

1. What are the disadvantage of slow thinkers in the modern world?
[2016C, 2022AII]

Ans. : According to R. C. Hutchinson, slow thinkers have to suffer in the modern world. They can not adjust their mental activities to the rapid pace of modern life. So, they are terribly handicapped in getting a living. They are left behind in the race for good jobs.

2. In which situation does the writer find himself in the cinema?
[2015AI, 2017AII]

Ans. : When the writer goes to the cinema, he finds himself in a hopeless situation. He cannot follow the fast movement of the story and rapid changes of scene and action. He has to seek his wife's help in order to keep up with the rapid movement of the plot.

1. What did the narrator do with the wounded squirrel?

[2015AI,2017AII]

Ans. : When the narrator saw the wounded squirrel. She lifted him up and brought him to her room. After wiping the blood from his wounds with cotton wool, she applied pencillin ointment on his wounds. Thereafter she also tried to feed him milk and water with a thin cotton wool wick.

2. How did the narrator nurse the tiny baby squirrel?

[2015AII,2023AI]

Ans. : When the narrator saw the wounded squirrel? She lifted him up and brought him to her room. After wiping the blood from his wounds with cotton wool, she applied penicillin ointment on his wounds. Thereafter she also tried to feed his milk and water with a thin cotton wool wick.

3. What was Gillu's favourite food? How would Gillu inform the narrator that he was hungry?

[2024AI,2019AI,2011A,2015AII,2017AII]

Ans. : Gillu's favourite food was Kaju. Not getting Kaju for several days, he would refuse to eat other food items and threw them down from the swing. Sometimes he used to eat some biscuits also.

When Gillu was hungry, he would inform the writer by twittering 'chik-chik'. Then the writer would give some Kaju or biscuits.

6. What is the most dominant influence on Indian films?

[2012S, 2014AI, 2015AI, 2016C, 2021AI]

Ans. : American cinema has been a dominant influence on Indian films. Stories based on Hollywood films are often copied by our writers. Even where the story is Indian, the background music is western.

1. What is the old woman's position in the neighborhood?

[2015AI, 2024AII]

Ans. : The old woman is the daughter of a black American. She is highly respected in the neighbourhood. She is regarded as a rural prophet among her people. She is law. Nobody questions her wisdom and predictions. Though she was blind, she was wise. Her reputation for wisdom is unique.

2. Why are the young visitor reprimanded in 'Once Upon A Time'?

Or, Why are the young visitors in 'Once upon a Time' reprimanded?

[2024AI, 2020AI]

Ans. : The young visitor are reprimanded for showing off their power to see things and making fun of the old woman's blindness.

5. Enumerate the traits of the old woman. [2014C, 2017AII, 2018C]

Ans. : The old woman was blind but very wise. At the same time, she was very patient. She was the daughter of a black American. She lived alone in a small house outside the town. She was famous for her wisdom. Among her people, she was highly respected as a rural prophet. When she was visited by some young people, she showed her wisdom. She was bold and witty.

6. Why did some young people visit her?

[2016AII, 2017C]

Ans. : Some young people visited her to test her intelligence. They wanted to prove that she was a fraud who cheated people.

2. Why does the writer call the two little girls “Dear little souls”?

[2011A, 2014AI, 2015C, 2017C, 2019C, 2023AII]

Ans. : The writer calls the two little girls “dear little souls” for their simplicity of her. They no doubt picked up the quarrel. But they did not show any malice towards each other. They very soon forgot their quarrel and got engaged in the play. They once again laughed together forgetting all their differences.

1. When does a Polythene Bag make a noise? [2013C, 2016AII, 2020AII]

Ans. : A polythene bag makes a squeaky noise when it touched. It is like moaning sounds made by a person when it is burnt.

2. What does it do where it is burnt?

Ans. : When it is burnt, it exudes a sharp and strong smell.

3. When hurt melts down like polythene bag ?

Ans. : Hurt melts down when somebody shows warm feelings.

4. How do the germs of diseases grow ?

[2011A]

Ans. : The germs of disease grow when we do not care the dirty garbage in the bin.

