

# **SSLC 2021**

## **ENGLISH**

### **FOCUS AREA**

- \* Summary of Selected Lessons
- \* Model Questions
- \* Possible Answers
- \* Grammar - Model Questions & Answers

## LESSON 1

### ADVENTURES IN A BANYAN TREE

#### SUMMARY

The narrator, Ruskin Bond is describing his childhood experiences in this autobiographical piece. He was staying along with his grandparents in his boyhood days. He was very fond of the banyan tree in the garden.

He had set a small platform in the tree. A young grey squirrel made friends with him. He enjoyed the presence of many birds, especially rosy pastors, parrots, bulbuls and crows in spring season. He had a good habit of reading. He read Huckleberry Finn, Treasure Island, Mowgli stories and novels of Edgar Rice Burroughs and Louisa May Alcott.

On a warm April afternoon when Bond was sitting in the tree, he accidentally saw a black cobra coming out of a cactus. Suddenly a mongoose appeared from bushes. They came face to face in a clearing underneath the tree. They started fighting. It went on severely with flashing movements. Unexpectedly a myna and a jungle crow arrived the spot. They interfered twice. Luckily they escaped. But at the third attempt, cobra struck the crow and it fell dead. Again the fight between mongoose and cobra continued for a while. Ruskin Bond was moved by the flashing movements of both the worriers. After sometime, the cobra became weak. The mongoose still remained agile. At a special moment the mongoose could hold on the snout of the snake. It writhed and lashed about to escape. But mongoose won the battle. Cobra died and mongoose dragged it into the bushes.

The boy, Ruskin Bond was happy. He narrated all these to grandpa. Grandpa was happy with mongoose and allowed him to stay in garden. Though it stole eggs from poultry house grandfather forgave it.

One day grandfather bought a white rat from the market. Bond took it to the tree and it made friends with grey squirrel. Both of them moved on trees happily. After a few weeks the boy, Ruskin Bond happened to see three white squirrels in a hole in the tree. It was a surprise for grandfather and Bond to know that the white squirrels were the offspring's of grey squirrel and white rat!.

#### **SHORT SUMMARY.**

Ruskin Bond was living with his grandparents. There was a big banyan tree in their garden. He loved it a lot. He made friends with a grey squirrel in the tree. A lot of birds visited the tree in spring season. He read stories and novels there. One warm day he saw a fight between a cobra and a mongoose under the tree. It went on for a long time. Both were good fighters. Finally mongoose won the battle. It killed cobra and took it to bushes. Grandfather was happy with mongoose. He allowed it to stay in garden. One day grandfather bought a white rat from market. It became friendly with grey squirrel. After a few weeks they gave birth to three white squirrels !

**Read the given paragraph and answer the questions.**

My first friend and familiar was a small grey squirrel. Arching his back and sniffing into the air, he seemed at first to resent my invasion of his privacy. But, when he found that I did not arm myself with a catapult or air-gun, he became friendlier. And, when I started leaving him pieces of cake and biscuit, he grew bolder, and finally became familiar enough to take food from my hands.

1. Who is the narrator here?
2. How did grey squirrel resent the narrator's invasion?
3. Why did the squirrel become friendlier?
4. Give one word for 'to feel bitter or angry about something'
5. What did the narrator do to make friends with the squirrel? (5×1) = 5 marks)

**Possible Answers**

1. Ruskin Bond
2. He seemed to resent the narrator's invasion by arching his back and sniffing into the air.
3. When it found that the narrator did not arm himself with a catapult or air-gun, it became friendlier.
4. Resent
5. The narrator left him pieces of cake and biscuit to make friends with squirrel.
6. Imagine the narrator in 'Adventures in a Banyan Tree' is writing a diary after watching the fight between cobra and mongoose. Write a likely diary. 5 marks

**Diary**

Date

It's an unforgettable day! It's the first time in my life I happened to watch a fight between a cobra and a mongoose! God! It was really a battle.

