel he has the right to ask for one more day of life.

(ii) Prepare a mind map on 'How to plan a goal for tomorrow' or 'My future goal'. Take the help of points given in 'Writing Skills Section' for preparing a mind map.

**Ans.**



OR



(iii) Write a set of 8 to 10 interview questions to be asked to a social worker. Take the help of the following points:

- 1) Childhood
- 2) Service
- 3) Future plans
- 4) Message
- 5) Education
- 6) Difficulties
- 7) Achievements

**Ans.** (1) Good evening Rima ma'am. I would like to know a bit about your life. Could we begin with a walk down memory lane to your childhood?

(2) What was your hobby/past-time in your childhood?

(3) Which is the best memory during your school/high school/college years? Which phase did you enjoy the most?

(4) You have moved to different cities due to your father's job. Which is the city/town which you loved living in the most?

(5) How did you get into social service? Who was your role model or inspiration?

(6) What were the challenges and difficulties that caused any setback in your life?

(7) What plans do you have for the future? Would you mind sharing a little of those with your fans?

(8) There are many achievements you have seen. Which is the most important according to you?

(9) What is the message you want to give to those in this noble field? What would be your tip especially for youngsters?

**(iv) Compose 4-6 lines on your own on 'Good deeds'.**

**Ans. "Good deeds"**

The tree gives shade and fruits it does not eat.

The river flows cool and sweet of water it doesn't drink.

When a stranger sad or in need you may meet

Be sure you lift him up, not let him into despair sink.

**(A6) (i) Find out different career opportunities in the field of social work.**

**Ans.** The field of social work is quite extensive and spans multiple career opportunities. Depending upon one's qualification, career goals, and the type of people one wants to work for, one can choose an area of specialization in the field of social work:

1. Mental Health Counsellors

2. Social and Community Service Managers

3. Psychologists

4. Teachers
5. Sociologists
6. Labour Welfare Specialist
7. Criminology Specialist
8. Corporate Social Responsibility Specialist
9. Human Rights Specialist
10. Administrative roles in old age homes and orphanages.

(ii) Collect information of the NGOs working for the underprivileged section of the society.

Ans.

Name	Category	Headquarters
1. Akshaya Patra Foundation	Children	Bangalore
2. Butterflies India	Children, Human Rights	New Delhi
3. Child Rights and You	Children, Human Rights	Mumbai
4. Pathway India	Children, Disabled, Education	Mumbai
5. Meer Foundation	Women Empowerment, Children	Mumbai
6. Give India	Humanitarian Aid	Bangalore
7. Goonj	Community Development Humanitarian Aids	New Delhi
8. Help Age India	Community Development, Elderly	New Delhi
9. Katha	Children, Education	Chennai
10. Maher	Children, Women	Pune