1. Why does Radha's friends go/run to Lord Krishna?

[2011A, 2015AII, 2024AII]

Ans. : Radha's friends run to Lord Krishna to tell 'him that the pangs of separation from him made Radha very sad and weak. She tries to convince him that he must go back to Radha.

2. What is the state of Radha's mind ? *[2014AI, 2017C, 2010C, 2023AI]*

Ans. : Her mind is so confused that when she is asked a question, she does not understand it and gives a wrong answer.

3. Why are Radha's friends worried in 'Thinner than a Crescent'?

[2016AI, 2020AI]

Ans. : Her mind is so confused that when she is asked a question, she does not understand it and gives a wrong answer.

4. What does Radha's friend tell Lord Krishna?

[2020AII]

Ans. : Radha's friends run to Lord Krishna to tell him that the pangs of separation from him made Radha very sad and weak. She tries to convince him that he must go back to Radha.

5. What does Radha's friend believe in ?

[2021AI,2022AII]

Ans. : Radha's friends find her hurt and confused but they still believe that joy may come again. At times they banish hope and stop pleading.

6. What was the condition of Radha ?

Or, Describe Radha's condition, as reported by her friends.

[2014AI,2017C,2019C]

Ans. The condition of Radha, as reported by her friend, was quite miserable one. As her heart was deeply hurt and confused. She has been crying

1. Why was the wish-yielding tree called unkind?

Or, Why is the tree called unkind? [2024AII, 2017AI, 2018AI, 2021AI]

Ans. : The tree was called unkind because it gave the rich man eighth pot which was half-full. He lost his life in trying to fill it with gold coins.

2. How did the rich man work ?

[2023AII]

Ans. : The rich man work hard and used dishonest tricks. He worked from early morning to mid night.

3. What does 'Silver pitcher' symbolise in the poem? [2015AII, 2016AI]

Ans. : The 'Silver pitcher' in the poem symbolises wealth which should have been more than enough to fill the man's heart with happiness and contentment.

1. Who is challenging the mountains? [2023C,2015C,2020AII]

Ans. : The Porter is challenging the mountain.

2. Who is the proud conqueror of nature?

[2022AI,2023AII,2021AII]

Ans. : The Porter is the proud conqueror of nature. He can climb the mountain in the snow of winter with a heavy load on his back.

1. How do they sit to listen Martha's story? [2024AI, 2013C]

Or, How do the children sit to listen to Martha's story?

Ans. : They sit their elbows lolled and listen the story with staring look.

2. How did Martha tell her stories? [2023AI]

Ans. : Martha started telling her stories with these words "Once..... once upon a time.....". When Martha narrated her stories she would sit with slim hands clasped round her bent knees.

3. How did the children feel when Martha's story progressed?

[2023AIII]

Ans. : When Martha told her stories, the children were so much enchanted by her eyes and voice that they forgot the real world. They were lost in the world of Martha's stories. The children forgot their own surroundings and they were transported to an age long gone by.

3. Why did Halku need a blanket?

[2011S, 2015AI, 2018AII]

Ans. : Halku slept in the fields at night to look after the crops. He needed a blanket protect himself from the cold.

4. What did Halku do to save himself from shivering cold in 'January Night'?

[2019AII]

Ans. : Halku was unable to bear the biting cold in the field at night. So, he went to the nearby orchard and gathered dry leaves. He warmed himself by burning leaves.

5. Why did Munni suggest Halku to give up tenant farming in 'January Night'?

[2011A, 2015AI, 2016C, 2016AI]

Ans. : Munni advised her husband to give up tenant farming because whatever he earned was paid to the landlord. She told him that he would get enough food if he worked as a hired labourer.

6. How were Halku's crop destroyed?

[2012A, 2015AII, 2017C]

Ans. : When Halku was warming himself in the orchard by burning leaves, some wild animals got into his field to eat the crops. His pet dog, Jabra could not drive them away, so, his crops were destroyed.

11. Elaborate the role of Jabra in the story 'January Night.'

[2014AII, 2015C, 2015AII, 2016AII, 2017AI]

Or, Do animals have the ability to understand human feelings?

Explain keeping in view the role of Jabra.