I was on the tree as usual and a huge black cobra appeared right beneath it. At the same time a mongoose also emerged from the bushes. When they came face to face I never expected such a fight. It was really a battle of champions!

Cobra raised three of his six feet off the ground and fought with lightning movements. The mongoose bushed his tail and his long hair stood up on his spine. Both of them fought vigorously. When the combat was going on, a crow and a myna arrived the spot. Both of them hurled themselves at the cobra. Cobra struck the crow and killed it. Then myna refrained from interfering. When cobra weakened mongoose raised himself on his short legs and had the cobra by the snout. It was a

lighting snap. Cobra writhed and lashed about but all to no avail. Mongoose dragged it into the bushes.

When I narrated all these grandfather was very happy with mongoose. Even I'm happy. I can fearlessly go there when he is patrolling there.

7. The boy in the lesson "Adventures in a Banyan Tree" was very much thrilled by his acquaintance with the squirrel. Imagine he writes a letter to his friend. Prepare a likely letter. 6 marks.

### **Possible Answers**

1. Ivy Cottage

Landour Cantt

Dehradun

28 April 1997

Dear Sravan,

Hope you're enjoying your vacation there. Do you have many friends to play with? Hope you're happy with them.

Here I have got a new friend. A young squirrel it is! I met him in the banyan tree. It's grey in colour. At first he was scared of me. But I remained very friendly to him. Slowly he also became friendlier. And when I started leaving him pieces of cake and biscuit, he grew bolder. Now he takes food from my hands. He often delves into my pockets! Can you believe it? I really enjoy his company now.

Try to make friends with animals also, Sravan. It gives you a lot of pleasure. Hope we'll meet soon.

Yours lovingly

sd/-

(name)

8. The boy was thrilled at seeing the fight between the cobra and the mongoose. You may also have the same feeling. Narrate the fight scene in your own words.

6 marks

It was an April afternoon. When the boy was in the banyan tree he saw a huge black cobra gliding out of a cactus. At the same time a mongoose emerged from the bushes and went straight for the cobra.

They came face to face and started to fight. Mongoose was very clever and aggressive. He was a superb fighter. Cobra also was skillful and experienced. He moved swiftly and struck with the speed of light. It was to be a battle of champions.

Then a myna and a jungle crow arrived there. They stood for mongoose and interfered. Cobra struck the crow and it died. Myna, then wisely refrained from interfering. After a few minutes of vigorous fight, cobra weakened. Mongoose caught on the snout of the cobra. It writhed and lashed about but couldn't escape. Mongoose killed it and dragged it into the bushes.

9. 'And amongst the wool were the three baby squirrels - all of them white!'. Imagine the boy scribbled down this unforgettable sight in his diary. Write a similar diary. 5 marks

### Diary

25 May 1997

Today is a day of surprise! One of my squirrel friends has done a miracle! She has given birth to three baby squirrels! The surprising factor is that all the three babies are white! God, I can't believe it! I have never seen white squirrels. Even Grandfather hasn't seen. How did it happen? I used to take Grandfather's white rat to the banyan tree. And I've seen it going off together with a squirrel on little excursions. But I never expected them raising a family!

I was wondering why the squirrel was putting straw and grass in my pockets. She was trying her nest! Oh! God, I never thought she was expecting three white squirrels! They are the offsprings of grey squirrel and white rat! Grandfather told me, squirrel and rat are related to each other. God! My banyan tree is a spot of miracles!

