

CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature
Moments Chapter-6 Weathering the Storm in Ersama
Test Paper-04

Read the following passages and answer questions:

1. “Prashant, all of nineteen years, decided to step in as a leader of his village, if no one else did. He organised a group of youths and elders to jointly pressurise the merchant once again to part with his rice. This time the delegation succeeded and returned triumphantly, wading through the receding waters with food for the entire shelter. No cared that the rice was already rotting. Branches from fallen trees were gathered to light a reluctant and slow fire, on which to cook the rice. For the first time in four days, the survivors at the cyclone shelter were able to fill their bellies.”
 - a. How old was Prashant when he decided to step in as a leader?
 - b. Why did Prashant organised a group of youths and elders?
 - c. How was the delegation succeeded?
 - d. How did the survivors fill their bellies?
2. “On fifth day, a military helicopter flew over the shelter and dropped some food parcels. It then did not return. The youth task force gathered empty utensils from the shelter. Then they deputed the children to lie in the sand left by the waters around the shelter with these utenails on their stomachs, to communicate to the passing helicopters that they were hungry. The message got through, and after that the helicopter made regular rounds of the shelter, airdropping food and other basic needs.”
 - a. What happened on the fifth day?
 - b. Why did the youth task force gather empty utensils?
 - c. How did they communicate to the helicopters?
 - d. What message was sent to the helicopters and then what happened?

Answer the following questions in about 30 words:

3. How did Prashant manage food for the village people?
4. Suggest measures that one should adopt in case of natural disaster, the kind of disaster that took place in Ersama?
5. How did Prashant start his journey through the flooded water?

6. What did Prashant see after reaching Kalikuda?
7. What was the reaction of Prashant's grandmother when she saw him?
8. Did Prashant ever get hopeless? How did he regain his strength?

Answer the following questions in about 100 words:

9. What was the severe condition of the victims of the cyclone? How did they rescue?
10. What did the government do for the victims of the cyclone?

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Answers

1.
 - a. Prashant was nineteen years old when he decided to step in as a leader of his village.
 - b. Prashant organised a group of youths and elders to come together and pressurise the merchants to give rice to the victims.
 - c. The delegation was succeeded because of the efforts of Prashant and other members of the group.
 - d. Prashant and his group collected fallen branches and lighted up the fire to cook rice, this filled the bellies of the survivors.
2.
 - a. On the fifth day, a military helicopter flew over the shelter and dropped some food parcels. Then it did not return.
 - b. They gathered empty utensils from the shelter to catch the attention of the helicopters.
 - c. They communicated to the helicopters through these empty utensils lying on the stomach of the children showing that they were hungry and wanted food.
 - d. They sent a message that the victims were hungry and wanted food. Then the helicopter made regular rounds, airdropping food and other basic needs.
3. Prashant looked at the difficult situation during the cyclone storm. People were starving and the merchants were not giving rice to them. They kept the rice for the period when there would be price rise and the situation of emergency. Then Prashant and other members of the group started a group and they pressurised the merchants to part with rice.
4. In case of any natural disaster, people mostly suffer due to the scarcity of food, water and medicines. They also seek to shelters as there is a huge loss of life and property. So one should try to help each other with food and other basic needs. People should take initiatives to reach out help like Prashant. They should not give up or lose hope as their determination can make them come up the situation.
5. After spending the two days on the roof of his friend's house, Prashant collected courage and equipped himself with a long stick to start his journey. He used his stick to locate

where the water was shallow. His progress was slow but and he had to swim at several places. At some distance he was relieved to find his uncle and they continued together.

6. After reaching Kalikuda, Prashant saw the remnants of his house, their belongings were caught and mangled in the branches. He saw the whole village was devastated and people were left homeless. He was heart broken to see the destruction.
7. When Prashant reached the Red Cross society he saw his grandmother first of all among the crowd. She was old and hunger stricken, so she rushed to him . She outstretched her hands for holding him. Her eyes were brimming with happiness to see him. It was difficult for her to survive the storm alone, so Prashant was a hope for her.
8. Prashant was a strong boy but as he waded through the waters and looking at the destruction all around, he got worried about his family. As he moved on he saw the carcasses of humans and animals, so it was difficult for him to keep courage. But he kept on searching till he found his family. He regained his strength to see his uncle and moved on further.
9. On October 27 1999, Orissa was hit by a super cyclone that was very destructive. It changed the whole scenario of the village and the winds beat against the houses with a speed and fury that Prashant had never witnessed before. Heavy and incessant rain filled the darkness , ancient trees were uprooted crashed to the earth. There was complete terror and screams all around. The water was filled everywhere and the houses had fallen, the carcasses of humans and animals were floating on the surface of the waters. The situation became terrible when there was a scarcity of food and huge loss of life and property. The military helicopters flew around and provided food to the victims. Many children became orphaned and women became widowed. There was panic and stricken situation all around.
10. The government helped out the victims of the cyclone. The organisation cleaned the carcasses and the filth nearby. They provided temporary shelters for the people. The military helicopters provided food and medicines to the people. Then they made regular supplies for them. Government also planned to set up an institution for the orphans and widows which was resisted as it was felt that in such institutions, children would grow up without love, and widows would suffer from stigma and loneliness. The cyclone hit the place and left marks over the lives of the victims. They had to struggle back to come to normalcy.