

**EXAM  
DRILL****SECTION-C****ANSWERS****PROSE****Chapter-1\_The Fun They Had**

1. (i) The above lines were said by Tommy. He was saying so because the 'real' book he found in his attic with words printed on it, which did not move and thus it is a waste. As per him, once a book had been read it becomes useless and must be thrown away because it had the same content in comparison to their television screen which had a million books.  
(ii) The speaker says that the book can be thrown away as he finds many strange things about the 'real' book. The first thing he found strange is that after reading, the book became useless because the text written on it did not change the way it happened on their television screen. Another strange thing is that one page had limited number of words, unlike computers where a page can display unlimited number of words.
2. When Margie's grandfather's grandfather was a little boy there were real books available at that time. The real books were paper books with words printed on it. The words stand still and they were the same as read for the first time. For Margie, it was awfully funny to read such books.
3. According to Tommy, the 'real' book with words printed and fixed on them are waste. They become useless once they are read and thus must be thrown away as the content it has is the same. Whereas, he considers telebooks better than real books because they could be stored in the computer and can be read again and again. He also likes them as they occupy very little space as compared to the printed books and need not be discarded once they had been read.
4. Tommy describes that the old kind of teachers were not mechanical teachers. They were human beings who taught children in a special building called 'school' where all the students come together, study together and they also had fun together. The human teacher taught them in groups, gave them homework and asked them questions also.
5. When Margie heard Tommy mentioning that children were taught by human teachers in the earlier times. She could not believe that truth of Tommy's comment because she had never seen any human teaching students. She used to study in her home only with the help of her mechanical teacher who teaches on her computer screen only. Moreover, she believed that human teacher could never meet the level of intelligence and knowledge mechanical teachers have.
6. The system of education is becoming advanced day by day. It has become highly computerised and mechanical. The schools that exist today will not be the same in the coming centuries. It is possible that in future there might be no 'school buildings' and 'paper books'. There will be online classes only with no paper books. The students will not be taught the same thing together. And there will be no human teachers like today, instead mechanical teacher will be there who will teach them on a big computer screen, good for a million books. The mechanical teacher can be adjusted according to the age and mental capacity of the student. But it will be an exaggeration to say that everything about schools that existed today will no longer be there in the future. Students will not go to school buildings to learn, they get there class in their homes only. But, human involvement cannot be avoided altogether. As the future school too need humans in some way or the other. They can't be completely devoid of the human angle. Perhaps the institution of the old schools and teachers will remain as their involvement can't disappear altogether.

**Chapter-2\_The sound of Music****Part I. Evelyn Glennie Listens to  
Sound Without Hearing it**

1. (i) Evelyn wanted to play xylophone but as she is deaf she cannot hear the music. Her teachers discouraged her

because they felt that being deaf she would not be able to learn to play the xylophone.

(ii) Ron Forbes a famous percussionist, with his optimistic and positive attitude, could see her potential and capabilities. He encouraged her by asking her to not listen to music by her ears, but listen and feel it through the other parts of the body. He played the drum and asked Evelyn to feel the vibrations, through her body parts that are produced by the drums.

2. When Evelyn was leaving for the Royal Academy of Music, she was very excited as she has got an opportunity to join the academy which she had dreamed of joining. It was like a dream come true for her. She was going there to join a three year course. It excited her to think that despite of her hearing impairment her determination and dedication paved her way to such a prestigious institute.
3. Evelyn's deafness was first noticed when she was eight years old. Evelyn was eleven when she was completely deaf due to nerve damage and she was advised to use hearing aids and to join a school for the deaf, it was then she felt that her future will be bleak and dark. She was depressed as she felt that she would not be able to lead a normal life nor pursue her interest in music.
4. Evelyn confesses that she is something of a workaholic and a kind person too. Being a workaholic helped her to spread her knowledge to young musicians. She gave free concerts in prisons and in hospitals to encourage them. She became an inspiration for deaf children and encouraged them to believe in themselves, and made them believe that if she could do that, why cannot they.
5. Evelyn Glennie was a Scottish virtuoso, multi-percussionist. Her determination and dedication marked her way to success. Evelyn lost her hearing at the age of eleven. However, this weakness of her did not stop her from pursuing her career in music and she continued to play various western classical instruments. Despite her hearing loss and despite being discouraged by most of the teachers, she did not give up. Ron Forbes, a famous percussionist and her mentor, asked Evelyn to listen through her body and not through her ears. Eventually she learnt to open her body and mind to sound and vibration. After that she never looked back. Evelyn decided to make music her life. She joined the

prestigious Royal Academy of Music and scored the highest marks in the history of the academy. Gradually, she moved from orchestral work to solo performances. At the end of her three years course, Evelyn captured most of the top awards including the 'Soloist of the Year Award' in 1991. She has given pleasure to millions and in spite of this towering success she does not accept any hint of heroic achievement and remains a very modest and humble person. It is her modesty that she gave free concepts in prisons and hospitals and also gave high priority to classes for young musicians. Thus, considering Evelyn's success it is clear that humility and modesty are key features to attain success in life. It helps us achieve our goals.

### Part-II The Shehnai of Bismillah Khan

1. (i) Bismillah Khan accompanied his uncle Ali Bux. Ali Bux was his maternal uncle who gave him shehnai lessons. Bismillah Khan started practising shehnai and soon became an apprentice of his uncle.  
(ii) Bismillah Khan loves watching his uncle Ali Bux playing the shehnai. When Ali Bux would play shehnai, Bismillah would sit captivated for hours. He was so fascinated by his uncle's profession of playing shehnai that he too started getting lessons in playing the instrument and would sit practising it throughout the day.
2. The loud, shrill and unpleasant sound of the musical instrument pungi led it to the ban in the royal court by the Emperor Aurangzeb. He banned the instrument because he considered it as a reeded noisemaker.
3. One of the disciples of Khan Saab requested him to settle in the US. He wanted that the great maestro should be the head of shehnai school in the US, and promised him that he would create the environment of India by erecting the temples like those in Benaras. Khan Saab was intensely in love with Benaras, Dumraon and Ganga and thus he refused the offer to settle down in the US and head a shehnai school there.
4. Bismillah Khan gave his first international performance at Afghanistan where King Zahir Shah was so taken in by the maestro that he gifted him priceless Persian carpets and other souvenirs. Though the king of Afghanistan was not the only one to be fascinated by Khan's music, there are so many others who were so impressed after hearing Bismillah's music.

5. Bismillah Khan was born in a family of musicians in Bihar. When he was a child, he was attracted towards his uncle's practice of the shehnai. Soon he started getting lessons from his uncle, Ali Bux, in playing the instrument and would sit practising throughout the day. The temple of 'Balaji' and 'Mangla Maiya' and the banks of the Ganga became the young apprentice's favourite places where he could practise. The flowing waters of the Ganga inspired him to invent raagas that were earlier considered to be beyond the range of the shehnai.

Bismillah Khan has given many memorable performances both in India and abroad.

He was the first Indian to be invited at the prestigious Lincoln Centre Hall in the United States of America. Although Khan had travelled to all over the world, but he was exceedingly fond of Benaras and Dumraon and they remain for him the most wonderful towns in the world. He was so much in love with his country India that he refused a position in America saying that he cannot find the Ganga there. Whenever he was in a foreign country, he kept yearning for Hindustan, and while in Mumbai he thought only of Benaras and the holy Ganga, while he missed the unique mattha of Dumraon in Benaras. Bismillah Khan can be a perfect example of the rich, cultural heritage of India.

### Chapter-3\_The Little Girl

1. (i) The little girl was making a pin cushion as a gift for her father for his birthday the following week. She was making it at the suggestion of her grandmother who asked her to make it for him from a piece of beautiful yellow silk.
- (ii) Kezia was not getting anything to fill in the pin-cushion as she already stitched its three sides. After searching for so long, she wandered into her mother's bedroom to look for scraps. To her amazement, she found a great many sheets of fine papers on the bed-table. Kezia collected all the sheets, torn them into tiny pieces and stuffed them in the pin cushion.
2. (i) The little child was afraid of her father whom she considers a giant. She used to sleep with her grannie. One day, when her grannie was away to stay at the hospital with the child's mother, she had a horrible dream of a butcher with a knife. Frightened she woke up calling her grandmother.

(ii) The man came to the child's room and took the child up in his arms, consoling her. He then carried the child to his bedroom, carefully tucked her up and then lay beside her.

3. Kezia's grandmother asked her to make a pin cushion out of a beautiful piece of yellow silk as a gift for her father to give him a surprise on his birthday. Stitching it the whole day. She stitched its three sides with a double cotton and stuffed it with papers that she took from the bed-table in her mother's room. Finally, she sewed up the fourth side and then the gift was ready.
4. The Macdonalds lived next door to Kezia. She found it completely different when she saw that Macdonald played with his children. He laughed when they turned the hose on him and ran about the flower beds with his young son on his shoulders and his two little daughters hanging on his coat pockets. Seeing them playing and laughing, she thought that there are different sorts of fathers in the world.
5. Kezia's mother had a passive attitude towards her. Kezia was not attached to her parents as she finds them strict. His father, being a very disciplined man was very strict and had harsh attitude towards her. She found him very cruel who had never displayed any soft feelings towards his little daughter nor did he play with her like Macdonald, her neighbour. She liked Mr. Macdonald so much as she found him always smiling, playing and running with his children. Her mother too had never showered love and affection on her, that is the reason Kezia was close to her grandmother rather than her parents. Kezia's grandmother showers love upon her. She became her emotional support and the bridge between Kezia and the strained relationship with her parents. She is the one who always advises Kezia to talk to her parents when they would be more relaxed, and should try to make a cordial relationship with them. When the father beats Kezia it is the grandmother who protects her from beating and the first to reason with her son for beating the child. Kezia used to be with her grandmother all the time. Whenever she is scared of the dark or had a nightmare, it is her grandmother whom she runs to. The grandmother is the ultimate source of love and comfort for Kezia.