10. Read the given hints and prepare a profile on Ruskin Bond. 6 Marks

Born : 19 May 1934, Kasauli, British India

Education : Bishop Cotton School, Shimla

Occupation : Author, poet

Important works : The Room on the Roof, The Angry River, Our Trees Still Grow in Dehra

Awards : John Llewellyn Rhys Prize, Sahitya Academy Award, Padma Shri,  
Padma Bhushan, Life time Achievement Award

T. V. Show : Ek Tha Rusty II

## **Profile of Ruskin Bond**

Ruskin Bond, the famous Indian author of British descent, is born on 19 May, 1934 in Kasauli, in British India. He received education from Bishop Cotton School, Shimla. He has worked as an author as well as a poet. 'The Room on the Roof', 'The Angry River', 'Our Trees Still Grow in Dehra' are his important works. He has won John Llewellyn Rhys Prize, Sahitya Academy Award, Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Lifetime Achievement Award. Ek Tha Rusty II is his famous T. V. Show.

## **LESSON 2**

### **THE SNAKE AND THE MIRROR**

#### **SUMMARY.**

The famous Malayalam writer Vaikom Muhammed Basheer is retelling a strange incident occurred in the life of a homeopath. It happened many years back, when he was a young, handsome bachelor.

The homeopath was staying alone in a rented house. In a hot summer night, he was sitting on a chair and admiring his own beauty in mirror. There was a regular traffic of rats at his roof and he was familiar to it.

That day he heard a peculiar noise from above but didn't pay attention. Suddenly something fell down with a dull thud. By the time he turned back, a fat snake wriggled over his chair and then to his left arm. Homeopath sat like a stone. He cried in mind, "O, God!" and thought of his imminent death. The snake coiled around his arm like a rod of molten fire and held its hood close to his face. Death lurked inches away.

Luckily the snake turned its head and saw the mirror. It unwound itself and climbed over to the table to watch its image in mirror. By then homeopath got up and ran out. When he returned next day to collect his belongings he found them all stolen. The thief had left only an ugly vest there. Narrating all these homeopath bursted into laughter.

#### **SHORT SUMMARY**

A young homeopath was staying alone in a rented house. One night he was sitting in front of a mirror. Then a big snake fell down from roof. It got to the chair and coiled onto his arm. Homeopath stood like a stone. He thought he is going to die. Luckily the snake left him and moved to the mirror. Homeopath ran and escaped.

1. Prepare a character sketch of homeopath.

6 marks

### Character sketch of homeopath

Homeopath is a skillful narrator. He narrates the snake incident in an attractive manner. He holds a long memory of it and goes through each and every details of the incident. He's very friendly to others and shares his happy moments with them. He frankly describes his bachelor lifestyle and his hopes of a rich life partner. He is optimistic and funny. He says a fat wife is helpful to lead a happy married life as she won't run fast and attack him!

He's a man of courage and common sense. When a full-blooded cobra coiled on his arm he sat motionless as even a slight movement would bring death to him. He knew that fact and made up his mind to sit like a stone. When the snake moved towards the mirror, he ran out and reached his friends. He shares all these with his friends even when he is middle-aged. It's his friendliness with others made his life happy always.

2. Imagine homeopath is discussing the snake incident with his friend. Prepare a likely conversation

5 Marks

Homeopath : Ravi, there is a big snake in my room!  
 Ravi : A snake? What type of snake is it?  
 Homeopath : Cobra ! A big one! I've never seen such a big cobra!  
 Ravi : God ! when did you see it?  
 Homeopath : Just now, I was sitting in front of the mirror. Then it fell down from the roof. !  
 Ravi : Oh! You are lucky, man. It didn't fall on your body no?  
 Homeopath : No, it didn't. But it slithered over me.  
 Ravi : Hei, don't lie man!  
 Homeopath : No, it's true. It then coiled around my left arm!  
 Ravi : Oh! My god! Is it true man?  
 Homeopath : It's true! Luckily it saw the mirror and moved to it. I then ran and escaped  
 Ravi : Really? Then what a lucky man you are ! God is there with you!, doctor.

3. Imagine the homeopath is writing a diary after he escaped the snake. Write a similar one.

5 Marks

### Diary

5 April 1935

Yesterday was an unforgettable day in my life. I met a big cobra face to face! God! What a snake it was! A huge one! It wriggled over my shoulder and coiled around my arm! I can't just believe it. What a horrible experience! Even now I remember that spreaded hood. It was there only there or four inches away from my face!

