

CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature
Moments Chapter-5 The Happy Prince
Test Paper-04

Read the following passages and answer the questions:

1. “And here is actually a dead bird at his feet !” continued the Mayor. “We must issue a proclamation that birds are not to be allowed to die here.”
 - a. Who is the Mayor talking to in the above line?
 - b. What were they discussing about ?
 - c. Why has such proclamation been issued?
 - d. What did the Mayor do the next?
2. “Bring me the two most precious things in the city .”
 - a. Who spoke the given lines?
 - b. Who does the speaker address to ?
 - c. What were the two most precious things?
 - d. How did the speaker decide to treasure these precious things ?

Answer the following questions in about 30 words:

3. What was the reaction of the playwright after being helped?
4. What help does the Prince ask from swallow after becoming blind?
5. When and how the Prince become blind?
6. How did the swallow and the Prince help the two little children?
7. Why made the bird feel quite warm at the beginning?
8. What does the end of the story signify?

Answer the following questions in about 100 words:

9. What values one can derive from the story- “The Happy Prince”
10. No one else but the God alone knows the value of His precious creation. Justify your views about the statement.

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Answers

1.
 - a. The Mayor is talking to his Councilors .
 - b. They were talking about the shabby condition of the statue of the Happy Prince and issuing certain proclamation.
 - c. They wanted to issue such proclamation as they found a dead bird near it, adding the ugliness of the statue.
 - d. The Mayor ordered to pull down the statue and melt it into furnace.
2.
 - a. The God asked his one the Angels to bring the two precious things in the city.
 - b. The God instructs one of his angels.
 - c. The dead bird and the leaden heart of the Prince were the two precious things .
 - d. The God decides the bird would sing forever in His garden of Paradise; in His city of gold, the Prince would praise Him.
3. After being helped, the playwright felt that he was being appreciated. He felt very happy thinking that some admirer had left him with the precious gift of a sapphire. He was motivated and became confident that he would complete his work soon.
4. Even after the insistence, the swallow did not leave the Prince. The Prince asked him to look at far off marvelous things and narrate them to the Prince as he was blind then. He insisted him to tell about the sufferings of men and women .
5. The Prince was very kind and helpful. He gave away his sapphires studded as the eyes to the young and needy playwright and the little matchgirl as they were suffering in the cold winter and needed the help. This was how after donating both his eyes, the Prince became blind.
6. When the swallow saw the two little boys were lying in each other's arms under the archway of the bridge. They were trying to keep each other warm. The watchman did not allow them to remain there and hence they had to move out in rain. The Prince asked the swallow to pluck the golden leaves from his body and to help the poor, little children.
7. The little swallow wanted to go to Egypt to save himself from severe cold. with the insistence of the Prince, he flew to the poor seamstress and gave her the ruby given by

the Prince. He felt quite warm after that. The reason is his good deed made him feel so.

8. The end of the story is tragic. It signifies that goodness remains good till the end, no matter whatever sufferings come to them. The statue of the Prince get destroyed and the swallow die helping the poor. They receive the place in the Paradise of the God.
9. The story "The Happy Prince" is a very fantastic story with great message. The writer Oscar Wilde has rendered the story a heart touching end. It leaves the readers the message that real happiness lies in others happiness.

A prince who lived his life only in showers of blessings and happiness, goes on helping the poor in the city. A little swallow helps him in the task. Both of them did not at all think of their own selfish ends. The statue of the Happy Prince was very beautiful and could have remained in the same way, had he not helped the poor. He did not think of his own rich and valuable resources. He gives away all the precious stones and golden leaves covering his body as they were not useful to him after his death. He becomes blind in these efforts. He has been helped by a poor little swallow who was also bound to go to Egypt to protect himself from the cold. The bird initially decides to help the Prince and executes the tasks of generosity given to him by the Happy Prince. The poor swallow also remains with the statue of the Happy Prince to help him, knowing that he would die there in the cold. Both of them invite their end but keep doing for the cause of humanity. They never think of their own happiness. Sacrificing our comforts for others is well proved truth by both the characters.

10. The story "The Happy Prince" deals with the message of humanity and philanthropy. The characters of the Prince and the swallow stand for the best creation of the Almighty. Both of them show extraordinary qualities of living and dying for others. They teach us that the gap and inequality can be bridged up by the rich. The God has created them at His best, full of sympathies for poor and underprivileged. No one ever recognizes in the story how they had helped others. No one in the story knows who have extended them a generous hand. But this did not discourage the swallow and the Prince. They selflessly had provided everything they had. Factually, the Prince in the story is not even shown as a living character but proves to be an epitome of kindness. They really have to be considered as the God's best creation. Ultimately their worth is recognized only by the God Himself. They are being brought in the Paradise. The God Himself admires them the most precious things.