### Chapter-4\_A Truly Beautiful Mind

1. (i) Five years later, when Nazis came to power in Germany, the discovery of nuclear fission in Berlin created a chaos among American physicists. They all had to fled to America, their country, because they feared suppression of their liberal ideas by the dictorial Nazis.  
(ii) Their prime fear was that the discovery of nuclear fission could be developed by Germany to build and use an atomic bomb. They feared that if that happened Nazis would misuse the atomic power to cause massive destruction and gain supremacy over the entire world.
2. (i) Albert Einstein's mother thought that Mileva was too old for her son. She was also bothered by her intelligence and thought that she is just like a book for him. Hence, she is against her son to marry Mileva.  
(ii) Einstein wanted to marry Mileva, his fellow student at the university of Zurich, right after finishing his graduation. However his mother was strictly against this as she thinks Mileva is too old for her son. She was also bothered that both share the same level of intelligence. Owing to his mother's objections, Einstein decided to put the wedding off for some more time.
3. As a child Einstein played all by himself because his friends called him as 'Brother Boring' as he could not mix up with other children. Neither did he find their games interesting nor did he know how to interact with other children. Another reason is that he could not talk till he was two-and-a half years old, and repeated each word twice. This made his company boring to his playmates too. That's why Einstein loved to play with his mechanical toys only.
4. Einstein was honoured after his theories proved him to be a scientist with exceptional abilities. He worked on his ideas about relativity and in 1905, he published his 'Special Theory of Relativity'. Einstein earned international acclaim with the publication of his 'General Theory of Relativity' which provided a new interpretation of gravity. He had correctly calculated in advance the extent to which the light from fixed stars would be deflected through the sun's gravitational field. For his contribution to the development of science, Einstein was awarded the Nobel Prize for physics in 1921. After this, honours and invitations were conferred upon him from all over the world.

5. Einstein was born on March 14, 1879 in the German city of Ulm. During childhood he did not have any sign of greatness and his mother thought him to be a freak as he had a larger head in comparison to other children. He could not speak until he was two-and-a half years old and when he spoke, he repeated each word twice. His friends call him 'Brother Boring', so he used to play all alone and mostly loved to play with his mechanical toys. He was so different from other children that even his school headmaster told his father that he could never make a success at anything. As a young boy, Einstein did not show any signs of genius, but when he grew up and joined a school in Munich, he showed appreciable progress in studies and scored good marks in every subject. But due to the strict discipline at school, he did not feel at ease, and as a result left the school for good at the age of 15. Later on, for higher education he joined the University at Zurich because he felt that the atmosphere there was more liberal and amenable as compared to Munich.

Einstein was highly gifted in mathematics and interested in physics and after finishing school he completed his graduation from Zurich in 1900.

### Chapter-5\_The Snake and the Mirror

1. (i) 'I' is the homeopathic doctor who is narrating his encounter with the snake. When 'I' realised that the snake had let go of its hold on his arm, he quietly got up from the chair, went through the veranda, leapt into the yard and ran with all his might.  
(ii) After the snake coiled strongly around his forearm, because of the fear the narrator became just like an image cut in granite. When the snake let go of its hold on his arm the narrator came out of the state of shock and regained his senses and faculty of body and mind.
2. (i) The doctor wanted to move things from the room because he was terrified after his encounter with the snake. He also thinks that he could not live in a room which has no electricity, was infested with rats and visited by snakes.  
(ii) There was little to carry from the room because the room had been robbed away by a thief who had stolen everything. Nothing was left in the room except a dirty vest of the doctor.
3. When the doctor reached home he lighted a kerosene



lamp, settled down on the chair and started wondering about how to look more handsome as he watched his face in the mirror. While watching his reflection in the mirror he decided to shave daily, grow a thin moustache, and to always keep a smile to look more handsome and attractive to women as he was an eligible bachelor. He also felt proud of being a doctor and was egotistic because of his professional qualification.

4. A woman doctor who had plenty of money and a good medical practice would be ideal for him. The woman whom he would get married must be fat also so that in case he made some stupid mistake, he could run away without being chased and caught by her.
5. The snake also happened to look at its reflection in the mirror on the table. It was so absorbed and lost looking at itself in the mirror that it forgot everything else, and uncoiled itself from the arm of the doctor. It then slipped into his lap, crawled towards the mirror to get a more closer look. Perhaps it wanted to enjoy its reflection at closer quarters.
6. The doctor and the snake had striking similarities. Both were victims of self adoration. Both of them were captivated by their reflections in the mirror and stared at them as if enamoured. When the doctor looked at himself in the mirror, he was full of appreciation for his looks. He was a good admirer of beauty and believed in making himself look more handsome. When he took a closer look of his face in the mirror, he decided that he would shave daily and grow a thin moustache, and always wear an attractive smile so that he would be more attractive to women. As he gazed himself in the mirror, he became unaware of his surroundings. He heard the noise of the rats and the next minute he found himself face to face with a full blooded cobra. The snake coiled itself on the forearm of the narrator.

In the same manner, the snake too gazed in the mirror, lost in its beauty, unaware of his surroundings, uncoiled itself from the doctor's arm and moved towards the mirror to get a more closer look. This makes the doctor think that perhaps it too was admiring its beauty or was trying to make some 'important' decisions in life just like him. Just like the doctor's obsession with his looks landed him in trouble, the snake too seemed to be 'taken with its beauty'. The snake released its victim to have a better look at itself in the mirror.

## Chapter-6\_My Childhood

1. (i) His science teacher Sivasubramania Iyer was an orthodox Brahmin. He was a very talented and broad-minded person. He was a rebel who wished to bring about a transformation in the society and tried his best to break every social barrier so that people from varying backgrounds could easily mingle with each other.  
(ii) The purpose of his rebel was to bring people of different caste, culture and creed closer to each other. He prepared himself to confront hindrances going to come his way in order to bring that change in the society. He faced challenges even from his own family when his wife refused to serve food to a Muslim boy in her kitchen. But without losing faith in his belief that caste and religion do not segregate people, he served the child himself. In this way he reformed his wife and convinced her to believe that everybody is equal and this fulfilled, the aim of his rebel.
2. (i) The train's halt at Rameswaram was suspended during the Second World War. Hence the newspaper bundles had to be thrown off the moving trains. Kalam's cousin, Samsuddin, who distributed newspaper in Rameswaram needed a helping hand. Thus kalam applied for the job and helped his cousin in distributing newspaper bundles.  
(ii) Even after fifty years had passed, the writer still feels the surge of pride to think about his first earning that he had earned by helping his cousin Samsuddin in distributing newspaper bundles in Rameswaram.
3. When Kalam told his father that he wanted to leave Rameswaram to pursue further studies, his father readily agreed and told him that he trusted his decision to grow. To encourage Kalam, he gave him example of young seagulls who leave their parents to learn to fly. He also quoted Khalil Gibran to convince his hesitant mother that her son's decision to leave home was right. Hence she should allow him happily to shape his life according to his own ideas and to choose the career he wanted to pursue.
4. Sivasubramania's wife was an orthodox and conservative Brahmin who believed in the segregation of different people according to their culture and religion. She was not in the favour of serving food to any one related to any other culture or religion because she believed that the sanctity of her kitchen would be defiled if she served

meal to any such person. So she refused to serve food to Kalam, a muslim boy in her kitchen.

5. We can adopt love and respect shown by Kalam for his parents. We have seen that how a boy of ordinary looks had many sterling qualities right from his childhood. Like Kalam we should also adopt good qualities from our parents, like he has inherited values of honesty and self discipline from his father and from his mother, he inherited faith in goodness and deep kindness.

We can also adopt and learn the hard-work shown by Kalam. He was an enterprising and a very hard-working child. He collected tamarind seeds, when they were in high demand and sold them to earn some money. Though it was a small amount of money yet significant at the same time. He was very dedicated to every piece of work assigned to him.

Kalam also helped his cousin, Samsuddin to catch newspaper bundles from the running trains when the train halt at Rameswaram was suspended during Second World War, and in this way he earned his first wages at a very young age.

One can also learn love and brotherhood from him. Kalam was very close to his three friends Ramanadha Sastry, Aravindan and Sivaprakasan all were from orthodox Hindu Brahmin families. However, their religious differences and upbringing did not stand in the way of their friendship. Despite being born in a Muslim family, Kalam was a liberal secular. He didn't believe in the caste based segregation and considers it as a poison that should not be allowed to thrive at any rate. Thus, Kalam possessed so many good qualities that we must adopt from him.

### Chapter-7\_Packing

1. (i) The author had to rush back upstairs at the last moment because he had an obsession over forgetting to pack his toothbrush that drives him to a point of madness. Whenever he starts to pack the things he either pack it even before he has brushed his teeth or doesn't pack it at all. In both the cases, he had to unpack everything to locate his brush. Whenever he looks for it the toothbrush is the last thing that comes out of his bag.  
(ii) The author had a habit of forgetting things and the top most thing that always troubles him was his

toothbrush. It became just like a nightmare for him and would haunt him at night. He had to pack and unpack his bag for so many times while searching for the toothbrush. He tends to forget to pack it after using it and rush to fetch it at the last moment. It gave him so much anxiety that at the end he had to carry it to the railway station, wrapped up in his pocket handkerchief.

