

SET-II

1 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end:--

Parsons and Markwardt are the two characters of the story. They are both blind, but that is where the resemblance ends. Parsons is introduced to us as a gentleman, a person who is successful in life as he has made it his business to take his handicap as something which is unavoidable and does not allow it to stand in his way. Parsons is grateful that he has been given the gift of life and is an insurance agent whereas earlier he had been nothing more than a skilled labourer.

On the other hand there is Markwardt, who uses his blindness to gain sympathy from all whom he meets and he turns into a common beggar. Fate brings the two men together. Markwardt attempts to sell Parsons a cigarette lighter and on being questioned about the cause of his blindness, he tells Parsons an all too familiar tale.

Markwardt relates the story of an incident which had taken place fourteen years earlier, a chemical explosion at C shop at the Westbury plant. In this explosion a hundred and eight people had been killed and two hundred injured. According to Markwardt he was one of those who had been crawling to safety when another man had climbed on top of him, hauled him back, trampled him and got out. At this point of the story. Parsons tells him that the story is true, except for one detail

– Parsons had been the one who had been trampled upon by Markwardt.

We now realize the difference between the two men. It is a fact that both are blind, but it is only Markwardt who does not see and has no eyes. Parsons sees the beauty in life and thanks God for giving him life. He celebrates the fact that he is alive and makes use of the faculties he still has. Markwardt is truly blind, wrapped up in his disability, and self pity, so plagued by his guilt that perhaps he has rationalized the fact that he is the one to blame for another's handicap or perhaps

death. It appears as though he actually believes what he is saying. The story has a

message for the reader, a message that tells us to look at life positively and make the most of all God's blessings.

- a) Who was the blind beggar who met Mr. Parsons? Describe him
- b) Why is it said that Mr. Parsons was glad to be alive?
- c) How had Markwardt got blind?
- d) What was the flaw in Markwardt's story?
- e) Who was the man who had no eyes? Give reason for your answer.

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(f) Find the words from the passage which mean the same as:

2

- (i) Compulsory (para 1)
- (ii) Crushed under feet (para 3)

2. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

It is worth saying something about the social position of beggars, for when one has consorted with them, and found that they are ordinary human beings, one cannot help being struck by the curious attitude that society takes towards them. People seem to feel that there is some essential difference between beggars and ordinary "working" men. They are a race apart--outcasts, like criminals and prostitutes. Working men "work," beggars do not "work"; they are parasites, worthless in their very nature. It is taken for granted that a beggar does not "earn" his living, as a bricklayer or a literary critic "earns" his. He is a mere social excrescence, tolerated because we live in a humane age, but essentially despicable.

Yet if one looks closely one sees that there is no essential difference between a beggar's livelihood and that of numberless respectable people. Beggars do not work, it is said; but, then, what is work? An accountant works by adding up figures. A beggar works by standing out of doors in all weathers and getting varicose veins, chronic bronchitis, etc. It is a trade like any other; quite useless, of course--but, then, many reputable trades are quite useless. And as a social type a beggar compares well with scores of others. He is honest compared with the sellers of most patent medicines, high-minded compared with a Sunday newspaper proprietor, amiable compared with a hire-purchase tout--in short, a parasite, but a fairly harmless parasite. He seldom extracts more than a bare living from the

community, and, what should justify him according to our ethical ideas, he pays for it over and over in suffering. I do not think there is anything about a beggar that sets him in a different class from other people, or gives most modern men the right to despise him.

Then the question arises, Why are beggars despised?--for they are despised, universally. I believe it is for the simple reason that they fail to earn a decent living. In practice nobody cares whether work is useful or useless, productive or parasitic; the sole thing demanded is that it shall be profitable. In all the modern talk about energy, efficiency, social service and the rest of it, what meaning is there except "Get money, get it legally, and get a lot of it"? Money has become the grand test of virtue. By this test beggars fail, and for this they are despised. If one could earn even ten pounds a week at begging, it would become a respectable profession immediately. A beggar, looked at realistically, is simply a businessman, getting his living, like other



businessmen, in the way that comes to hand. He has not, more than most modern people, sold his honor; he has merely made the mistake of choosing a trade at which it is impossible to grow rich.

a). On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it, uses recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary. Use a suitable format. Supply an appropriate title. (5 marks)

b). Write a summary of the passage in not more than 80 words. (3 marks)

- (3) You are Sumita /Rajan running a telephone booth in the Daily market ,Ranchi .Give a suitable advertisement for a telephone operator in 'Situation Vacant' coloumn of Hindustan times, offering attractive remuneration.

