

## Long-Answer Questions

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**Q.1. What kind of a person was the governor of the prison in 'Evans tries an O-level'? Mention any four lapses in his arrangement for Evans' O-level exam that helped Evans escape?**

**[CBSE (AI) 2008C]**

**Ans.** The Governor of Oxford prison has been characterised as an intelligent and able prison officer but in the end he turned out to be a 'good-for-a-giggle-Governor'. The Governor tries to exert all caution but Evans eventually manages to escape. This was mainly due to the lapses in communication and execution of work.

(i) He did not verify the credibility of the German teacher.

(ii) Also, no one checked the identity of the injured person and eventually it is found out that the injured 'McLeery' was in fact Evans.

(iii) 'McLeery' had a tube with pig blood in it. It was smuggled successfully inside the prison because prison officials were credulous and believed what McLeery said rather than check the tube thoroughly.

(iv) Though McLeery is thoroughly searched, things like beard and a double set of clothes are not revealed.

**Q.2. What purpose did the question paper and the correction slip serve? How did they help both the criminal and the Governor?**

**[CBSE (AI) 2012]**

**Ans.** The real purpose of the cleverly superimposed photocopied sheet on the question paper was to give the final details of the escape plan to Evans. It was also meant to make the authorities believe that the wounded man was actually 'McLeery' and that he wanted to help them rearrest the escaped prisoner.

At 9.40 am. the Governor got a call from the Assistant Secretary with a special responsibility for modern languages regarding a correction in the question paper. Presumably, it was an accomplice of Evans in the office of the Secretary of the Examinations Board, who wanted to tell Evans that after his escape from the prison, he should go to Hotel Golden Lions. The information was meant for the Governor also.

The Governor thought about the six-digit reference (index number and centre no. 313/271), put the two together and with the help of 'Ordinance Survey Map for Oxfordshire' reached the hotel. Leaving the question paper behind was certainly not a careless blunder. Everything was a part of the master plan to confound the prison authorities, particularly the Governor. He was allowed to trace Evans because the

planners knew that they had a cover for every eventuality and in the long run Evans leaves the Governor wringing his hands and runs away.

**Q.3. How was the 'injured' McLeery able to befool the prison officers?**

**[CBSE (AI) 2012]**

**Ans.** Injured McLeery spoke slowly and in broken phrases that he knew where Evans was. He asked the prison officers to get the police and not to worry about the ambulance. He found the German question paper on the table. He told Jackson to get the Governor. He drew the attention of the Governor to the German text on photocopied sheet on the last page. The Governor slowly translated it. The words from Elsfield Way drive to the Headington roundabout caught his attention. The Examination Board was in Elsfield Way. Meanwhile, the police arrived. Before the Governor could explain anything, McLeery told the officer to go Elsfield Way. The Governor told Detective Superintendent Carter to take the injured McLeery with him. McLeery was helped inside the car. He helped the police to follow the direction indicated in the German text, all the while laughing at their credulous nature, for he was in fact Evans.