2. (i) Whenever Harris or George reached out their hand in search of something it was Montmorency's (their dog) cold damp nose that they got hold of because he came and sat down on things just when they were wanted to be packed.  
(ii) He was a dog named Montmorency. It was the pet dog of the narrator, Jerome and his two friends, George and Harris.
3. While packing the bag, Harris packed a strawberry jam on top of a tomato and squashed it. So, they had to pick out the tomato with a teaspoon which created a mess and became a time consuming task for them.
4. No, Harris and George were not at all proficient at packing the hamper. They started breaking the cups and piled up plates, cups, kettles, bottles, jars, cakes, tomatoes, etc. Harris packed the strawberry jam on top of a tomato and squashed it, and they had to pick out the tomato with a teaspoon. Then George stepped on the butter. They were not able to find what they wanted. They packed the pies at the bottom and squashed them by putting heavy things over them. Both of them upset everything and damaged a lot of items by breaking, crushing or stepping on them.
5. After the three friends finished up packing and settled in their beds, Harris asked Jerome about the side of the bed he would prefer to sleep. Jerome said that he would prefer the inside of bed and then they started having an argument about what time they should wake up in the morning. Harris preferred seven whereas Jerome wanted to wake up at six as he had to write some letters. Finally, after having a long discussion about the time, they agreed on half past six, each accommodating his time by half an hour. George did not respond as he was already asleep. Harris and Jerome made mischief by placing the bathtub next to George's bed so that he would fall into it as he woke up on the pretext and this way he would take a bath as soon as he got up.

6. Montmorency was the pet dog of the narrator Jerome and his two friends, George and Harris. He contributed to the packing by forcibly sitting on the things just when they were wanted to be packed. He put his leg into the jam and worried the teaspoons. He pretended that the lemons were rats, and got into the hamper and killed three of them. Montmorency gave tough time to his masters who had to finally shoo him away with a frying pan.

He was so mischievous that his highest aim and object in life is to get in the way get so somebody stumble over him and get scolded. He aspired to get cursed from others and felt that his day was not been wasted if he had made people mad and had things thrown at his head for his unbearable interference. When Montmorency succeeded in accomplishing his task, his pride becomes unbearable.

## Chapter-8\_Reach for the Top

### Part-I Santosh Yadav

1. (i) She was able to prove herself repeatedly by equipping her will, physical endurance and her mental toughness. Her climbing skills matured rapidly.  
(ii) After going on an expedition every year. Her climbing skills matured rapidly and she also developed a remarkable resistance to cold and the altitude.
2. Santosh was born in Joniyawas, a small village in the Rewari district in Haryana. She was born in a patriarchal, orthodox and a very conservative society. People of this society were gender-biased and strictly adhered to conservative traditions, where they didn't welcome the birth of a girl child while the birth of a boy child is celebrated.
3. When Santosh Yadav was living in Kasturba Hostel, Jaipur, from the window of her room she used to watch the villagers going up the hills and then suddenly vanishing after a while. It inspired her to explore the hills. One day when she decided to check it out by herself, she met a group of mountaineers and asked if she can also join them. The mountaineers not only allowed her to join them but they also encouraged her to take up climbing. Thus, she got an inspiration from there and developed liking for climbing.
4. Santosh Yadav is the only woman to have scaled the Mt. Everest twice. She was born in a small village, Joniyawas

of Rewari District in Haryana. Although Santosh was born in a society where the birth of a girl child was not welcomed at all, but hers was a different case. She was a blessing for her parents as she was born in a society where the birth of a girl child was not welcomed at all, but her's was a different case. She was a blessing for her parents as she was born in a family where they already have five sons and wanted a daughter now. She was given the name Santosh which means contentment. But Santosh was not all content with her place in a traditional way of life. From the very childhood, she began to live life on her own terms. She did not follow the traditional way of life like other girls in her village.

In her society, there was a prevailing custom of marrying girls at the age of sixteen. But Santosh refused to get married without getting proper education therefore she left home and got herself enrolled in a school in Delhi.

After finishing highschool, Santosh went to Jaipur to study at Maharani College and got a room in Kasturba Hostel. While staying in Kasturba Hostel, She became fascinated towards mountaineering. She become so determined to fulfill her dream of mountaineering that she saved money and joined Uttarkashi's Nehru Institute of Mountaineering. In 1992, she scaled the Mount Everest and became the youngest woman in the world to do so. Within twelve months, she was invited by the Indo-Nepalese Women's expedition and conquered the Everest a second time setting a record as the only woman to have climbed the Everest twice. Santosh was honoured with the Padmashri Award by the Indian Government in recognition of her achievements.

### Part-II Maria Sharapova

1. (i) From the way Maria spoke it was amply clear that the sacrifices such as separation from her mother to get tennis coaching, suffering loneliness and torture by her roommates. All she had given upto achieve her goal were all worth it. It means she has no regrets for that rather she was feeling proud about all the struggles she faced in her life that made her more determined to reach her goal.  
(ii) Maria has made so many sacrifices in her life but the most painful was when she was separated from her mother at the age of 10 because she had to travel to Florida for tennis coaching. She was also tortured by her roommates and her father too was not able to

give her much time and attention. Apart from all the hardships, Maria remained determined towards her goal and won the championship. Thus, she called all the sacrifices 'worth' as they made her more determined and dedicated to her goal.

2. Maria was the youngest trainee among all the other girls in the training camp. She was just nine years old. She would go to her bed at 8 pm. But her seniors would return at 11 pm. They used to wake her up and force her to do their work. They would ask her to tidy up the room and often humiliate her.
3. Maria Sharapova spent most of her time playing tennis. But apart from playing tennis she had some other liking too. She loves singing and dancing.  
She loves reading the novels of Arthur Conan Doyle in her free time. She is also fond of wearing pretty evening gowns, likes pancakes with chocolate spread and fizzy orange drinks.
4. Maria Sharapova, one of the world's best-known tennis stars, was born in Siberia, Russia. Maria has attained the number one position in Women's International Tennis on 22 August 2005. All this happened in no time. However, the rapid ascent in a fiercely competitive world began nine years ago when she left Russia for Florida in the USA. She went there with her father Yuri as she had to spend two hard years in the tennis training camp. Her mother Yelena could not accompany her due to visa restrictions. The nine year old girl had already learnt an important lesson in life that tennis excellence would only come at a price. In the United States, she felt lonely and missed her mother badly. She also had to suffer torture and humiliation from her seniors. They wake her up at night and would ask her to do their work and tidy up the room. Instead of letting her down, that tough time gave strength to Maria. She became strong and determined. She also learnt how to take care of herself. This mental toughness gradually became a trait of her personality that helped her both as a person and as a sportswoman. Maria Sharapova bagged the ladies singles crown at Wimbledon in 2004 and became the number one tennis player in the world.

### Chapter-9\_The Bond of love

1. (i) A wooden box that was once used to keep the fowls was put on the island for Baba to sleep at night. Straw

was placed inside to keep the box warm and some toys were also placed there for him to play with.

- (ii) The straw was placed to keep the wooden box made as Bruno's house warm. It will serve the purpose of warmth for Bruno.
2. (i) Author's wife had a pet bear whom she called Baba. Baba was certainly a loving and playful pet. He had developed affection for everyone around him and was particularly attached to the author's wife. So, when Baba was sent to the zoo, author's wife felt so sad that she could not be consoled and stopped eating anything for some days.  
(ii) Baba was playful and mischievous. He is like a young child in the family. He roams around the whole house and even sleeps in their bed. He loves his family so much that when he was sent to the zoo, he suffered the pain of separation, started fretting and refused to eat.
3. When Bruno returned home from Mysore Zoo, at home an island was made for him. It was twenty feet long and fifteen feet wide. It was surrounded by a moat, six feet wide and seven feet deep. A wooden box was kept for Baba to sleep at night. Straw was placed inside to keep him warm, and his 'baby', the gnarled stump, along with his 'gun', the piece of bamboo, both of which had been sentimentally preserved since he had been sent away to the zoo, were put back for him to play with.
4. The author got the baby sloth bear in a freak accident while he was passing through the sugarcane field near Mysore with his friends. It was found moving on the body of his mother who was wantonly shot dead by one of the author's companions. It was in great shock and tried to run away but the author managed to capture it and brought it home. He gifted the baby sloth bear to his wife who became extremely happy to get it as a pet. She put a coloured ribbon around his neck to adorn him, and gave him the name 'Bruno'.
5. When Baba was sent to zoo the author's wife became so miserable that she was unable to be consoled. She wanted Baba back and thus wrote number of letters to the curator of the zoo, asking him to send Baba back home. At the constant request of the author's wife, the superintendent of the zoo agreed to permit her to have Baba back. He wrote a letter to the curator and asked



him to lend a cage so that the bear could be brought home safely. The cage was carefully put on the top of the car and Baba travelled back to his home in Bangalore.

6. Bruno's love, affection, emotions and his emotional bonding with human beings has been clearly depicted in the narrative 'The Bond of love'. Whole story revolves around the love of Bruno towards his owner, the author's wife. He is so much in love with all the members of the family. His deep emotions come to the fore when Bruno was sent to a zoo. He is so pained by the separation from his mistress that he started fretting and refused to eat anything. Gradually, he grew very thin. Three months passed away since he came to the zoo but he could not reconcile with the separation and never forgotten narrator's wife.

He at once recognised the author's wife, even from a distance of some yards when she came to meet him after three months. 'Bruno became so excited to see her and ate a lot from her hands. The curator was so moved to see their love for each other that he permitted them to take Bruno back home along with them.

The title of the story is quite appropriate as love and affection, and a loving relationship between human beings and animals is the only content on which the whole story is focused. The narrator, through the medium of his wife and her pet sloth bear, unfolds that love has no barriers, it can transcend even the barrier of species. The pets reared with selfless love, sincere affection and utmost care develop an unremarkable bond with their human caretakers.

### Chapter-10\_Kathmandu

1. (i) The flute draws the author in the 'commonality of all mankind' because this musical instrument is found in all cultures and is played in a similar manner.  
(ii) The author found the music of the flute very closest to the human voice because the pauses and breaths that are needed to produce musical notes on the flute are very similar to the pauses and sentences that are uttered in the human voice.
2. (i) The author described Kathmandu's streets as vivid, mercenary and religious. He says they are extremely narrow and busy and have many small shrines, and flower adorned dieties. There are fruit sellers, flute sellers, film rolls, chocolates, hawkers selling postcards,

western cosmetics and Nepalese antiques. Stray cows roam about mooing at the sound of the motorcycles. Songs are playing on radios at a loud pitch.

