

CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature
Beehive Chapter-2 The Sound of Music
Test Paper-03

Refernce to the context:

1. Emperor Aurangazeb banned the playing of a musical instrument called Pungi in the Royal residence.
 - a. Why was pungi banned ?
 - b. Where was it banned?
 - c. Who decided to improve the tonal quality of pungi?
 - d. What is a pungi?
2. In his first trip to abroad..... where King was so taken in by the mastero that he gifted him priceless Persian carpets and other souvenirs.
 - a. What is the present name for Persia and ,where is it geographically located?
 - b. What was the name of the King?
 - c. What are 'Souvenirs'?
 - d. Where was his first trip in abroad?

Answer the following in 30-40 words:

3. Why did Aurangazeb ban the playing of Pungi in the royal residence?
4. How did Pungi became the generic name?
5. How did Shehnai get the name?
6. Why is Shehnai considered to be indispensable component of any north Indian wedding?
7. When and how did Bismillah Khan get his first break?
8. Describe the childhood days of Bismillah Khan.
9. The credit goes to Bismillah khan for bringing Shehnai in limelight-Elucidate. **(100-150 WORDS)**
10. How did Bismillah Khan greet people on Independence day? **(100-150 WORDS)**

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Answer

1.
 - a. Pungi was banned because it had a shrill and unpleasant sound.
 - b. From being played in the royal residence.
 - c. A barber of a family of professional musicians, who had access to the royal palace, decided to improve the tonal quality of the pungi.
 - d. 'Pungi' is a musical instrument in Indian sub continent.
2.
 - a. In abroad he first visited Afghanistan.
 - b. The name of the Afghan king is Zahir Shah.
 - c. Souvenirs are mementos or a thing that is kept as a reminder of a person, place, or event.
 - d. The present name for Persia is Iran and, geographically it is located in west Asia.
3. Emperor Aurangazeb banned the playing of Pungi in the royal residence for it had a shrill and unpleasant sound.
4. Pungi became the generic name for reeded noise makers. A barber of a family of professional musicians, who had access to the royal place, decided to improve the tonal quality of the Pungi. He choose a pipe with a natural hollow stem that, was longer and broader than the Pungi. And made seven holes on the body of the pipe. When he played on it, melodious sounds were produced.
5. The shehnai is thought to have been developed by improving upon the Pungi (a instrument used primarily by snake chambers). Since it was first played in the shah's chambers and was played by nai (barber) the instrument was named "shehnai."
6. The sound of Shehnai is considered auspicious. And for this reason, it is played in temple and weddings in north India. Previously, the Shehnai was part of the traditional ensemble of nine instruments found at the royal court.
7. Bismillah Khan got his first break with the opening of the All India Radio in Lucknow in 1938.
8. When Bismillah Khan was five he played *gillidanda*, near a pond in the ancient estate of Dumraon in Bihar. He would regularly go to the near by Bihariji temple to sing the

Bhojipuri chaitra, at the end of which he would earn a big ladder weighing 1.25kg, a prize given by the local maharaja. All this story took place, 80 years back.

9. Ustad Bismilla Khan was an Indian musician credited with popularizing the Shehnai had long held importance as a folk instrument played primarily during traditional ceremonies.

Khan was perhaps single handedly responsible for making the Shehnai a famous classical instrument. He brought the Shehnai to the center stage of Indian music his concert. He was having the monopoly over the instrument.

Khan is one of the finest musicians in Indian classical music. He played the shehnai to audience across the world. He was known for his vision of spreading peace and love through music.

10. When India celebrated its first independence day on 15 August 1947, Bismillah Khan became the first Indian to greet the nation with his Shehnai. He poured his heart into *Raag Kafi* from Red Fort to an audience, which included Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.