

CBSE TEST PAPER-08
Class - 10 English Communicative
(Two Gentlemen of Verona)

General Instruction: -

- Question No. 1 to 6 carry four marks.
 - Question No. 7 carry eight marks.
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1. Read the given extract and answer the following questions.

“There was a pause Nicola was glaring at his younger brother in vexation. “We could not think of troubling you, sir.”

- (a) Why was Nicola glaring at his younger brother?
- (b) What favour did his younger brother ask from the narrator?
- (c) Why did Jacopo ask for this favour ?
- (d) What trait of Nicola"s character is revealed in these lines?

2. Read the given extract and answer the following questions

They greeted us with friendly faces. “I thought you picked fruit for a living”, I said.

- (a) Who are “they” ?
- (b) How did “they” greet the narrator ?
- (c) What did the narrator think “they” did for a living ?
- (d) Why did the narrator think they picked fruits ?

- 3. Which qualities of the two brothers in “Two Gentlemen of Verona” justify their being called gentlemen?
- 4. What were the narrator’s feelings at first ? What change did they undergo and why?
- 5. How can you say that the boys were willing workers?
- 6. Why did the boys hate the Germans? How did they react against them?
- 7. As the narrator of ‘Two Gentlemen of Verona’ write a diary entry on your experience with the two young boys and how it impacted you.

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[Answers]

1.
 - a. Before leaving Verona, the author met the boys and asked them if there was anything that he could do for them. Nicola immediately shook his head, but Jacopo innocently asked for a favour. This vexed Nicola since he did not like taking favours and he did not want anyone to know where they were going and the purpose of their visit.
 - b. Jacopo requested the author to send them to Poleta in his car that day. They used to go every Sunday by cycle to Poleta which was 30 kms away.
 - c. The author had been kind enough to ask whether he could do anything for them before he left Verona. Jacopo grabbed the offer, being very young and innocent and he must have been very tired to cycle all the way to Poleta.
 - d. Nicola seems to be a very self-respecting boy. He does not like taking favours from anybody. He also does not want anyone to know about the hardships they face, neither does he want any sympathy. He earns our respect through the dignified manner by which he carries himself.
2.
 - a. They are the two boys from whom the author bought a basket of strawberries, near the outskirts of Verona
 - b. The boys greeted the author with friendly faces as if greeting someone very familiar.
 - c. The author thought the boys picked fruits for a living.
 - d. He had met them at the outskirts of the town selling strawberries and assumed that they picked and sold fruits for a living.
3. Despite suffering great hardships and living on the streets, we never see the two boys behave in an undignified manner. They are hardworking, sincere and refuse to beg for help. Though they are so young, they are self-reliant, preferring to work at various jobs to earn for their sister's treatment rather than try to gain sympathy from others. Also one would expect children who have gone through such experiences to become hardened and angry with the world. Yet here they were, still carrying an artlessness about them though they were quite serious in their focus.
4. At first the author and his companion were attracted by the earnestness in the eyes of the two boys. Later through their stay at Verona, they saw the two boys working very hard

,day and night eating very little and leaving no time to enjoy themselves. The author was fascinated by their seriousness and willingness to work hard to earn money. Later when at Poleta he came to know their story and the reason for their hard work, they earned his respect and he called them Gentlemen,

5. The boys did their independent jobs. They shined shoes in the scorching heat. They sold strawberries and conducted people round the town showing them the tourist spots. They sold newspapers even on stormy nights. They never complained or tried to gain sympathy. That's why they can be called willing workers.
6. The Germans had bombed their city and had destroyed their home. Their father was also killed in the war. The boys and their sister were thrown in the streets. The boys were forced to live in a shelter. Then the Germans became the rulers. Therefore the boys hated the Germans. They joined the resistance movement as a mark of protest against the Germans.

7. Sunday

23.08.20XX

Dear Diary,

I am back from Verona and have to share the most amazing experience with you, There I met two incredible children, who impressed me with their demeanour, and the way they conducted themselves. I would see them toiling from day to night, with an engaging smile on their faces . It was incredible to see such young boys working with so much determination. I assumed that they were saving up to go to America. I had never met such self-respecting boys before. A day before I was to leave Verona I asked them whether I could do anything for them. Nicola was quick to refuse, but Jacopo asked whether I could send them to Poleta by car. Apparently, they used to go to Poleta every Sunday, cycling all the way. Jacopo must have been very tired that day to ask me such a favour. I could see the vexation on Nicola's face. Since I had given the day off to the driver, I personally drove them to Poleta. And what I discovered there made me proud to be called a friend to these two gentlemen of Verona. All the money they so diligently saved was for the treatment of their sister who had TB. They visited her every Sunday cycling for miles just to spend time with her and pay the sanatorium fees. I had never seen such boys and I bow before their determination, dedication and self reliance. I will one day share their story with the world to show that there is still hope for humanity Until next time.....