- (ii) The author hears the sounds of vendor selling out their wares. There were flute sellers, fruit sellers, hawkers of postcard and other shop sellers shouting loudly. He also hears and enjoys the film songs playing on radios at a loud pitch. Cows are roaming about mooing at the sound of the motorcycles. There was also sound of car horns, and the bells of bicycles.
3. The signboard outside the Pashupatinath temple proclaims 'entrance for Hindus only'. It signifies that anyone other than Hindu religion would not be allowed to enter the temple. The saffron clad foreigners tried to enter the temple but the policeman stopped them. The saffron clad foreigners claimed to be Hindus. But the policeman did not let them enter because he didn't believe that they were Hindus, despite their saffron clothes since non-Hindus were banned inside the temple.
4. When the author heard the music of the flute he was so captivated by it that it became difficult to tear himself away from where the music was being played by the flute seller. To him, the music of the flute was so universal because this musical instrument made of hollow bamboo is found in every culture in the world. But he finds that this universal instrument at the same time has a 'particular' sound because each flute though played in almost a similar manner produced unique sounds.
5. Like westerners are denied to enter into the temple because they were not Hindus. If anything like that would ever happen to me I would have asked the policemen or would have requested them to allow me to enter the religious place as religion is the only thing that denies inequality and treats everyone on equal level. I would have tried hard to convince them in every possible way to let me bow down my head in front of God and to take God's blessing who is everybody's equally. God himself treats and blesses everyone on an equal level so we human beings should also understand this and should abolish all such differences.

### Chapter-11\_If I Were You

1. (i) In the given extract 'I' is the intruder who broke into

Gerrard's house and 'you' is Gerrard. 'I' first saw 'you' in the Aylesbury, where he came by dodging.

(ii) 'I' heard that the two people were talking about Gerrard which seemed very mysterious to him. They were saying that Gerrard gives his orders on phone, sometimes goes away suddenly and then comes back just the same. Those are the things he also wanted to do.

2. (i) The speaker said so as he pretends that he is very clever and knows how to plan and commit crimes without getting caught by the police.

(ii) It means that no one else is as smart as the intruder. Gerrard, too, is no match for him.

3. Gerrard told the intruder that as a child he was stolen by the gypsies, and now at the age of thirty, he was living all alone in his lonely Essex cottage. He then told him that he too is a criminal, once killed someone with his bullet and from then the police is after him. That is the reason he never stayed at one place.

No, he was not telling the truth, he was just being funny as he wished to make it clear that he was not afraid of a criminal like the intruder. In fact, he had already started cooking up stories about himself.

4. Gerrard devised a story about his own criminal background. He gave the intruder the impression that the policemen were looking for him all over the place and he expected a telephone call from a friend informing the police's arrival. Then, when the telephone rang, without giving intruder much time to think, Gerrard asked intruder to follow him to the way to garage which

was an escape route. The door was not actually leading to the garage but it was the door of a cupboard. In this way Gerrard imprisoned the intruder in a cupboard, locked him up there and saved himself.

5. Gerrard was packing a bag at the beginning of the play as he had to deliver some props to some theatrical company for rehearsal of a play. When the intruder broke into his cottage, Gerrard was seen talking to someone over the phone. Intruder threatened to kill Gerrard but he did not lose his cool. He spontaneously concocted a story that he himself was a criminal and was trying to dodge the police. That is the reason he lives in isolation in a mysterious way and for that he often disappears from there. He tells him that killing him and taking up his identity would not help the intruder, since he would be accused of murder and would be hanged if not as himself then as Gerrard.

This story was supported by the bag, the gun, the disguise outfit and false moustaches lying on the bed. All this misled the intruder and made him believe that Gerrard was telling the truth. He was so convinced that he got ready to escape along with him. He did not doubt him any longer and without suspecting anything he did whatever is being told to him and eventually ended up locking himself up in the cupboard. Hence, the bag played an important role in convincing the intruder to believe that Gerrard too was a criminal like him and was preparing to flee to dodge the police when the intruder broke into his cottage.

**EXAM  
DRILL****SECTION-C****ANSWERS****POETRY****CHAPTER-1\_THE ROAD NOT TAKEN**

1. (i) There were two roads before the poet, diverged in a yellow wood.  
(ii) The poet appears in a thoughtful and serious mood. No, being one traveller the poet could not travel on both the roads.
2. (i) The poet doubts if he could ever come back to walk on the other road that he had left for another day.  
(ii) The roads were in equal stage that morning because no traveller had trodden on either of the two roads. It was evident from the fallen leaves laying uncrushed there.
3. The poet has an opinion that both the roads were equally lay. They were the same, equally travelled and there was no significant difference between them. Seeing the equally promising roads, the poet got confused. It was difficult for him to decide which road would be more convenient and comfortable. Being one traveller he cannot travel on both the roads. Hence, he wanted to choose the one that would lead him to his intended destination.
4. The poet was not satisfied with the choice, he made if he would be satisfied he would not be telling his story with a deep sigh. From his expressions, it appeared that he was in a great sense of regret as the road or the alternative chosen by him did not yield him satisfactory result. He still regret the decision he had taken long ago. If he had taken the other road, things might be changed and he might have shaped his life in a better way. Hence, the dissatisfaction of his choice is clear from his complaints.
5. The poem 'The Road Not taken' deals with the message of life's choices. In the poem the poet is trying

to convey a message that life is a continuous journey full of divergence at every second step. The thing which is most important is that we should keep moving without looking back whether the choices we made in the past were right or wrong. We cannot get everything in life and have to make choices. We must be wise in our decisions and be determined to the choice we have made without being in dilemma about it. One should be confident in his choices so that he would not regret about it in the future.

6. The course of life is not so easy. Life provides many options. But we cannot exercise all the options and cannot choose more than one option at the same time. We have to choose one. The choice we make determines our future and makes all the difference in life. Suppose, if we have to choose between the two roads as the poet had to choose in the poem. One road leads to one path and it becomes difficult to think whether it would be right for us or not and the most difficult is coming back to the starting point.

We should be very confident and wise while making decisions. If we have chosen the right path it will give us the desired results. Good decisions have a great deal of significance. They bring happiness, wealth and prosperity in our life. Once we choose one thing we should stick to it confidently and make efforts to achieve that goal, and should not be in a dilemma. If we had made good decisions in life we would not have to look back and regret about our choices.

**CHAPTER-2\_WIND**

1. (i) The wind blows out weak fire while it makes the strong fire roar and flourish. It knows the strength and the might of the strong fire and cannot destroy it. Thus, the wind turns out to be a friend of the strong fire.  
(ii) The poet advises that we must keep ourselves firm

and determined to face the strength of the wind and eventually it will become our friend. And as the wind is so strong and powerful, we must sing its praises every day.

**2.** (i) The poet asks people to build strong houses, to join the doors firmly, and to keep their hearts and bodies strong and unyielding so that the wind would not harm them.

(ii) After people make their bodies strong as well as their hearts steadfast to face the hardships that come in their way, wind will make no harm to them and become friends with them.

**3.** The wind disturbs the weaklings such as papers, books, window panes, etc. and it harms the weak people only. It crushes down all the weak houses, crumbling doors and even human beings those who are weak, without showing any mercy or sympathy to them. It does not behave in a friendly way with them. Just like it puts the weak fire out which is powerless and helpless against the force of wind and cannot stand firmly in front of its strength. Whereas, it flourishes and makes the strong fire roar, and behaves like a friend with it. It cannot destroy the strong fire thus accept its might and stop troubling it.

**4.** In the line "We praise him every day", 'him' stands for the wind god. The poet wants to say that as the wind is so strong and provides strength and life, we must praise the wind every day. If the wind becomes friends with us, it helps us flourish. Therefore, we should sing its praise every day.

**5.** The poem gives us a lesson that we should be strong enough to face all the hardships in life. Human beings have to suffer lots of difficulties, sorrows, and failures. Only those who are strong can stand firm against the adversities in life. And the weak people easily surrender themselves in front of the hardships and accept defeat. Human beings can never be devoid of struggles in life. Adversities can never harm strong people, it makes them even more stronger, but weak people are crushed and destroyed by it. Just like the wind blows out the weak fire and make the strong fire to roar and flourish. It becomes friends with the strong

fire when it gets to know its might. The wind crushes down all the weak things like papers, books, window panes and even the people who are not strong enough to stand firm against it.

The forces of unfavourable, unhappy circumstances fail to conquer those who have the courage. Such people beat all odds against them and come out victoriously and move ahead in life. Thus, the poet wants to convey that we should always face the bad times with courage and patience. The poem emphasises on the values of courage, confidence and firm will.

### CHAPTER-3\_RAIN ON THE ROOF

**1.** (i) The tinkling sound of the raindrops falling on the roof overhead creates an echo in the heart.

(ii) The mind of the busy being starts recollecting old memories and thoughts, and a large number of imaginations and fanciful ideas comes to his mind when he listens to the tinkling sound of the falling raindrops.

**2.** (i) The poet remembers his mother who comes in his memories when he sleeps in his bed-chamber on a rainy night.

(ii) The poet feels as if his mother has came back to him, sitting beside, looking affectionately towards her children - the poet himself and his siblings - as she used to do years ago when she was about to leave them in their bed chamber for the night before going to sleep in her own room.

**3.** The poet first describes that the dark clouds appear gloomy and depressed to him. It is making him sad and the raindrops falling appear to him as the tears of clouds. However, in this gloomy situation the only thing that provides him pleasure is lying in his bed with a pillow, in his cottage and listening to the pitter-patter sound of the falling raindrops on the roof while lost in the memories. The poet loves to hear the melodious sound of nature.