I sat there holding my breath. How could I sit like a stone image? God! You were with me! It's you who gave me that will power. Will power or shock? Even now I'm not sure. Anyway I could manage those moments. I didn't die. I didn't fall unconscious. I didn't scream! I didn't even make a single move.

That's why I'm alive. Had I made a single move, it would have bitten me. I sat there like a stone. But I was fully aware of death lurking only four inches away. The snake was crushing my arm. I felt it as a thick leaden rod. No, a molten fire. Luckily now my arm is fine. And I'm alive now. It's God who directed the snake to that mirror. That's why I could escape. I will never forget it, I think. So horrible it was!

4. Imagine the homeopath is writing a letter to his friend on his confront with snake. Write a likely letter.

6 Marks

Dr. Suresh Kumar,  
'Devinilayam'  
Panniyankara.

6 April 1935

Dear Balan,

Hope this letter meets you in good health. It's long since I heard from you. You all are doing well, I think.

Here, in Panniyankara I started my career a few months back. I have set up a small clinic and it functions smoothly. But a severe thing occurred yesterday. I was staying alone in an old lodge. Yesterday night while I was sitting in front of the mirror, a big Cobra fell down from the roof. Then it wriggled over my shoulder and coiled around my left arm! You may not believe it, but it's true. It raised its hood close to my face. Death lurked only four inches away, Balan. Then another wonder occurred. it saw its image in the mirror and moved towards it. I slowly got up and moved out. Then I ran and reached my neighbour.

Balan, even now I can't believe that I'm alive. I really met my death yesterday. Today morning I shifted to another room. I can't risk my life there again. Hope we will meet soon. Convey my regards to everyone in your family.

With lots of love  
Suresh  
Sd/-

To	Mr. Balan K, 33/1697 A Mahe, Kannur
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5. Read the given hints and prepare a profile of Vaikom Muhammad Basheer  
6 marks

Born	: 21 January 1908, Thalayolaparambu.
Known as	: Beypore Sultan
Notable works	: Balyakalasakhi, Shabdangal, Pathummayude Aadu, Mathilukal, Ntuppappakkoranendarnnu, Janmadinam, Anargha Nimisham
Awards	: Vallathol Award, Muttathu Varkey Award, Kerala Sahitya Academy Fellowship, Padma Shri
Spouse	: Fabi Basheer
Died	: 5 July 1994, Beypore

### **Profile of Vaikom Muhammad Basheer**

Vaikom Muhammad Basheer, well known as 'Beypore Sultan', was born on 21 January 1908 in Thalayolaparambu, Vaikom. His notable works are, 'Balyakalasakhi', 'Shabdangal', 'Pathummayude Aadu', 'Janmadinam', and 'Anargha Nimisham'. He won Vallathol Award, Muttathu Varkey Award, Kerala Sahitya Academy Fellowship and Padma Shri. Fabi Basheer is his spouse. He died on 5 July, 1994 in Beypore.

## **LESSON 3**

### **LINES WRITTEN IN EARLY SPRING**

#### **Summary**

William Wordsworth is a famous Romantic poet. In most of his poems beauty of nature is premier.

#### **Stanza 1.**

When I sat in the garden I heard a thousand mixed sounds of nature. Even in that sweet mood my heart was filled with happy and sad thoughts.

#### **Stanza 2.**

Nature has linked the soul of every human to its own beauty. And now I worry on the wrongdoings of man.

#### **Stanza 3.**

In that green, shady place the periwinkle hung its flowers down through primrose. And I believe that every flower enjoys the surroundings.

( primrose, periwinkle - plants., tufts - a number of pieces., bower - a pleasant place in shade., trail ( here) - hang downwards., wreath - circle of flowers )

**Stanza 4.**

Birds hopped and played around me. I don't get their thoughts. But I get their extreme pleasure in every movement.

