

**CBSE TEST PAPER-02**  
**Class - 10 English Communicative**  
**(Snake)**

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**General Instruction:**

- Question No. 1 to 3 carry Eight marks.
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1. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:

“ And where the water had dripped  
From the tap, in a small clearness,  
He sipped with his straight mouth,  
Softly drank through his straight  
Gums, into his slack long body.  
Silently

- a. Where from did he drink water?
- b. How did he drink?
- c. Was he in a hurry?
- d. How was the snake's body?

**OR**

And stopped and drank a little more,  
Being earth-brown, earth-golden  
From the burning bowels if the Earth  
On the day of Sicilian July, with Etna smoking.

- a. What did the snake do then?
- b. What was its colour?
- c. From where had it come?
- d. What do you mean by 'burning bowels'?

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

- a. How does the poet describe the day and the atmosphere when he saw the snake?

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- b. Why did D.H. Lawrence, the poet, despise himself? How did he feel and describe his action?
  - c. How do we know that the snake's thirst was satiated?
  - d. Why does the poet decide to stand and wait till the snake has finished drinking? What does this tell you about the poet?
3. Answer any one of the following questions in 80-100 words:
- “Man is the most selfish animal on this earth, who has not spared any other species to satisfy his greed.” Elaborate.

**OR**

3. Snakes generates both horror and fascination. Do you agree? Why/Why not?

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**Answers**

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1. (i) Answers

- a. Where the water dropped from the tap, in a small clearness.
- b. He drank water softly through his straight gums.
- c. No, he was not in a hurry.
- d. The snake's body was slack and long.

1. (ii) Answers

- a. The Snake stooped and drank a little more.
- b. The snake's colour was earth-brown, earth golden.
- c. It had come from the burning bowels of the earth.
- d. It means it is very hot.

2. Answers

- a. The day of Sicilian July was very hot and Mount Etna, the most active volcano, was emitting smoke. The poet was in pyjamas, and was walking to the water trough with a picture to fill water.
- b. The poet D.H. Lawrence despised himself for throwing the clumsy log at the snake. He immediately regretted it. He thought it was a paltry, vulgar and mean act. He hated himself and his bad human education. He felt that he had missed an opportunity to honour a king.
- c. After drinking enough water, the snake lifted his head like drinking cattle do satisfied and flickered his forked tongue from his lips as one who has drunken.
- d. The poet feels himself honoured that someone had come to drink water from his water trough. He decides to stand and wait till the snake has finished drinking because he thinks that the snake came before him. This shows that the poet is a lover of nature who sees the snake as a creation of Lord.

3. The Almighty created this beautiful universe. Each and every creature has a defined role,

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place and has a right to live here. But man has his own plans for his selfish purposes, he wanted to prove he is more powerful than nature and the creator. On the name of war or enmity he killed his own and fellow beings. For the sake of pleasure or fun he did not spare the animals. He entered the forests to extend his supremacy. The man has killed the animals ruthlessly and cruelly. Because of this mad and mean act many animals and species were extinct and others are on the verge of extinction. He has not spared the trees for his selfish motives. It is high time man should realize his mistakes and becomes aware of the wrong doings and should start honouring the other creatures. In order to maintain right balance in nature, he must not cut trees, and stop killing animals.

In so many parts of the world, people are pledging to become vegetarians. They have taken vows to preserve animal life at any cost. Trees are being planted. Of course, besides animals breeding, everywhere wildlife preservation is the aim of so many NGO's in all over the world. Reverence and care for wildlife is becoming evident in so many parts of the world, which is the need of the hour.

### OR

The poem is like an ode to the snake as the poet is full of admiration and respect for the majestic creature. But it is true that snakes generate both horror and fascination. There are two contradictory emotions aroused by the same being.

We all know that snakes are wild, poisonous and the very sight of a snake fills us with horror. We are afraid and our own instinct tells us that it must be killed whether it is poisonous or not. We have read so much about the snakes, the earthy brown snakes being venomous, the cobra, especially the black ones are deadly and to be dreaded. But, if once we can rid ourselves of our fear and overcome the sinister feelings generated within ourselves, we will experience an entirely different emotion, that of fascination to the extent of being hypnotized. The onlooker can be mesmerized by the graceful movement of the being. Its majestic, unhurried crawl on the earth fills us with awe. The multihued outer body, glistening in the light fills us with a sense of wonder that such beings do exist and one finds oneself watching it with fascination, endlessly.