Ans. : Jabra was Halku's pet dog. He always obeyed him and understood his feelings. In the night, even during winters, when Halku went to the fields, Jabra would accompany him. Jabra helped his master in protecting the crops from wild animals. When animals broke into Halku's field, Jabra tried his best to chase them away and awaken Halku. Halku talked to Jabra as if he were a human being and his friend. Jabra's character shows that animals have the ability to understand human feelings.

1. Suggest a few possible ways to avoid allergy?

[2011A, 2014AI, 2015C, 2024AI]

Ans. : A few possible ways to avoid allergy are:

- (i) Wear a pollen mask when moving the grass or house cleaning.
 - (ii) Stay indoors in the morning (when the pollen count is at its highest) and on windy days.
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1. Why did the banker weep after he read the notes of the lawyer?

[2013A, 2015AI, 2024AII]

Ans. : To avoid rumours, he took the lawyer's note from the table and locked it in his safe. When the banker read the note he felt great contempt for himself and wept a lot. He was hounded by sense of guilt because he thought that he was responsible for the lawyer's misery.

2. What did the lawyer say about capital punishment? [2023AII]

Ans. : The young lawyer argued that both capital punishment and life imprisonment were equally immoral. However, he said so because he thought that it was better to live some how than to not live at all.

3. Why was the banker afraid of the lawyer? [2012S, 2016AII]

Ans. : The banker was afraid of the lawyer because the lawyer had completed the terms of the agreement very honestly and the banker had no other option but to honour the bet.

4. What was the banker's view on capital punishment and life imprisonment?

[2012A]

Ans. : One evening a party was given by a banker. There were some scholars and journalists among the guests. They were discussing what was better-capital punishment or life imprisonment. The banker thought that the capital punishment was more moral than human life imprisonment.

5. What were the terms and conditions of the bet? Do you think them proper?

[2011S, 2013C, 2014AII, 2017AII]

Ans. : The terms and conditions of the bet were decided by the lawyer and banker. It was agreed that the lawyer would remain in a cell in the bankers house for fifteen years. He would neither be allowed to step out of the place, see or hear people, nor receive letters or newspapers. He would

1. How did the author feel about Mr. Gessler as a shoemaker?
[2019AI,2024AI]

Or, What was the author's opinion about Mr. Gessler as a shoe maker?

Ans. : The author thought making boots was strange, interesting, pleasant but also difficult. For Mr. Gessler it was not difficult. He thought it was an art.

2. What were the two special qualities of Mr. Gessler's shoes?
[2012A,2017AI,2022AI]

Ans. : The two special qualities of Mr. Gessler's shoes were they lasted very long and fitted perfectly.

3. What was Mr. Gessler's complaint against big firms? [2023AII]

Ans. : Gessler's complaint against big firms was that they got their business through their advertisement. He made perfect boots but he was unsuccessful in his business.

The author knew him from the days of his youth because he used to make his father's boots.

4. Who was Mr. Gessler? How did the author know him?

[2013A,2013C,2014AI,2016AII,2017AII,2018AI]

Ans. : Mr. Gessler was a German shoemaker settled in London. His shop was situated in a small by street in the West End. He was a highly skilled shoemaker.

The author knew him from the days of his youth because he used to make his father's boots.

5. Mr. Gessler was not successful in his trade, why?

[2011A,2013C,2014AI,2015AI,2015C,2016AII,2016C]

Ans. : Mr. Gessler was a German shoemaker who had settled in London. He was not successful in his business because he did not know the tricks of modern business. His shop was not attractive. He made perfect boots but he took a long time to make them. He made what was ordered. He worked on his boots slowly by himself. The boots made by him were of high quality but he did not advertise them. So, he had very few customers. He was left with little work and his business suffered. This led to gradual deterioration of Gessler's business.

6. Has the goodness of someone ever made you feel very mean ?

Explain.

[2011A,2013C,2015AII,2016C]

Ans. : I dislike my neighbour because I thought that he was proud and selfish. One day I fell ill. There was no body to look after me. But my neighbour came to my house. He took me to the hospital and looked after me. His goodness made me feel that I was very mean.

