

1. Read the following extract carefully:**(5 marks)**

Once Akbar decided to hold a grand feast. He personally invited his courtiers and many others. It was a feast to be remembered and talked about. Attending a grand feast was worth walking even a hundred miles. Obviously, everybody flocked to the place.

It was indeed a feast fit for gods. All kinds of dishes and food delicacies were served. All the courtiers vied with one another to catch the emperor's eye. As usual Akbar's eye was on his favourite Birbal.

He made Birbal sit next to him. He enjoyed the meal thoroughly as Birbal entertained him with his witty stories throughout the meal.

After the meal, different fruits were served. Akbar and Birbal sat conversing together over a bowl of dates. While talking they kept throwing the date seeds under their chairs.

Noticing the pile of dates under Birbal's chair Akbar got an idea and thought of having fun at Birbal's expense. He slowly pushed his heap of seeds into that of Birbal's with his foot. Birbal did not notice Akbar doing that.

Suddenly pretending to be surprised Akbar spoke loudly, "Birbal! I did not know you were so greedy. Is it wise to eat so many dates?"

There was a hush. Everybody stopped talking and turned to look at Birbal. Birbal peeped under his chair and saw a huge heap of date seeds while there was nothing under the king's chair. He understood it to be Akbar's pranks. Akbar was waiting to see as to how Birbal would tackle the embarrassing situation.

Unnerved, Birbal turned towards Akbar and answered loud enough for everyone to hear. Your Majesty, I admit I am a greedy man. But I have eaten only the fruit having thrown away the seeds while you have eaten the seeds along with fruits.

Now, it was Akbar's turn to get embarrassed. As usual, Birbal had the last laugh.

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Now answer the following questions by choosing the correct options given below:

1. Akbar invited his courtiers and many others to attend

(a) his son's wedding ceremony (c) a grand feast organised by him	(b) the concert organised on the eve of Eid (d) his birthday party.
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2. The courtiers' only desire was to

(a) catch the emperor's eye (c) sit next to the emperor	(b) talk with the emperor (d) taste all the dishes.
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3. Akbar saw under Birbal's chair

(a) a white cat (c) a pile of date seeds	(b) a pile of dates (d) a pile of different fruits.
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4. What was Akbar's prank?

(a) He put his heap of date seeds into Birbal's plate. (b) He took away all date seeds from Birbal. (c) He put a few date seeds into Birbal's pocket. (d) He pushed his heap of date seeds under Birbal's chair.

5. The word **embarrassed** means

(a) felt proud	(b) felt ashamed	(c) made fun of	(d) insulted.
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2. Read the following passage carefully:**(5 marks)**

Trees are of importance not only to man but also to birds and animals. The branches of trees give shelter to millions of birds and forests give shelter to numerous wild animals. We value trees not only for their usefulness but also for their beauty. They have a way to refreshing the eye and also refreshing the mind. Perhaps that is why the *rishies* of olden days were drawn to the forests, and they and their peoples chose to go to forest homes in company of Nature. In modern times when Rabindranath Tagore started a school, he too chose a place full of trees and called it *Shanti Niketan* or the home of peace.

Once upon a time large areas of India were covered with forests full of numerous kinds of trees. As the population grew, trees began to be cut down for man's use. That is how the wonderful forest described

in our ancient poems came to be destroyed, and a great part of our forest wealth was lost. Now we are trying to replace this loss, and our government wants trees to be planted all over the country. A new festival called 'Van Mahotsava' has been started for this purpose. Since trees are the country's wealth we must consider it our sacred duty to protect them. We should plant new trees wherever we can and look after them well.

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

On the basis of the reading of the passage, answer the following questions in brief:

1. How are trees important for birds and animals?
2. Why did the *rishies* in olden days make forests their homes?
3. Mention the reason that became the cause for the destruction of the wonderful forest.
4. How can we replace the loss of forests?
5. What is meant by 'Shanti Niketan'? Who started it?

3. Read the following poem carefully:

(5 marks)

THE ARROW AND THE SONG

I shot an arrow into the air,
It fell to earth, I knew not where;
For, so swiftly it flew, the sight
Could not follow it in its flight.

I breathed a song into the air,
It fell to earth, I knew not where;

For who has sight so keen and strong,
That it can follow the flight of song?
Long, long afterward, in an oak
I found the arrow, still unbroke;
And the song, from beginning to end,
I found again in the heart of a friend.

—H.W. Longfellow

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

On the basis of the reading of the poem, answer the following questions in brief:

1. What did the poet shoot? Where did it fall?
2. What does the phrase 'breathed a song' in the second stanza mean?
3. Why is it difficult to see the flight of song?
4. In what position did the poet find the arrow after a long time?
5. Explain the meaning of the last line of the last stanza.

4. Complete the following passage by choosing the correct options from those given below:

($\frac{1}{2} \times 6 = 3$ marks)

Rahul Bajaj (a) figure in the automobile sector of India. A scooter (b) road reminds us of Rahul Bajaj. He is one of a few Indian entrepreneurs (c) India on the industrial map of the world. The poverty-stricken country of 1940s (d) in the first decade of the twenty-first century (e) industrial export runs into crores of rupees and whose products are synonymous with quality, durability and superior technology (f) world.

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| (a) (i) is the pioneering | (ii) is a pioneering |
| (iii) has been a pioneer | (iv) was the pioneer |
| (b) (i) ply on the | (ii) plying over the |
| (iii) ply over a | (iv) plying on the |
| (c) (i) who placed | (ii) which placing |
| (iii) who places | (iv) that placed |
| (d) (i) is metamorphosed | (ii) was metamorphosed |
| (iii) was metamorphosing | (iv) metamorphoses |
| (e) (i) in a country whose | (ii) into the country where |
| (iii) into a country whose | (iv) in a country whom |
| (f) (i) all around | (ii) all over a |
| (iii) all across the | (iv) all over the |

5. Re-arrange the following words/ phrases to make meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example: (1 × 3 = 3 marks)

Example:

the water melon/ thirst quenchers/ in summers/ is/ one of the best

The water melon is one of the best thirst quenchers in summers.

(a) in Africa/ about 5000 years/ first/ ago/ grown/ it was

(b) say that/ at the/ some researchers/ it was grown/ in India/ same time

(c) the travellers/ it was/ when they/ across a desert/ travelled/ used by