

CBSE TEST PAPER-01
Class - 10 English Communicative
(The Frog and the Nightingale)

1. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:

Dumbstruck sat the gaping frog.

And the whole admiring bog

Started towards the sumac, rapt,

And, when she had ended, clapped,

(a) Why was the frog of the bog dumbstruck?

(b) Why did the whole admiring bog look towards the sumac tree?

(c) Who is 'she' in these lines?

(d) Why do you think everyone was impressed?

OR

Animals for miles around

Flocked towards the magic sound,

And the frog with great precision

Counted heads and charged admission.

(a) Why did the animals rush towards the Bingle Bog?

(b) Why did the frog count the heads with great precision?

(c) How did the frog cash on the nightingale's success as a singer?

(d) How was the frog associated with the nightingale?

2. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each:

a. How did the creatures of Bingle Bog react to the nightingale's singing?

b. Which are the different ways in which the frog asserts his importance?

c. Why is the frog's joy both sweet and bitter?

d. How did the frog become the unrivalled king of the bog again?

3. Answer any one of the following questions in 80-100 words:

In spite of having a melodious voice and being a crowd puller, the nightingale turns out to be a loser and dies. How far is she responsible for her own downfall.

OR

Do you agree with the Frog's inference of the Nightingale's character? Give reasons.

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[Answers]

1. (i) Answers

- a. The frog was dumbstruck because he had never heard such a sweet voice.
- b. They look toward sumac tree because they had never heard such a melodious voice.
- c. 'She' is the nightingale.
- d. Everyone was impressed because everyone was really tired of listening to the frog's baritone and the nightingale's voice was a refreshing change.

1. (ii) answers

- a. The animals rush towards the Bingle Bog to listen to the song of the nightingale.
- b. The frog was a greedy creature and he counted each creature to charge them for the tickets of the concert.
- c. The frog charged huge amount for the entry ticket for the nightingale's concerts.
- d. The frog considered himself to be the nightingale's mentor.

2. Answers

- a. The creatures of Bingle Bog appreciated the sweet voice of the nightingale. Every one clapped for her generously. All the animals gathered around the sumac tree. Ducks and herons waded through water and reached where nightingale was singing.
- b. The frog doesn't appreciate nightingale's song when all the creatures of the bog like her voice. He introduces himself to the nightingale as the owner of the tree, the writer and critic, and the best singer. He also offers himself to train the nightingale in singing and charges a high tuition fee. He makes her to give musical concerts and charges entry fee. He compels her to give performance and take music lessons from him. He reprimands her for not singing sweetly when the business crashes.
- c. The frog's joy is sweet because he was making a lot of money on the talent of the nightingale and earning a good business. But his joy turns bitter because he became jealous of the nightingale's popularity.

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- d. The frog snubbed nightingale for not performing well. The frog asked her to puff her lungs up. She did what the frog asked her to do. She overstained herself, a vein burst, she died. The frog became unrivalled king of the bog again.
3. The nightingale had melodious voice and was a huge crowd puller but she turned out to be a loser because she was simple enough to see through the evil ways of the frog. She was gullible enough to believe the frog when he told her that he was a great singer. She could have judged the frog as a singer through his crass cacophony. She readily agreed to be trained by him.

The frog exploited and humiliated her but she was too submissive to utter a word. She didn't question the frog when he took away all the money collected from the concerts. The nightingale got so habitual of the applause from the bog creatures that she became morose when the audience became less in number. The nightingale made a huge mistake by adopting the frog's style of singing. She didn't oppose the frog when he forced her to sing to harsh weather. She obeyed all the frog's instructions religiously. So when the frog told the nightingale to puff up her lungs, she did the same and died of nervous breakdown. Her credulous behaviour and her simplicity and innocence brought about her downfall.

OR

3. No, I don't agree with the frog's inference of the nightingale's character when he calls her a brainless bird. The fact is that the nightingale was a meek and submissive creature who lacked confidence. The nightingale is, in reality, a gullible bird but the frog portrayed her as a greedy and untalented bird. She won over the heart of her audience time and again with her original lyrics and compositions whereby the frog charged her with being stale. She was much better a singer than the frog but he made her take lessons from him. If the nightingale were confident of her singing, the frog would not have been able to trap her. Her gullibility and credulity made her an easy prey for the frog. The frog was a cunning, heartless and wicked fellow who knew the ways of the world but the poor nightingale could not judge the evil plans of the frog. The frog presented the nightingale exactly the opposite to what she really was.