19. Translate into English :

[BM]

- (i) इस फल को मत खाओ।
- (ii) बाजार शाम में जाओ।
- (iii) रोज अखबार पढ़ो।
- (iv) रोज कुछ नए अंग्रेजी के शब्द सीखो।

Ans.

- (i) Don't eat this fruit.
 - (ii) Go to the market in the evening.
 - (iii) Read newspaper daily.
 - (iv) Learn some new English words daily.
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C PARAGRAPH

1. LIBRARY/IMPORTANCE OF LIBRARY

[2020AII, 2024AII]

Long ago, a Greek philosopher said, "Knowledge is power." A library is a treasure house of knowledge. It preserves the wisdom of past generations and provides a peaceful place for study. Here, we find books on various subjects. Since human beings always seek knowledge, the library helps fulfil this desire. It develops good reading habits in students and supports their intellectual and cultural growth. A good library increases the curiosity of students and motivates them to learn more.

The school library is different from public and private libraries. A private library usually contains books of personal interest, while a public library has books on all subjects and is open to all. Therefore, wealthy individuals in the community should donate generously to library funds to ensure continued access to knowledge for everyone.

2. ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD

[2021AII, 2024AII]

We often judge people and things by their appearance, which can lead to disappointment. Outward appearances can be misleading, and what looks attractive may not always be valuable. This applies to both people and objects.

Some individuals carry themselves with an air of superiority and are seen as great scholars. But when tested, their true knowledge and abilities may not match the impression they give. Therefore, it is important not to judge by looks alone. We should examine things carefully and understand their true value.

25. HEALTH IS WEALTH

[2015C, 2015AII, 2021AI, 2022AI]

“Health is wealth” is an old and wise saying. A healthy person has the strength and ability to earn wealth and enjoy life. On the other hand, a wealthy man without good health cannot enjoy his riches. For example, if a man suffers from cold, tuberculosis, or other illnesses, he cannot work or live happily. Good health depends on clean living, pure drinking water, fresh air, healthy food, proper rest, and regular exercise. A person who takes care of these and lives with limited desires can lead a healthy and happy life.

43. IMPORTANCE OF FESTIVALS/ INDIAN FESTIVALS

[2019AII, 2024AII]

Festivals play an important role in making our lives joyful and colourful. They bring families, friends, and communities together, spreading love, happiness, and harmony. Festivals help us forget differences and strengthen social bonds. During celebrations, people exchange gifts, sweets, and good wishes, creating a warm atmosphere. Festivals teach important values such as kindness, generosity, and respect for others. They help preserve our culture and traditions by reminding us of our roots. Thus, festivals not only bring happiness but also promote unity, peace, and understanding among people, making our lives richer and more meaningful.

52. THE ROLE OF NEWSPAPER

[2018C,2019AI]

Newspapers provide news and information from every part of the world. They have different sections such as international, national, and local news. Newspapers also include articles on politics, society, business, fashion, cartoons, and public opinions. People who are looking for jobs find useful information in the employment section. Newspapers help shape public opinion and influence how people think. They are often called the mirror of society.

53. YOUR FAVOURITE GAME

[2015C,2015AII,2022AI]

My favourite game is cricket. I love playing it with my friends, and we play it daily in the school ground. Cricket is becoming more and more popular. India has won the World Cup twice, which makes it even more exciting for us. The game is played between two teams, each with eleven players. Nowadays, even shorter matches like T20 are played. Playing cricket is not only fun but also a good form of exercise.

47. A PICNIC PARTY

[2016C, 2018AI]

A picnic is a fun and refreshing experience. It is not only about music and fun, but also about enjoying food and nature. Once, we planned a picnic on the bank of a river. We were seven friends. We made tea and brought some biscuits. We also cooked khichdi and other dishes. We enjoyed the food and the peaceful surroundings. We were so happy that we forgot everything else for a while. Picnics bring joy and a welcome change from daily routine.

48. THE TEACHER I LIKE MOST

[2016AI, 2018AII]

The teacher I like most is Mr. Raghbir Singh. He is an elderly but smart teacher. He teaches us English. He explains everything in a simple and clear way. He also teaches us many new words. His main aim is to make learning interesting and fun. Among all the teachers in my school, I like him the most.