5

OR

Write a notice for your school notice board inviting students to give their names for a fancy dress competition.

- (4) You are Raza/Raziya, a staff correspondant of The Hindu,New Delhi..'The World book fair' which lasted for a month at the pragati maidan in New Delhi was the hot topic for all book lovers. Write a report on it about 125 words for your newspaper.

10

OR

Write a report on 'Crimes against Women ' in Delhi in about 125 words

- (5) Write a letter to the Editor of the Times of India complaining about the noise pollution in your locality drawing the attention of the govt to take step to check the same .Sign as Gaurav/Gauri Ratu Road Ranchi.

10

OR

You are Ravi/ Rajni a resident of East Jail Road Ranchi.You are shocked and dismayed at the rude and unnatural behaviour of KSTC Roadways bus conductors in general, especially of the conductors on route no 25 from the Railway Road to Ratu Road.Write a letter to the General Manager ,Jharkhand state transport corporation ,complaining to him about the indecent and rude behaviour of the bus conductors.

- (6) Write a speech in 150-200 words on the topic 'Discipline shapes the future of a student'. It is to be delivered in the morning assembly.you are karuna/karan.

10

OR

Global Warming has adversely affected the climate of the world.Glaciers are melting .For the survival of humanity, the environment has to be protected at any cost.Write an article in 150-200 words on 'Need for green earth through environmental nrotection'.



## Section -c

(7) Read the following about the answer the question given below:

Those who prepare green wars,

wars with gas ,wars with fire,

victory with no survivors,

would put on clean clothes

and walk about with their brothers

in the shade, doing nothing.

(a)Who is the poet of these lines and what is the name of the poem? 2

(b) What are green wars ? 1

(c)Mention the significance of keeping quiet . 1

OR

Aunt Jennifer's Tigers prance across a screen ,

bright topaz denizens of a world of green.

They do not fear the men beneath the tree ,

They pace in sleek chivalric certainty ?

(a) Name the poem and the poet . 2

(b) How are Aunt Jennifer's tigers described ? 1

(c) Why are they described as denizens of a world of green ? 1

(8) Answer any three of the following in about 35 words each.  $2 \times 3 = 6$

(a)What will happen to Aunt Jennifer's tigers after her death ?

(b) How is a thing of beauty a joy forever ?

(c) Why does Pablo Neruda urge us to keep still ?

(d) What does the poet wish for the children of the slums ?

17 (4)

(9) Answer any five of the following questions in 35 words each

2×5=10

- (a) Who occupied the back benches on the day of the last lesson ? why ?
  - (b) What makes the city of Firozabad famous ?
  - (c) What are some of the positive views on interviews ?
  - (d) What did the peddler think of the world and its people ?
  - (e) Why did Rajkumar Shukla want to take Gandhi ji to champaran?
  - (f) What is a pancake?
- (10) Give a character sketch of Sophie as a woman who lives in her dreams.

10

OR

How did Douglas finally overcome his fear of water ?

- (11) Draw a character sketch of the Tiger king in your own words.

7

OR

Describe Jack's art of story telling .How does Jack narrate the story 'Should wizard hit Mommy' ?

- (12) Answer any four in about 35 Words each.

2×4=8

- (a) Why did Yumi refuse to bring hot water for the wounded soldier ?
- (b) What was Charley's hobby ? Where did he find Sam's letter ?
- (c) How was Derry's face burnt ?
- (d) Why does the Tiger king get his name ?
- (e) What was Gondwana ? What happened to it ?

17 (5) 7 (5)