

BAL BHARATI PUBLIC SCHOOL

Ganga Ram Hospital Marg, New Delhi-60

CLASS –XII  
ASSIGNMENT- 7(SEPTEMBER 2012)

SUBJECT –ENGLISH CORE  
TOPIC – REVISION

SECTION A – READING

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:
  1. You may have read about Romulus and Remus whose culture shock came when they went back to the world of human beings after being raised by a wolf. Tarzan's culture shock came when he discovered he was not a 'white ape' but a human being. Emily Carr preferred the culture of the First Nations people and the life she led on her explorations to the dresses and the polite conversations of her own culture. You now know that the First Nations culture did not include school or even business activity; people spent most of their time in nature or around the fire of their home talking, telling stories and making the things they needed to survive. You now know that the First Nations culture did not include school or even business activity; people spent most of their time in nature or around the fire of their home talking, telling stories and making the things they needed to survive.
  2. Psychologists tell us that there are four basic stages that human beings pass through when they enter and live in a new culture. This process, which helps them to deal with culture shock, is the way our brain and our personality reacts to the strange new things we encounter when we move from one culture to another. If our culture involves bowing when we greet someone, we may feel very uncomfortable in a culture that does not involve bowing. If levels of formality based on other person's age and status influence the language we use when talking to someone in our own culture, it may be difficult for us to feel comfortable communicating with people in the new culture.
  3. Culture begins with the 'honeymoon stage'. This is the period of time when we first arrive and everything about the new culture is strange and exciting. We may be suffering from 'jet lag' but we are thrilled to be in the new environment, seeing new sights, hearing new sounds and language, eating new kinds of food. This honeymoon stage can last for quite a long time because we feel we are involved in some kind of great adventure.
  4. Unfortunately, the second stage of culture shock can be more difficult. After we have settled down into our new life, working or studying, buying groceries, doing laundry, or living with a home-stay family, we can become very tired and begin to miss our homeland and our family, girlfriend/boyfriend, pets. All the little problems that everybody in life has seem to be much bigger and more disturbing when you face them in a foreign culture. This period of cultural adjustment can be very difficult and lead to the new arrival rejecting or pulling away from the new culture. This 'rejection stage' can be quite dangerous because the visitor may develop unhealthy habits (smoking and drinking too much, being too concerned over food or contact with people from the new culture). This can, unfortunately, lead to the person getting sick or developing skin infections or rashes which then makes the person feel even more scared and confused and helpless. This stage is considered a crisis in the process of cultural adjustment and many people choose to go back to their homeland or spend all their time with people from their own culture speaking their native language.

5. The third stage of culture shock is called the 'adjustment stage'. This is when you begin to realise things are not so bad in the host culture. Your sense of humour usually becomes stronger and you realise you are becoming stronger by learning to take care of yourself in the new place. Things are still difficult. But you are now a survivor!
6. The fourth stage can be called 'at ease at last'. Now you feel quite comfortable in your new surroundings. You can cope with most of your problems that occur. You may still have problems with the language, but you know you are strong enough to deal with them. If you meet someone from your country who has just arrived, you can be the expert on life in the new culture and help them to deal with the culture shock.
7. There is a fifth stage of culture shock that many people do not know about. This is called 'reverse culture shock'. Surprisingly, this occurs when you go back to your native culture and find that you have changed and that things there have changed while you were away. Now you feel a little comfortable back home. Life is a struggle!

(a) Based on your understanding of the passage answer the following questions:

- (i) What is special about the culture of the 'First Nations'?
- (ii) Which process helps us to deal with culture shock?
- (iii) Name the main stages of culture shock.
- (iv) How do you feel during the first stage of culture shock?
- (v) Why is the second stage more difficult?
- (vi) When can one call oneself a survivor?

(b) Find words from the passage and answer the questions that follow:

- (i) position (para 2)
- (ii) emergency (para 4)
- (iii) victuals (para 4)

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

Before we can develop a really effective programme to prevent auto accidents, we will have to learn far more about why such accidents happen. The National Safety Council, while pointing out that most accidents result from a combination of causes, and that few accidents are investigated carefully enough to determine exactly what their underlying causes were, estimates that in about 80% of accidents, the most important single factor is the driver himself. Bad weather, poor road conditions and defects in cars do cause some accidents, but, generally speaking, such circumstances appear to be of minor significance compared with the mental and physical condition of the driver. And recent research indicates that the driver's physical condition is of less importance than his personality and his emotional state. Many, if not most, accidents, this research suggests, are the result of wayward impulses and motivations of faulty judgements and attitudes, of poorly controlled aggressiveness and competitiveness. Nearly two – thirds of the drivers involved in accidents were speeding, driving while under the influence of alcohol, disregarding stoplights or signs, or otherwise violating the law, according to the Safety Council. The pertinent question is why people drive so fast, drive after drinking, take risks in passing, or, in general, commit dangerous, careless, illegal, impulsive, or unfriendly acts when they get behind the wheel.