He considers it a rare happiness when sound of raindrops bring old memories to his mind. Those memories were of long gone days when he was a child, and he lay sleeping in his room along with his siblings and his mother gazed down at them with love.



4. When the poet lies in the bed-chamber in his cottage listening to the soft tinkling sound of the raindrops falling on the wooden roof, his mind is filled with various thoughts and imaginations and brings bright fanciful colours. It also brings many memories of his childhood days and his mother who fondly looks at her children before going to sleep.

5. The poet's mother is no more with him but he always remembers her. His mother comes in his memories when he lie down in his bed-chamber listening to the soft pattering sound of the gentle raindrops falling on the roof. His mind starts recollecting so many memories of his childhood days, among which emerges the memory of his mother.

He remembers how she used to look affectionately at her children before she went to her bed leaving them in their room for the night to meet them again in the morning. As the melodious music of the rain reaches his ears, the loving looks of his mother comes to his mind and they seem clear as if his mother is still alive and is still there with him. The rainy nights remind him of similar night he used to have during his childhood when his mother showered her love on him and his siblings. Therefore, the poet love the rain because it reminds him of his mother whom he loved a lot.

#### CHAPTER-4 THE LAKE ISLE OF INNISFREE

1. (i) The poet will get peace if he will go to Innisfree. He is fed up of the hustle-buslte and the busy life he is leading in London. He plans to make a small cabin and to grow nine rows of beans there.

(ii) The mornings on The Lake Isle of Innisfree are very peaceful and quiet. The atmosphere of the morning is cloudy, and the view is not very clear, then it will appear as if the morning has worn a veil and has hidden itself. Peace comes there on the land falling softly and noiselessly.

2. (i) The poet is in London where he is living for his work, and is fed up with strident noise and the busy life there.

(ii) The poet wants to go to The Lake Isle of Innisfree where he spent his childhood days. He finds peace there.

3. Innisfree is a perfect island and it provides the peaceful environment, natural beauty and everything

desired by the poet. The three things he wants to do there are - build a small cabin with clay and small sticks, grow nine rows of beans and will have a hive for the honeybees.

4. The roadways in London are very busy and noisy, they are dull and grey and full of chaos all around. But Innisfree is full of natural beauty. It is like a dream place for him that actually exists in reality. He finds perfect harmony on the island between the plants and the weather. The poet seems fed up of busy life of the city and wants to go to Innisfree to lead a peaceful life there. He plans to do so many adventurous things there like building a small cabin for himself growing rows of beans and having beehives, enjoying the 'purple glow' of noon, the sounds of birds wings, and of the bees.

5. The poet was deeply attached with 'The Lake Isle of Innisfree' because he had spent his childhood there. He loves the peaceful environment and the natural beauty of the island. In contrast to the environment of the Innisfree, London is surrounded by the sombre monotony of "grey" roadways and pavements and the air is filled with the noise of traffic. Fed up with the dull, monotonous and chaotic life of the city, he decides to go to the Innisfree to get some peace of mind. There, he plans to build a small cabin of mud and twigs. In a life of quiet solitude, to keep himself busy and enthusiastic, he will grow nine rows of beans there and will keep a beehive. The poet reiterates that he will find calm in easy pace of dripping dew in the morning light, and there he will find peace and calm throughout the day. He will enjoy the purple glow of the afternoon, the beating of bee's wings in the evening and the shimmering of stars in the sky at night. Instead of hearing the sounds of vehicles on the roadways, he wants to hear the low sound of lake water lapping by the shore.

#### CHAPTER-5 A LEGEND OF THE NORTHLAND

1. (i) In the Northland, the days were short and the nights were very long.

(ii) When it snowed, the people drove their sledges with the help of reindeer.

2. (i) The woman made a very little cake but that too seemed big to her.

(ii) She kneaded another cake and baked it, but when she turned it over it seemed as large as the first one.

**3.** The theme of the poem 'The Legend of the Northland' is that greed and selfishness can destroy a person completely and it can bring wrath to even a saint.

The poem is about the legend of an old lady who lived in the Northland long ago. One day she was baking cakes while a saint, named St. Peter, chanced to come at her door. He was hungry and tired. He asked the lady to give him a cake to eat as he was feeling weak due to the day's fasting. The selfish lady tried to bake small cakes but every time they seemed too big to be given away. Finally she baked one that was as thin as a wafer. But that too she did not give to the saint and put it back on the shelf. St. Peter became angry. He said that she was too selfish to live as a human or to have food and shelter. Thus, he cursed her and changed her into a bird who had to search for food the whole day.

**4.** Saint Peter was hungry, tired and fainting due to the day's fasting. He chanced to reach at the house of an old lady and asked her to give him a piece of cake. The lady was so selfish, she behaved miserly and didn't give even a very small piece of cake and kept changing the size of the cake. When the lady refused to give anything, Saint Peter got annoyed and felt that she did not deserve to live in human form. Therefore, he cursed her and changed her into a woodpecker.

**5.** The little lady had to bake the cake again and again because she was so miser and selfish to give away even the smallest piece of cake. When Saint Peter, who had been feeling weak as he had not eaten anything the whole day, asked the little lady to give him a cake, she laid down to bake the cake. But when the cake was baked, it seemed to her much too big to be given away. So she kneaded another one which was a little smaller. But that too seemed as big as the earlier one so she didn't give it to the saint. Then she took another small bit of dough and rolled and rolled it thin as a wafer but could not part even with that. She was surprised that her cakes that seemed small when she ate them herself appeared too large to be given away. Thus, driven by

greed and selfishness, the women repeatedly baked the cake for Saint Peter.

## CHAPTER-6 NO MEN ARE FOREIGN

**1.** (i) By some opportunists, ruling authorities and selfish people, we are told to hate our brothers.

(ii) If we begin to hate our brothers, we defile and destroy the earth by dividing it into countries, communities and by developing hatred against the people of other country, religion, community, caste and creed.

**2.** (i) We pollute the earth by dividing it into countries and then developing hatred against each other. We turn its fresh air into poison by waging wars against our own brothers.

(ii) The stanza gives us a message that war is nothing but futile as it spoils the very earth for which we take up arms against each other. The deadly weapons emit fire and ashes, outrage against the innocence, pollutes the whole environment. In a way we pollute the same air we inhale. This robs the purity of the air and makes our world the most difficult place to live in. It is therefore important to remember that no man is strange and no country is foreign.

**3.** According to the poet, the eyes of everyone are similar in a way that people whom we consider strange or foreigner also wake up and sleep in the same manner every day like we do. Even though the colour and shape of their eyes is different from us they perform a similar function.

**4.** We hate our brothers when some selfish people ask us to do that. We hate them by waging war against them, by treating them differently. No, it is not right to hate them, though they belong to different races, countries and cultures but they are not foreigners or strangers. We all are brothers as we share the same land, air and water.

**5.** The poet asks us to remember that we should never forget that our ideas, thoughts, emotions and experiences are similar to those whom we consider 'foreign' or 'strange'. He wants us to remember that all human beings are identical in nature and phases of

human life are the same in all over the world. If there is a war going on we all suffer the same pain the same hunger. We have eyes that are different in colour and shape but perform the same function. Thus we should not consider anyone strange and any country foreign.

**6.** We all are alike in a way that we all need the same air to breathe, the same sun to get sunlight and warmth and the same water for many purposes. Above all we all are living on the same earth. Beneath the superficial surface of our bodies, we all have the same heart, mind and soul. No matter in which country or region we are living in, we all share the same routine. Like we get up in the morning take a bath, have breakfast and go to work. We all sleep at night and wake up in the morning. People may have adapted to different conditions and situations, but we are all one in the spirit. We all are able to sustain our lives during peace time and would starve to death if wars disrupt on earth. We all suffer the same pain and long for the same love.

When we hate others, fight with them, raise arms against them, it is ourselves, that we dispossess, betray and condemn. By waging wars we defile the same earth on which we are living and pollute the same air we are breathing. Thus, despite different living conditions, we all are alike and one in spirit.

## CHAPTER-7 THE DUCK AND THE KANGAROO

**1.** (i) The Kangaroo was moved by the duck's request and said that it was not a bad idea and it might bring him some luck, but he had one objection that duck's feet are wet and cold.

(ii) The Kangaroo was worried about that he might catch rheumatism-pain in joints because the duck's feet are unpleasantly wet and cold.

**2.** (i) The duck bought four pairs of worsted socks and a cloak to keep out of cold, and she also planned to smoke a cigar every day so that she would keep herself safe from the cold.

(ii) The duck was fed up of her life in the nasty pond so she wanted to see the whole world and for that the duck was ready to do every preparation so that her ride would not do any harm to Kangaroo. She has bought

four pairs of worsted socks, a cloak and a cigar to smoke it every day to keep herself warm.

**3.** To remove Kangaroo's objection she bought four pairs of worsted socks so that her cold and wet feet could be covered and protected from the cold. She also bought a cloak to keep the cold out. In addition, she planned to smoke a cigar daily to get some warmth.

**4.** 'I' bought the four pairs of worsted socks so that her wet and cold feet could be covered and protected from the cold. She decided to do that so that she would ride on Kangaroo's back without any difficulty and would do no harm to him.

**5.** Through the poem 'The Duck and the Kangaroo' the poet tells us that we can get any difficult work done by us if we have the virtues of patience, politeness and obedience. In the poem, the Duck requests the Kangaroo to let her ride on his back as she was fed up with the nasty pond and wanted to see the world. The Kangaroo asked her to give him some time to think about it. It is his politeness that he accepted ducks's request and agreed to fulfill her wish. He politely told her that he is afraid that he might get rheumatism because of the wet and cold feet of the duck. The obedient duck pondered over it and bought four pairs of worsted socks, a cloak to keep herself warm and she also decided to smoke a cigar too. She assured the Kangaroo that she would say nothing but 'Quack'. Thus, the Kangaroo agreed and let her ride on its tail and they went for a pleasure tour to the world.