49. A JOURNEY BY BUS

[2014AII, 2018AII]

Once I travelled to Bokaro by bus with my mother. Initially, the journey was smooth and enjoyable. Suddenly, near Patna, there was a loud sound as the bus tyre burst, forcing us to stop. Everyone had to step down, and it took over an hour to replace the tyre. The bus resumed its journey slowly, but soon we faced another delay due to a roadblock. The bus became crowded, and many passengers had to stand. It was tiring and uncomfortable. After a long and exhausting trip, we finally reached Bokaro, relieved yet tired from the challenging journey.

105. POLLUTION

[2015AII, 2018AII, 2022AII]

With the growth of population and industries, pollution is increasing day by day. Today, air, water and soil are all getting polluted. River water is becoming unsafe for drinking. The air is filled with smoke and dust, making it harmful to breathe. Pollution affects our health badly. It can cause serious diseases. We must all work together to stop pollution by planting trees, using clean energy and keeping our surroundings clean.

6. You are Vinay/Sunita, the Secretary of the Drama Dance Society of your school. Write a notice to invite the students to watch a play in Hindi. Mention the title of the play, its writer, the venue and the time. [2012A, 2014AI, 2022AI]

Ans. :

R.K.R.D. HIGH SCHOOL GANGEYA, MUZ.

NOTICE

15 May, 2025

Watch a play in Hindi

Bhartendu Harishchandra's famous play 'Satya Harishchandra' will be performed at 9 AM on 30 May, 2025 at the school auditorium. Our Hindi teacher Satya Narayan Mandal, will do all the arrangements. All the interested students have to be in the auditorium by 8 : 30 AM on 30 May. For more details contact the undersigned.

Vinay Kumar

Secretary

Drama Dance Society

5. You have come from an Educational Tour recently. Write a report in about 60-70 words about the same. [2019AI]

Or, You have recently visited Rajgir. Write a report in about 60-70 words. [2020AI, 2022AI]

Ans. :

From,

Punit Kumar

Class X

M.L. Academy, Laheriasarai, Darbhanga

To

Cultural Secretary

M.L. Academy, Laheriasarai, Darbhanga

5 June, 2025

13. Write an application to your headmaster to grant you full free-studentship.

[2012A,2017AI]

Ans. :

To

The Principal

Watson High School, Madhubani

Through : The Class Teacher,

Sub : Grant Full Free-Studentship

Sir,

I beg to state that I am a very poor student in your school. My father is a poor farmer. He has to maintain a big family. We are four brothers. It is just beyond my father's income to spend anything on my education.

My results have been very satisfactory. I need your kind help to continue my study.

I, therefore, request you to grant me full free studentship. Only then I may be able to continue my studies.

For this act of your kindness, I shall ever be grateful.

Yours obediently,

Sumit Kumar

Class-XB

Roll No.16

11 May, 2025

6. You are Karun. Write a speech in about 60-70 words to be delivered on 'Teacher's Day'. [2021AII, 2022AII]

Ans. : Respected Principal, teachers and my dear friends.

I am Karun of Class- X and today I am going to speak on 'Teachers Day'. Teachers Day is a special day for the appreciation of teachers. The date on which this day is celebrated varies across countries. World Teacher's Day is celebrated on 5 October. However, different countries celebrate this event on days which are different from World Teacher's Day.

The idea of celebrating 'Teachers Day' took origin in many countries during the 20th century. In most cases, they honour a local teacher or a significant landmark in education.

In India, 'Teachers Day' is celebrated on the birthday of Dr. Sarvapalli Radha Krishnan, former president of India, on 5 September since 1962.

Thank you.

Zila School, Muzaffarpur

15. You are Prabhat/Prema of Class X. Write a message to your mother to inform her that you are going to see Rajan/Renu, your friend, who has fallen ill. (about 30-40 words)

[2014AII, 2017AII, 2018AII]

Ans. :

Message

**20 May, 2025
4.30 p.m.**

Mother,

Rajan has fallen ill today. He has high fever with loose motion. I am going to see him at his house. Inform father about my visit. I will be back by 7.30 p.m.

**Prabhat
Class X**