**Stanza 5.**

Even the small, thin branches are spreading out their leaves to enjoy the breeze. And I remain happy, extremely happy there. ( twigs - small, thin branches., fan (here) - leaf., breezy air - light wind )

**Stanza 6.**

If this pleasure is a gift of God and Nature, I'm here to cry on the misdeeds of man. (lament - to express great sadness )

William Wordsworth is here presenting the notable role of nature in human life.

**Short summary**

In this poem Wordsworth is praising the glory of nature. He enjoys every sound and movement in it. He is so happy that his soul is linked well to nature. He enjoys the beauty of periwinkle and primrose. The playful hopping of birds pleases him. And he is extremely happy with the fanning twigs. But he's sad of the evil deeds of men. These evildoers don't realise the pleasures and blessings of nature.

1. Write an appreciation of the poem ' Lines Written in Early Spring ' 4 marks

**APPRECIATION**

It's written by a major English Romantic poet, William Wordsworth. He is celebrating the bond of man with nature and rejoices in the beauty of it.

When he sits in the garden he enjoys every sight and sound of nature. Nature has linked human souls to her fair works. But the misdeeds of man leaves the poet pensive and disappointed. He enjoys the beautiful wreaths of primrose and periwinkle. He happily watches the playful birds and the fanning twigs. Nature has blessed man a lot. The coexistence of living beings in harmony, is its holy plan. But man destroys ecosystem, flights and kills each other and harms the glory of nature. The poet laments on it.

We see many poetic crafts here. The exaggerated statement 'I heard a thousand blended notes', is hyperbole. We see alliteration in 'what man has made of man? '. 'To her fair works did nature link' is a good example of personification. We

also see visual and auditory images in the poem. The rhyme scheme of the poem is 'abab'. All these poetic crafts add beauty to poem.

In my opinion the poet could successfully reflect his mind here.

Read the given lines and answer the questions.

I heard a thousand blended notes,  
While in a grove I sate reclined,  
In that sweet mood when pleasant thoughts  
Bring sad thoughts to the mind.  
To her fair works did Nature link  
The human soul that through me ran;  
And much it grieved my heart to think  
What man has made of man.

2. Where does the poet sit?
3. Give an instance of hyperbole.
4. What does the poet grieve on?
5. Give the rhyme scheme.

4×1 = 4 marks

### **Answer**

2. The poet sits in a grove.
3. In the line 'I heard a thousand blended notes', the poet is exaggerating the sounds he heard in the grove. This is an instance of hyperbole.
4. The poet grieves on the evildoings of man.
5. abab

### **Other possible questions**

6. What does the expression 'I sate reclined' indicate about the poet's state of mind?
7. Why does the poet feel sad while reclining in the grove?
8. How does the poet associate himself with nature?
9. 'And much it grieved my heart to think', 'What man has made of man'.  
What do these lines convey?
10. 'To her fair works did Nature link'. What poetic craft do you notice here ?
11. Give an instance of alliteration
12. Give examples for visual image and auditory image

### **Possible Answers**

6. The poet is happy and relaxed.
7. The poet is worried on the evildoings of man.
8. The poet associates his human soul to the fair works of nature.
9. He is sad of the misdeeds of humans.
10. The pronoun 'her' and capital 'N' in the word 'Nature' show that the poet is taking nature as a woman. This is an instance of personification.
11. In the line 'what man has made of man' we see the same consonant 'm' repeats at head position in words 'man', 'made' and 'man'. This is alliteration.
12. Visual image – grove.  
Auditory image – a thousand blended notes.
13. Read the given hints and prepare a profile of William Wordsworth.