The poem teaches us that those who are generous in acknowledging and appreciating the capabilities of others also gain from it. Patience, politeness, obedience and admiration are some qualities that makes others happy and comfortable. They help win many good friends and make life worthwhile and enjoyable.

## CHAPTER-8 ON KILLING A TREE

**1.** (i) A simple jab of knife will not be sufficient to kill a tree completely.

(ii) Curled green twigs will arise from close to the ground and miniature boughs will begin to expand again to its former size.

2. (i) To kill a tree, its root should be pulled out from the earth cave and it should be exposed to the heat of the sun and should be kept in the absence of air.

(ii) The earth protects the tree by hiding its roots-the sensitive part of a tree-protecting it from exposure to the sunlight and the air which can prove to be very injurious for its existence. The tree draws its nutrients from its soil. It also gives support to stand erect and protects it from falling. Giving a firm grip to its roots, the earth gives it ground to grow and assume a massive size.

3. When the blow of knives does not kill a tree, its bleeding bark will begin to heal its pain gradually and the curled green twigs will grow from the boughs and it will soon be as big as it was earlier. Actually, the strength of a tree lies in its roots. When they are not uprooted, they will expand and grow into a complete tree.

4. 'Anchoring Earth' means that the earth supports the tree firmly. It gives it a firm grip and keeps it from falling. A tree stands secure and stable with the support of the earth. As long as the roots are firmly held by the earth it cannot be killed or destroyed.

5. The source of a tree is its roots. It is the roots that consume nutrients from the crust of the earth and provide strength to it. If we pull out the roots and they are exposed to sun, the tree will start dying. Hence, the tree will gradually start to die as the roots are out they will not get strength from the earth and soon start to dry out, wither out and the tree will be killed.

6. Through the poem 'On Killing a Tree' the poet has portrayed a vivid and brutal picture of what is involved in killing a tree. The poet tells us that killing a tree is a difficult and time consuming process. A simple jab of knife cannot do it. A tree grows out slowly consuming on earth's crust, it gets the nourishment from the nutrients found in the earth, along with years of sunlight, air, and water.

If we stab it simply with a knife the tree will not be killed. Only the bark which is hurt start to ooze out a sap which is considered as bleeding. The bleeding bark will be healed soon and green twigs will start to grow

and the new boughs will again grow to its former size. Then the poet goes on to say that how a tree should be killed completely. The roots which is the strength of a tree needs to be pulled out and exposed to the heat of the sun if a tree is to be killed completely. Once the roots are exposed to the sunlight, and is devoid of air and water. It will start becoming brown and dry. The tree will be choked and scorched and then the process of killing a tree will be completed.

The poet tried to make us aware of the brutality of human beings. Man is presented as a killer of the environment who thinks of all possible ways to get rid of trees, which represented nature. The poet ironically discussed the whole process of killing a tree. He says that it is not an easy task as the tree has grown after consuming on earth for so many years.

## CHAPTER-9 THE SNAKE TRYING

1. (i) The snake ran away because it is trying to escape from the pursuing stick. It is in danger and trying to save itself from its threat.

(ii) The snake is small and green in colour. The sudden curvings of its thin body looks charming to the poet, so does its graceful movements. When it glides through the water, it looks like an object of grace and beauty. It is not dangerous and harmful even to the children.

2. (i) 'He' is the snake. He was lying and relaxing comfortably on the sands on the bank of a pond.

(ii) The snake goes into the ripples among the green slim reeds to save itself from the pursuing stick.

3. The snake is small and green in colour. Curvings of its long beautiful body seems appealing to the poet. It has graceful and beautiful shape. So are its movements. It is a graceful snake and not harmful even to the children. The harmless, graceful and beautiful snake attracts the poet's attraction and sympathy.

4. The poet appeals to not kill the snake as according to his opinion not all snakes are harmful. And the snake is not always harmful, unless it is provoked or hunted. The beautiful snake described in the poem is not harmful even to the children. Therefore, the poet wishes that it should not be hurt and reach its place safely.



5. Human beings should be sensitive and tolerant towards other creatures since all the animals are not dangerous or harmful to human beings. Human beings have a tendency of killing animals that seems dangerous to them. Sometimes, they kill them only if they are frightened of them. The man in the poem also thinks that the snake is poisonous and hence it is better to kill it. He chases the snake with a stick. The snake is trying to escape at a great pace so that the man cannot reach and kill it. The snake moves through the water and goes in to the green reeds to save himself from the pursuing stick.

The poet appeals that the snake is not dangerous it is harmless even to the children. He is pleading to let the snake go.

Through the poem, he tries to make people aware that all snakes are not harmful. He is trying to prevent human beings from being cruel to animals. He appeals to them to maintain ecological balance and not to harm any species, in this poem he focused on snakes. Since all the snakes are not poisonous, they are harmless and do not attack human beings until they are provoked or hurt. Hence, they should be left on their own.

#### CHAPTER-10\_A SLUMBER DID MY SPIRIT SEAL

1. (i) 'Slumber' means the deep sleep *i.e.*, the death of a loved one of the poet which has sealed his spirit and made him sad.

(ii) The beloved was dead. Her death made the poet's spirit seal but beloved's spirit is peaceful now. All her human fears ended with her death. She was no more and was beyond the mortal earthly touch.

2. The time will not effect the poet's beloved any longer as she is dead now and has become immortal. The poet believes that immortality would never be effected by time or the physical world. Thus, she too cannot be effected by such things. She cannot hear or see, and has gone beyond the physical world. His beloved is beyond the touch of earthly years, she has no human fears. She has become a permanent part of the earth's diurnal course.

3. The phrase earth's diurnal course means the daily rotation of the earth on its axis which causes day and night. The poet believes that as his beloved Lucy is dead now, she has become an inseparable part of the earth. She will assimilate into the earth and is rotating along with it just like other objects like rock, stone, and the trees. She has become one with the nature.

4. The poet soul got sealed with slumber due to the sudden and unexpected death his beloved. Earlier he did not have any realisation of the truth and had never thought that one day his beloved would be taken away from him. Her death was so sudden that his mind as well his body seemed to be closed off. He felt as if he were in deep sleep. He cannot feel any emotions now as his spirit seemed to be sealed. His beloved is no more and she will not be affected by the earthly years now. No human fears can touch her, she will suffer no pain. She cannot hear or see anything. She feels no movement or force. She has become an inseparable part of nature. She will become one with the nature. She will assimilate into the earth's diurnal course and will rotate along with the earth. One day she will become one with the earth.

## SUPPLEMENTARY READER

## CHAPTER-1\_THE LOST CHILD

1. (i) There was a roundabout in full swing. The men, women and children, carried away in a whirling motion, were shrieking and crying with dizzy laughter.

(ii) The child requested his parents that he too wanted a ride on the roundabout. He made a bold request because this time he could not resist his desire to have a ride on the swing.

2. When the child in the fair wanted to have anything his father looked at him red-eyed like a tyrant. The very look was emphatic and rude. And if he asked his mother she would try to distract him by showing some other things.

They have very different approach of denying as whenever the child was tempted by anything he would not ask his parents rather he only said it in slow murmur because he knew that his parents will not buy anything for him. They will either call him greedy or call the things cheap or coarse in order to console him.

3. The child got distracted by many things in the fair like the toys which he wanted to buy, butterflies and dragonflies that he wanted to catch and beautiful gulmohar flowers that he wanted to gather. The stalls selling sweets, gulabjamun, burfie, etc. also stopped him because he wanted to have all of those. Everytime he sees a new thing, he lagged behind his parents. Out of pure innocence and his uncontrolled desire to buy everything kept his parents back from reaching the fair.

4. The little boy witnessed a snake which coiled itself in a basket, its head raised in a graceful bend like the neck of a swan, while the music played on the flute by the snake-chamer mesmerised him and it stole into its invisible ears like the gentle rippling of an invisible waterfall.

5. Before the child has lost his parents, he is in happy and playful mood. He was enjoying in the fair. He gets attracted

to so many things on his way to the fair. He was tempted by the sight of such attractive things but follows his parents' call whenever they ask him to. He is amazed by the beauty of nature and enjoys it in his innocent way. The child feels secure in the presence of his parents and does not care about the response of his parents when he demands things he wanted to have that attracted him. When he got separated from his parents all his happiness and enjoyment turned into fear and insecurity. He cried inconsolably and stated searching for his parents in the huge crowd of people. The things that attracted him and seemed fascinating to him. Lost all the charm for him. He doesn't want anything now except his parents. A gentleman saw him crying and took him up in his arms and asked if he wanted to have any of the thing, but he refused and said that he wanted his parents only.

## CHAPTER-2\_THE ADVENTURES OF TOTO

1. (i) The narrator and his grandfather put him away in a little closet which opens into the narrator's bedroom wall.

(ii) He was put away in a little closet opening into the narrator's bedroom wall. He was tied there securely to a peg fastened into the wall.

2. No, Toto didn't have three hands but the author called Toto's tail his third hand because he could use his tail as his fourth limb for his mischief. He also use it to hang from a branch or to scoop up any delicacy that might be out of the reach of his hands.

3. One day Toto took a large plate full of pullao from the dining table and started eating it. When grandmother screamed, Toto throw the plate at her. The plate was broken into pieces. He took the dish of pullao and made his exit through the window to be found in the branches the jackfruit tree. He remained there all afternoon, finishing every grain. And then in order to spite grandmother who had screamed at him, he threw the dish down from the tree, and chattered with delight when it broke into pieces. Thus all these incidents show that Toto didn't seem to like grandmother.