A small beginning has been made toward finding answers to this question. Several studies comprehensively described by Dr Ross McFarland and his associates at Harvard School of Public Health have probed the personality and emotional characteristics of so – called accident-prone drivers and discovered such traits as emotional instability, impulsiveness, suggestibility, excitability, lack of proper sense of social responsibility, aggressiveness, and intolerance of authority. Although fault may be found with the quality of this research in terms of control and other safeguards, it may prove provocative enough to lead to sounder efforts. “A man drives as he lives,” say Drs Tillman and Hobbs in an article in the American Journal of Psychiatry. “If his personal life is marked by caution, tolerance, foresight, consideration for others, then he will drive in the same way. If his personal life is devoid of these desirable characteristics, then his driving will be characterised by aggressiveness and over a long period of time, he will have a higher accident rate than his more stable companions”. The trouble with the first part of this statement is that no human being is, at all times, cautious, tolerant, foresighted, and considerate of others. Even though we may be exemplary persons most of the time, there are certain moments, or longer periods in the life of all of us, when we become temporarily impulsive, aggressive, or otherwise emotionally off balance. If we happen to be driving during one of these episodes, and if external circumstances favour an accident, then an accident is likely to occur.

1. On the basis of your reading of the passage make notes on it using headlines, subheadings and commonly recognised abbreviations. Also, supply a suitable title to the passage.
2. Based on your notes, write a summary of the passage in 80 words only.

### SECTION B: WRITING

3. You are Harita Gupta, Secretary, Residents' Welfare Association, Greater Kailash, New Delhi. Draft a notice for your colony announcing Holi celebrations being organised at community level by the Residents' Welfare Association.
4. You are Anita/Rajan. Your school, Sahyog Vidyalaya, recently organised a cleanliness drive in the neighbourhood with the purpose of creating awareness among the residents on matters of health and hygiene. Write a report for publication in your school journal.
5. You are Raveena/Praveen, a resident of B1-46, Safdarjang Enclave, New Delhi. You are planning a holiday to Jaipur with your family. Write a letter to the Manager, RTDC, New Delhi, enquiring about the charges, facilities and sightseeing arrangements offered by them. Do not forget to specify your requirement.
6. You are Samrat/Samta. Incidents of crime against women continue unabated and a majority of them are still as insecure as ever, even in big cities. Write an article in about 150-200 words on the need to empower the women of modern India.

### SECTION C: LITERATURE

7. (a) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

*'... I looked again at her, wan, pale  
as a late winter's moon and felt that old familiar ache...'*

- (a) What is the fear and has the poet felt it before? How do you know?
- (ii) Explain the simile used in the above lines.
- (iii) Why and how does the poet distract herself from her mother on the way to the airport?

OR

*Perhaps the Earth can teach us  
As when everything seems dead  
And later proves alive.*

*Now I'll count up to twelve*

*And you keep quiet and I will go.*

- (i) What lesson can man learn from Earth?
- (ii) Explain the change from 'I' to 'we' at the end of the poem.
- (iii) Why does the author propose counting up to twelve?

7.(b) Answer any three of the following questions in 30 – 40 words only.

- (i) Why is 'Shakespeare wicked and the map a bad example'?
- (ii) Why does the poet say it would be an exotic moment when all keep still?
- (iii) According to Keats, how does the darkness and despair of life wither away?
- (iv) What is the childish longing of the owner of the roadside stand?

8. Answer the following questions in 30- 40 words:

- (a) What did Franz mean by 'Will they make them sing in German, even the pigeons'?
- (b) Why are the people in Bangalore making business unable to form a cooperative?
- (c) What were the political opinions of the people at Gemini Studio?
- (d) Why did Gandhiji agree to the 25% compensation to the farmers?
- (e) What doubts did Edla have about the peddler?

9. Answer the following question in 125 – 150 words:

What are the opinions of some of the celebrities on interviews?

10. Answer the following question in 125 – 150 words: Discuss the story The Tiger King as an indirect comment of the author on man's cruelty towards nature and its innocent creatures.

11. Answer the following question in 30 – 40 words:

- (a) In what way was the manner of Jung Jung Bahadur's death a matter of extraordinary interest?
- (b) What was the author's first impression on reaching Antarctica?
- (c) Why did Charley have to put off his plans to Galesburg?
- (d) What considerations made Sadao nurse the wounded American?