6 marks

Born	: 7 April 1770, Cocker mouth, U K
Launched	: Romantic Age in English Literature along with S. T. Coleridge
Famous works	: 'Lyrical Ballads' (along with Coleridge), 'Daffodils', 'Lucy Gray', 'The Prelude'
Known as	: Poet of nature
Poet Laureate	: in 1843, in England
Died	: 23 April 1850, Rydal, England 6 Marks

### **Profile**

William Wordsworth, a major English Romantic poet, was born on 7 April 1770, in Cockermouth, U K. He launched the Romantic Age in English literature together with S.T.Coleridge. 'Lyrical Ballads', written in company of S.T. Coleridge, is a famous work of Wordsworth. 'Daffodils', 'Lucy Gray' and 'The Prelude' are other important works. He is known as 'The poet of nature'. He became poet laureate in England in 1843. He died on 23 April 1850 at Rydal in England.

## LESSON 4

### PROJECT TIGER

#### Summary

The famous Indian film maker Satyajit Ray is describing his various first-hand experiences of using animals in films. He is starting this narrative with Hollywood and its animal actors.

He remembers an Alsatian called Rin -tin-tin and a collie called Lassie which were impressive. He happened to watch the shooting of a film in Disney Studio in which the main character was a dog. That animal was treated very reverently with the status of a superstar and enjoyed even the facility of a stand-in! (dupe)

Getting trained animals is really a challenge in film industry. Satyajit Ray is narrating how difficult it was for Alfred Hitchcock to get some trained ravens.

In India, it's again a tiring task. In 'Pather Panchali', Ray managed to get a trained police dog to enact the role of Bhulo. In 'Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne' he was supposed to collect a trained tiger to shoot a scene in forest. His only option was to approach a circus company. From 'Bharat Circus' he got a trained tiger. But it was trained only to perform in the ring and not in open areas. The ring master, Mr. Thorat was all set to take the tiger to the location in Notun Gram. He had tied a thin wire around its neck and covered it with a tiger skin collar. That wire was to control the beast in wilderness.

Ray and his team got ready for a tiger shot. The tiger was about to walk sedately in the forest in a dignified manner. But when Mr. Thorat unfastened the cage, it sprang out and started prancing around. Later they managed to take some shots but the camera had failed to work properly. When they came to know of this, they made a second attempt in a village called Boral and succeeded.

Satyajit Ray, the veteran film maker is describing the troubles of using animals

#### Short Summary

Satyajit Ray is describing the difficulties of using animals in films. In Hollywood animals are commonly used. They are treated with dignity. In India, animal actors are rare. We get trained animals only in police department and circus. When Ray wanted a trained tiger to shoot a scene, he approached Bharat Circus. The ringmaster helped him and made all arrangements. But when they took the tiger to the forest, it jumped and ran around. They struggled a lot but managed to take some shots somehow.

Read the following paragraph and answer the given questions

No one can beat Hollywood when it comes to making films with animals in them. I remember films in my childhood - and there were quite a few of them - that had an Alsatian called Rin-tin-tin. This dog's acting was more impressive than a human's. Later, we got to see three or four other films with a collie called Lassie.

1. Who is the narrator in this paragraph?
2. What speciality of Hollywood is mentioned here?
3. Suggest one word for 'a dog of long pointed noses and long thick hair'
4. What did the author comment on Rin-tin-tin, the Alsatian?
5. What is the noun phrase in object position in the sentence ' I remember films in my childhood '

5×1 = 5 marks

**Possible Answers**

1. Satyajith Ray
  2. Hollywood is very good in making films with animals
  3. Collie
  4. Rin-tin-tin's acting was more impressive than a human's
  5. Films
6. Satyajit Ray approached Bharat Circus to get a tiger. Write a likely conversation between him and the manager in Bharat Circus 5 marks

Ans. Manager : Hello! welcome Mr. Ray! Did you get here just now?  
 Ray : Yes, only just now. Happy to meet you.  
 Manager : Thanks. What's up?  
 Ray : See, I'm on the track of my new movie. I need your help now.  
 Manager : Got it. It's a circus based movie, isn't it?  
 Ray : Actually no. I only need a tiger to shoot a scene.  
 Manager : Really? Can you please explain?  
 Ray : The location is Notun Gram. It will take only a couple of hours for shooting.

