

CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature
Beehive Chapter-6 My Childhood
Test Paper-04

Answer the questions 1 & 2 after reading the passages:

1. The Second World War broke out in 1939, when I was eight years old. For reasons I have never been able to understand, a sudden demand for tamarind seeds erupted in the market. I used to collect the seeds and sell them to a provision shop on Mosque Street. A day's collection would fetch me the princely sum of one anna.
 - a. When did the Second World War break out?
 - b. How old was the writer when the war broke out?
 - c. What was the effect of war on the market?
 - d. How much did the writer earn for a day's collection?
2. The first casualty came in the form of the suspension of the train halt at Rameswaram station. The newspapers now had to be bundled and thrown out from the moving train on the Rameswaram Road between Rameswaram and Dhanuskodi. That forced my cousin Samsuddin, who distributed newspapers in Rameswaram, to look for a helping hand to catch the bundles and, as if naturally, I filled the slot.
 - a. What was the first casualty of the war?
 - b. What was the effect of suspension of train halt at Rameswaram station?
 - c. Why Samsuddin had to look for a helping hand?
 - d. Why did the writer say that it was natural for him to fill the slot?

Answer the following questions in about 30 words:

3. What was the effect of war on the area where the writer lived?
4. How did the new teacher distinguish the religion of the children?
5. Why did Laksman Sastry, the high priest, summon the teacher?
6. What verdict did the high priest pass against the teacher?
7. How the wife of science teacher affected when the writer was invited for a dinner at his house?
8. What was the effect of war on India's political scene?

Answer the following questions in about 100 words

9. How did writer's father react when the writer asked permission from his father to go to district headquarter for higher studies?
10. Who said, 'When you decide to change the system, such problems have to confronted'? Why did he say so? Was he able to bring about a change?

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Answer

1.
 - a. the Second World War broke out in 1939.
 - b. The writer was only eight years old when the war broke out.
 - c. War brought about a sudden increase in the demand for tamarind seeds.
 - d. The writer earned a sum of one *anna* for a day's collection.
2.
 - a. The first casualty of the war was the suspension of the train halt at Rameswaram station.
 - b. The suspension of train halt at Rameswaram station affected his cousin Samsuddin's business as he used to distribute newspapers.
 - c. Samsuddin had to look for a helping hand because the newspapers were then thrown out of the running train and were to be collected immediately.
 - d. The writer said that it was natural for him to fill the slot because he was the youngest in the family and was available freely.
3. The war didn't have any effect on the area where the writer lived because it was an isolated island town.
4. The new teacher could distinguish the religion of the children from the way they dressed. The writer wore a cap which provided the clue of being a Muslim and his friend wore a sacred thread showing that he was a Brahmin.
5. Lakshman Sastry, the high priest, was the father of my friend with whom he used to share the first bench. He summoned the teacher when my friend narrated his story about rearrangement of seats on religious basis.
6. The high priest asked the teacher either to apologize or leave the town immediately. He made it clear to the teacher that poison of social inequality and communal intolerance should not be spread.
7. The wife of science teacher being a astute Brahmin was horrified at the idea of a Muslim boy being invited to dine in her ritually pure kitchen. She refused to serve him in her kitchen
8. India was forced to join the allied forces on the ground that after the end of the war India

would be given political independence.

9. When the writer asked permission from his father to go to district headquarter for higher studies, he said that he knew he had to go away to grow. He said the seagull fly across the sun, alone and without a nest. He quoted Khalil Gibran to his hesitant mother saying that her children were not her children. They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself. They come through you but not from you. She may give them her love but cannot give her thoughts for they have their own thoughts.
10. Writer's Science Teacher told the writer, 'When you decide to change the system, such problems have to be confronted'. It was when the teacher's wife refused to serve food to the writer since he was a Muslim did he say so. Yes, he was able to bring about a change as the next time when the writer visited their house he found that she welcomed him into the house, took him personally into her kitchen. There she served him food with her own hands.