

1. Answer any two of the following questions each in about 100 words:

6X2=12

(i) “Yes, October is the best time.” - Who said this and to whom? When and why did the speaker say this? 2+4

(ii) How, according to the author, can one achieve freedom, happiness and peace of mind?

6

(iii) Why did the boy in ‘Thank You Ma’am’ not run away though he found the door open?

6

(iv) “You have already been answered.” - Who said this and to whom? How has the Tsar been already answered? 2+4

Ans:

(i) “Yes, October is the best time.” – Who said this and to whom? When and why did the speaker say this?

Ans. The narrator of the story said this. He said this to the girl, his only co passenger. In course of conversation the girl came to know that he was going to Mussoorie. The girl expressed her strong desire to visit Mussoorie and told that she loved the hills there especially in October. That was the occasion for the narrator’s remark.

Recalling the memories, the narrator said that the hills of Mussoorie were covered with wild dahlias in October and the sunlight was very pleasant. At night one could sit in front of the log fire and drink a little brandy. There was no crowd of the tourists. The roads were calm and quiet. That was the best time to go there.

(ii) How, according to the author, can one achieve freedom, happiness and peace of mind?

Ans. Man feels a sense of attachment to the members of his family, to the society, to his country, to the world and last of all to the whole universe. He is bound to all of them – both physically and emotionally. The human soul feels not only an attraction towards his kindred, but also to everything beyond. So, man can never achieve freedom, happiness and peace of mind until and unless he can snap all ties with his near and dear ones. He can achieve freedom, happiness and peace of mind from the bondage of every kind only if he can detach himself from physical and emotional bond.

(iii) Why did the boy in ‘Thank You Ma’am’ not run away though he found the door open?

Ans. While trying to snatch the purse of Mrs Jones, Roger slipped and was caught by her. Instead of handing him over to the police Mrs Jones treated Roger with motherly affection. She noticed that the face of the boy was dirty. He had been deprived of parental care. She then decided to take him to her house, wash him and feed him. She said that he would have asked her

some money to get shoes. On hearing such words Roger was perplexed. Her motherly affection and treatment made him realize that instead of doing any harm to him or getting him arrested somehow, Mrs Jones would do beneficial to him. Roger got many chances to escape. But he preferred to honour her trust. From this realization Roger did not want to make a dash for the open door.

(iv) “You have already been answered.” – Who said this and to whom? How has the Tsar been already answered?

Ans. The hermit said this to the Tsar.

The Tsar came to the hermit to get satisfactory answers to his questions. The hermit did not give him answers to his questions directly. He answered to his questions through the experience of the Tsar himself that day. In reply to his first question, he said that at the time of digging the seed –beds were very important to him. He explained to him that he would have attacked by his enemy had he not been engaged in digging at that time. In reply to his second question the hermit said that doing good to the hermit was his most important business. The most important time was when he was attending the wounded man. That time was important for him because that time peace between him and his enemy was restored. What he did for him was the most important business. He said all these to explain that the present is the most important time to anyone. The person with whom we deal with is the most important. To do good to a man is the most important thing because for that purpose alone man was sent into this life.

2. Complete each of the following sentences, choosing the correct option from the alternatives provided:

1 X 4=4

- (i) The voice of the girl’s aunt was –
(a) sweet (b) low
(c) harsh (d) high pitched.
- (ii) For the people in distress Kalam’s father was –
(a) greater than god (b) a mere mediator
(c) a solver of problems (d) indifferent.
- (iii) The price of the cake bought by the lady was –
(a) one cent (b) one dollar
(c) ten cents (d) fifty cents.
- (iv) After the man revived he asked for –
(a) food (b) wine
(c) drink (d) forgiveness.

Ans:

2. (i) The voice of the girl's aunt was — (d) high pitched.
- (ii) For the people in distress Kalam's father was — (b) a mere mediator
- (iii) The price of the cake bought by the lady was — (c) ten cents
- (iv) After the man revived he asked for — (c) drink