4. When grandfather was going to Saharanpur to collect his pension. He decided to take Toto along with him. Thus, Toto was kept hidden in a big bag so that it couldn't be seen. However, he was caught at the Saharanpur station when he grinned at the ticket collector. The ticket collector had to follow his rule book. As there seemed to be no rule for fixing a monkey's fare so he equated Toto with a dog and asked grandfather to pay for his fare. Grandfather had to pay the sum of three rupees as Toto's fare. This mischief of Toto made grandfather very angry.

5. There are so many animals in the grandfather's mini zoo. Some of them are a tortoise, a pair of rabbits, a tame squirrel, pet goat and the latest was the mischievous monkey Toto.

6. Toto did not get along well with the other animals present there in the grandfather's zoo. He troubled Nane, their pet donkey. Toto often fastened himself on the her long ears with his sharp teeth. He did not allow other animals to sleep in peace. Toto often broke glasses, dishes, torn their clothes, curtains and wallpapers. The family soon realised that Toto was not the kind of animal that could be kept for long in the house. Therefore, grandfather was right in returning Toto back to tonga-driver. The grandfather sold Toto back to tonga-driver for only three rupees. Now, Toto will be tied again to a feeding trough. He would not get proper food and care and would turn into an ugly monkey as he used to be earlier.

### CHAPTER-3 ISWARAN THE STORYTELLER

1. (i) Mahendra found it very unpleasant when the speaker told him that the place they were living in was once a burial ground. He was so disturbed by that information that he was jerked out of the dream he had drifted into after the meal.

(ii) The speaker fell upon the information after they had the satisfying meal. He fallen in to it when he was going to narrate Mahendra a ghost story. He told him that he knew about the place from the very first day when he had seen a human skull lying on the path.

2. Mahendra was a junior supervisor in a firm that offered to hire supervisors at various types of construction sites. His job was to keep an eye on the activities or to supervise work at the worksite. His needs were simple and he was able to adjust easily in every kind of situation, whether it was on ill-equipped circuit house or a makeshift canvas tent in the middle of a stone quarry. Because of the nature of his job Mahendra had to keep moving from one place to another as ordered by his head office.

3. To have maximum effect on Mahendra, Iswaran build up his ghost story and narrate it to him. He narrated it on the day when, according to the tradition the spirit of ones ancestors had to be fed. He started by informing his master Mahendra that entire factory area had once been a burial ground. He said that he had also seen on apparition of a woman holding a foetus in her arms. Mahendra didn't believe in ghosts, he reprimanded him saying that it was just a figment of his imagination.

4. On a full moon night, Mahendra was woken up from his sleep by a low moan close to his window. At first he thought it to be some cat prowling around for mice but soon realised that it was not the cat. However, he resisted to look out because he was afraid that he might find a ghost. But when the sound became louder and less feline. He could not resist and gathered up courage to look out of the window. He lowered himself to the level of the window sill and looked out. There he saw a dark cloudy form holding a bundle. Mahendra got so frightened at this sight that he broke into cold sweat and fell back on his pillow, breathing heavily.

5. People who do not believe in the existence of ghosts or supernatural elements will not believe it, until they experience it themselves. Same was the case with Mahendra, who does not believe in all such things. He scolded Iswaran whenever he talked about ghosts or spirits. He told him that such things do not exist on earth and these are all figments of his imagination. However, deep inside his heart he got scared when Iswaran told him that the entire area they are living in was once a burial ground and that he himself had seen a human skull on the very first day they came to that place.

Then on one full-moon night, Mahendra was woken up by a low moan close to his window. At first, he thought it to be some cat but when the sound became louder Mahendra could not resist it any more and gathered courage to look out of the window. He lowered himself to the level of the window sill to look out. There he saw a dark cloud like form holding a bundle. He got so frightened by this sight that he broke into cold sweat and fell back on his pillow, breathing heavily. The next morning he decided to leave the haunted place.

### CHAPTER-4 IN THE KINGDOM OF FOOLS

1. (i) According to the king, it was not right that their kingdom would be given over to someone else even in the next life.

(ii) The king decided that he and his minister should go to

stake and should be hanged so that they would be reborn as the king and the minister in their next birth also.

2. The thief's brother accused the rich merchant for his brother's death because the wall of the merchant's house fell upon him while he was trying to broke into his house. Since it was merchant's wall that collapsed and killed the thief. So, he should be punished because he had not built a good, strong wall.

3. Minutes before the execution of the criminal, the minister realised that the criminal was too thin to fit the stake and thus could not be properly executed. So the problem arose was that the execution orders were issued but they could not be completed because the accused did not fit the stake.

4. The guru and his disciple started arguing about who should die first. They started fighting over the right to die first at the stake.

It was their plan to befool the king so that the disciple could be saved from the execution. They told the king that they were arguing because whosoever dies first on this stake of the God of justice, he would become the king in this next birth.

5. The people of the kingdom were confused when they learned about the death of their king and his minister because they were not aware of the whole event that happened to execute the real culprit. They didn't know about the revised orders of the execution issued by the king to execute him and his minister on the pure stake of the God of justice. The kingdom was left without a ruler and the people did not know what to do now.

6. Teachers play a significant role in our lives. They are our well wishers. Our teachers always help us and guide us to take the right path so that we could be saved from any kind of danger. The person who does not obey his teacher falls in misery while those who follow the path told by their teacher lead a happy and healthy life. In the story, the disciple who was lured by the cheap food in the kingdom of fools trapped himself into a trouble. That happened because he did not follow his guru's path and paid no heed to him.

If he had listened to his guru and left the kingdom he would not have been in trouble. He was greedy and decided to remain in the kingdom because he found everything so cheap there. He used to eat to his fill and became fat. One day he fell into trouble as he was chosen to be executed because of his fat body since the real culprit did not fit the stake. The guru was a wise man. He was right in his prediction that they could be in

danger any time if they stayed in the kingdom of fools. It was the guru who came at the right time and saved the life of the disciple.

## CHAPTER-5 THE HAPPY PRINCE

1. (i) The strange thing was the heart of the Happy Prince, which was made up of metal. The people at the foundry find it strange because it was not melting in the furnace.

(ii) The workmen at the foundry faced the problem of melting the heart. The leaden heart did not melt in the furnace so they threw it away on the heap of garbage near the swallow.

2. The swallow was on its annual winter migration to Egypt. It arrived at the statue of Prince to take overnight shelter beneath him and became affected with gratitude by the Prince's kindness and desire to help others when he saw him weeping for them. Therefore the swallow changed his mind and decided to stay there to help the Happy Prince.

3. The Happy Prince was very kind. He saw a poor seamstress who had nothing to feed her ill child. Her child was asking her mother for oranges. But she had nothing to give him except for the river water. The prince was feeling so sad, he wanted to help the women by giving her the ruby studded on his sword hilt. Therefore he asked the swallow to stay with him on the first night and act as his messenger.

4. The Happy Prince became very sad when he saw the pain and misery of his city people. He wanted to help them but as he could not move he asked the swallow to stay with him and help him as his messenger. On prince's demand the swallow took ruby from his sword's hilt and the two sapphires of his eyes to help the poor. After giving away the two sapphires, the prince became blind. Therefore the swallow moved by the prince's kindness and his great compassion towards the poor and the needy, decided to stay with the prince rather than flying to the Egypt. The swallow became the Prince's eyes, he would fly over the city, see the suffering of the people and told about it to the prince. Then, on prince's orders he took the golden leaves out from his statue and gave them to the needy.

5. In the story, the statue of the Happy Prince was moved by the pain and miseries of the people around him. Though it was a statue which was of no use to anyone in reality. But it was the statue of a kind prince who wanted to help others and for that he asked a swallow to help him. He asked it to give all the precious stones, and the golden leaves gilded all over his body to the poor and needy. The swallow took out the



ruby from the sword hilt and gave it to a seamstress who had nothing to feed to her ill child. Then he took out the sapphires of his eyes and gave them to a playwright and another one to a little match girl. Then the prince asked the swallow to take all the golden leaves one by one from his body and give it to the needy people. When the statue became dull and ugly, it was ordered to be pulled down. The statue was melted in the furnace but the leaden heart did not melt and it was thrown away on the heap of garbage. It was then carried to the God by the angels as he asked them to bring the most precious thing of the world. The prince was rewarded by the God that in a way he will live in the heaven for ever and ever. Thus, the statue of the Happy prince proved that no one is useless in this world if he is lightening the burden of some other people and providing happiness to them.

## CHAPTER-6 WEATHERING THE STORM IN ERSAMA

1. (i) The initial government plan was to set up institution for the orphans and widows so that they could keep themselves busy and could forget the pain of loss of their loved ones.

(ii) The plan was successfully resisted by Prashant and other volunteers because they felt that in these institutions children would not be able to get love and affection and the widows would suffer from stigma, loneliness and isolation.

2. (i) The orphaned children growing up in institutions will miss out on love and affection.

(ii) The orphans should be resettled in their own community itself so that they could get love and the childless couples would get children and the orphans would get adult care.

3. The first task was that he organised a group of youths and elders who together went to convince the local merchant to give rice to the starving villagers. They succeeded in their mission. Secondly, he made a team of youth volunteers to clean the place of filth, dirt, urine, vomit and floating dead bodies.

4. Prashant and others devised a plan to attract the attention of the helicopters. They deputed children to lie there with empty utensils on their stomachs. This was done to communicate to the helicopter that they were hungry. The result of this communication was that relief was sent to the survivors in the form of food and other basic need items. The helicopter started making regular rounds airdropping the necessary supplies.

5. When Prashant found that the women were sinking deeper and deeper in their grief. He brought the orphaned and the widows together. He tried to set up new foster families made up of childless widows and children without adult care. Women were requested to look after them properly. He also persuaded women to start working in the food-for-work programme which was initiated by an NGO, to keep themselves busy.

6. Human beings cannot live in isolation. They are social animal. Men need love, care, affection and help of others during the course of their life. Despite food and other common needs, men cannot live without company and love of his near and dear ones. When an adversity and crisis befalls a nation, it brings people together. At the time of adversity people come forward to help each other without keeping any previous ill-feeling for one another. There is a bond of humanity whether they know a person or not, but human beings always come forward to help others when they are in the hour of need. In the story 'Weathering the Storm in Ersama' when cyclone hit the village of Ersama and destroyed everything and devastated lives of many, people came together to wipe one another's tears and to share their grief. They worked together during the resettlement. Prashant, the protagonist of the story and the other volunteers united themselves and together they went to the local merchant to ask for rice so that they could fill the stomachs of the hungry people.

They cleaned the places of filth, urine, animal carcasses and dead bodies of humans. They took care of orphans and widows. They helped children and widows forget their pain by setting up foster families made up of childless widows and orphaned children. Thus, in the hour of grief, the people of the community joined hands under the leadership of Prashant and helped one another to overcome the crisis.

## CHAPTER-7 THE LAST LEAF

1. (i) The paints were green and yellow because Behrman had painted a leaf on the ivy creeper using these colours. It was the last leaf on the creeper.

(ii) The lantern was still lighted because Behrman had been painting the last leaf during the stormy night. He was completely wet in the rain, fallen sick and did not have the stamina to blow the lantern out.

2. Sue asked Johnsy to not look out of the window because she had developed a fancy that she would die when the last

leaf of the ivy creeper, which is outside their window, will fall. She kept looking at the creeper and continuously counted numbers in backward.

3. A ladder and a lighted lantern were found near Behrman's bed when he died. There were also some brushes and green and yellow colours on the floor near the ladder. This signified that the last green and fresh leaf of ivy creeper was painted by Behrman to save Johnsy's life.

4. When Behrman came to know about Johnsy's fancy regarding the fall of leaves, he saw the creeper and realised that the last leaf was sure to fall. However, he called Johnsy's fancy mere nonsense and said that it had nothing to do with her health. But in his heart, he decided to paint a new leaf on the ivy creeper to revive Johnsy's life and give her a new hope as he noticed that the last leaf will fall any moment in that stormy night.

5. The title of the story the 'Last Leaf' is very apt as the whole story revolves around the last leaf of the ivy creeper. The word 'last' reflects the main idea of the story which is the last breath of Johnsy. Throughout, the last ivy leaf remains the central point of the story.

In the beginning of the story Johnsy, the sick girl had developed a fancy with the fall of ivy leaves. As it was autumn season, the leaves of the creeper were falling. But Johnsy had developed a fancy that she would die with the fall of the last leaf. Johnsy kept looking outside the window and counting backwards. He has lost all the hope of her recovery. When Behrman, an old painter, came to know about her fancy. He came to meet her but he realised that the last leaf will fall any moment in this stormy night. Thus, he decided to paint a leaf. He painted a new leaf. He was out in the rain and storm throughout the night to paint the leaf. Behrman got wet in the rain, fallen sick of pneumonia and died. He had a life long desire to paint his master piece. The leaf turned out to be his master piece as it gave hope and life to Johnsy. The title is appropriate as the last leaf that gave live to Johnsy and help regain her hopes, that same leaf resulted to be the season of Behrman's death. The 'leaf' actually turned out 'last' as it was the last painting by Behrman.

## CHAPTER-8\_A HOUSE IS NOT A HOME

1. (i) He was grateful for his life, his new friends, the kindness of a strange lady who brought back his lost cat and the life of his beloved cat.

(ii) The cat was lost, it has come back after month, brought by a strange lady who got it and located its owner through different sources.

2. The author missed his cat whom he loved so much. His cat was lost after a fierce fire broke into his house and burnt down everything. The cat was so scared by the fire that she ran a mile away from the house.

3. The extent of damage caused by the fire was so massive that except photo albums, documents and some personal items that his mother saved from burning, all of his belongings had been burnt down to ashes. Whatever else remained had got destroyed by water that had been used to put out the fire. The narrator went over to his burnt house in the hope that his lost cat might be found somewhere. He used to sit there for long, watching clearing away the debris expecting to see his cat.

4. The author's schoolmates surprised him by bringing school supplies, notebooks and clothes for him after they learned about the fire tragedy. This seemed like Christmas because these gifts were similar to the gifts one get from their loved ones on Christmas.

5. The author felt gratitude for his life. Although he had lost all his belongings in the fire tragedy but he made many new friends after that. Those who had never talked to him, came to him and introduced themselves to him. He felt gratitude for his new friends, the kindness of the strange woman who rescued his beloved cat and certainly for the life of his cat. This gratitude overpowered his feeling of loss and tragedy. He opened himself up to all the people around him. His life had taken a new turn. The love and concern of his friends and the stranger changed his understanding of life and people.

6. The word 'house' denotes a structure made of concrete material like bricks and walls but a home is made up of love, feelings and relationships. A house is not a home if there is no love and affection among the members living in it. Human relations are based on love. The author had to face many adverse circumstances in his life. His father died and his mother was single parent. He loves his mother, teachers and his friends so much. But after changing school he was unable to adjust in the new environment. Few days after changing the school his house got burnt down and he lost all his belongings including his cat. The author lost all his hopes in life. He felt isolated and dejected. After few weeks his new house started to be built and there he was sitting with his new friends watching his new

house building. The author then realised that after the tragedy he had earned many good and genuine friends. He understood that the loss was only of materialistic things which could be recovered but the love and affection he received in return was much more important. Although he had no emotions for his new house which is merely a building but his reunion with his cat, his new friends made his house a home again.

### CHAPTER-9 THE ACCIDENTAL TOURIST

1. (i) The speaker explained the relationship between Bill and William to the member of airlines telling her the similarity between the names, and that both were one person.

(ii) She would not have it because the card and the air ticket had different names on them. The air ticket had the name Bill whereas the card was issued in the name of William.

2. Bill Bryson did not get his frequent flyer miles because either he forgets to ask for the air miles at check in or the manager does not record them or he is told that he is not entitled to any points. He travelled to Australia in January and could have earned a lot of points for it but the clerk refused to give him the points.

3. The author, Bill Bryson avoided to eat or drink anything. He would not lean over to tie his shoelaces and never put a pen near his mouth when he travelled alone. He would sit very quietly, sometimes on his hands to keep them from flying mischievously.

4. Bill Bryson was confused person. He had a habit of forgetting things. While staying at a hotel, he used to forget his room number. Then he would repeatedly go to the hotel desk to ask what his room number was.

5. Bill Bryson was an accidental tourist. He was such a tourist who remained almost all the year round on an aeroplane. But whenever he travels he always had catastrophes. Sometimes he ends up spilling drinks over his co-passenger or the other time lets lids or food pieces fly while having meals. He cannot find out the lavatory in a cinema and goes to look for it many times and ends up standing in an alley on the wrong side of a self locking door. He often forgets his room number while staying at a hotel and frequently goes to the hotel desk to ask what his room number is. Bill cannot even unzip his travel bag properly, put his flyer card at an easily reachable place and use his pen without covering his mouth in ink or tie his shoelaces properly. His efforts and desire to be perfect always fails. He wants to eat properly, get into the car nicely, and carry off a light coloured trousers without messing it up. He

travels atleast 100,000 miles every year but never manages to get flyer mile card because of his forgetfulness. When travels alone, he avoids to eat or drink anything. While travelling with this family, his wife and children do his little tasks to avoid accidents. Therefore, it can be said that Bill is an accidental tourist.

### CHAPTER-10 THE BEGGAR

1. (i) He is Lushkoff, the beggar. The real reason was that he was proud man and felt ashamed at having been trapped by his own words. Thus, he agreed to work.

(ii) Lushkoff was a beggar that is why he had nothing to eat so begging food. He was in need of work as he had become a beggar by circumstance and thus wanted to do some work.

2. Sergei looked at the beggar. It seemed that his face was familiar to him. It appeared to him that he had seen the beggar somewhere else also. He tried to recollect where he had seen him. Suddenly, his eyes fell on the beggar's shoes. He notices that his one shoe was high and the other was low. Now it struck to him that he had seen the beggar in the Sadovya Street. Therefore, it's beggar's shoes that helped Sergei recognise him.

3. Lushkoff was not good at chopping woods. He pulled a piece of wood towards him, put it between his legs and hit the wood feebly with the axe. The piece of wood became unsteady and fell down. He again pulled it and struck it. The piece of wood again fell down. He kept repeating that till Olga, Sergei's cook, came and took the axe and she chopped all the wood for him. This shows that Lushkoff was not at all good at chopping wood.

4. Lushkoff confessed to Sergei that he did not chop even a single stick of wood. All the work was done by Olga, his noble and kind cook, who tried to help him and underwent misery and shed tears for his sake. It is because of her that he mend his ways and became a hardworking man later on.

5. When Lushkoff was a beggar he used to tell lies to earn his living. He did so to get sympathy and money from people. He had a disgusting appearance. He used to wear a ragged fawn-coloured overcoat and his eyes were dull and drunken. Each of his cheeks had a spot. One of his shoe was higher whereas the other one was lower. People used to hate him because of his dishonest and swindling nature. He was very weak both emotionally and physically because of drinking too much alcohol. He did not have any self-respect and dignity and quietly took all the jeering and sarcasm from other. He

did not want to do any kind of work and was just ruining his life in begging. Whereas when Sergei met Lushkoff two years later, he noticed great changes in him. Lushkoff had become a notary now, he no more begs money from people. He looked like a gentleman, wearing a coat collar of curly fur and a worn sealskin cap. He was paid thirty-five roubles a month for his

dignified job. He has become responsible and respectable person now, not the alcoholic who had stopped to telling lies and begging alms for his survival. People loved him now and give him respect. He now possess both a reformed soul and an improved life.

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