Manager : When is it going to be?  
 Ray : As soon as possible. I hope your ringmaster will assist us.  
 Manager : Of course ! I will call for him. Shall I get you a South Indian coffee?  
 Ray : Yes, sure. Thanks.

7. Alfred Hitchcock was in need of collecting a variety of birds, especially ravens to make the film "Birds". He drafted a notice to seek the attention of the public. Draft a likely notice.

5 marks

**Answer**

<p>Hitchcock Film Company</p> <p>New York</p> <p>NOTICE</p> <p>12/08/1949</p> <p>A set of trained birds, especially ravens are needed by Alfred Hitchcock, film director, to his new film "Birds". They are expected to follow the instructions given by the director in the shooting location. Anyone who owns trained birds may take them for a trial on 25/08/1949 at Polo Grounds, New York City at 8.00 am.</p> <p>For further details please contact:</p> <p>The Manager          Hitchcock Film Company          33/1697 A, New York.</p> <p>Sd/-          Production Controller</p>
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8. Imagine Satyajit Ray writes a letter to the Chairman of Animal Welfare Board of India informing him the details of the shoot and ensuring him that the rules will be strictly adhered to. Draft the likely letter.

5 marks

Ans.

Satyajith Ray  
 16/ 220 A, Garpar  
 Kolkata

11 July 1969

The Chairman  
Animal Welfare Board  
Kolkata.

Dear sir,  
Subject: Use of tiger in film

.....

I, Satyajit Ray, seek your kind attention to the matter that a Royal Bengal tiger is going to be used in my next film "Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne". It will be taken from Bharat Circus and its ring master will accompany it throughout the shooting. The shooting will be in Notun Gram on 20/July 1969. It will take only a couple of hours for the shooting. I will ensure that the rules of Animal Act will be strictly adhered to the handling of tiger.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely  
Sd/-  
Satyajith Ray

9. Imagine a newspaper reporter prepares a news report on the shooting of tiger scene in Boral. Write a similar report 5 Marks

**Tiger Acts in Satyajit Ray Film**  
**Staff reporter**

Boral, 25 July 1969 : Satyajit Ray, the renowned Bengali film director shot a scene with a tiger in it at Boral for his new film 'Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne'. The shooting occurred yesterday in a bamboo grove here at 10 o'clock morning.

The tiger was hired from Barat Circus which is now staging a show in Calcutta city. The tiger's ringmaster Mr. Thorat had accompanied it to the location. He had tied a thin but strong steel wire around its neck to control its movement in the location. But when ring master opened the cage, the tiger emerged with a loud roar. It jumped towards the viewers. As if by magic the crowd melted away. But the tiger calmed down very quickly. Like an obedient child it walked to the spot and followed the instructions of the director. The shooting went well. But it's heard that Satyajit Ray had shot the same scene a few days back in Notun Gram. As the camera failed to work, all those efforts had gone in vain. But today a happy Satyajit Ray commented that the use of a tiger would be innovative in Bengali film industry.

10. Imagine you're getting a chance to interview Satyajit Ray. Prepare 6 questions for the interview. 6 Marks



1. Sir, how do you find your career as a film maker?
  2. Are you happy in this field?
  3. What are the major challenges of this field?
  4. How did the Italian film 'Bicycle Thieves' influence you?
  5. Sir in your opinion, what's your best film?
  6. What advice do you like to give to the young directors?
11. Imagine Satyajit Ray is writing a diary after he completed the tiger scene in Boral. Write a likely diary. 6 Marks

### Diary

27 July 1969

Today is a special day for me. I've achieved a tough task now. It was a task which troubled me, challenged me, and inspired me. And now I could successfully accomplished that task. I'm really happy now. It had been a two weeks' project to shoot that scene. Anyway it worked out well today. Even the camera behaved well this time. I was really anxious of it. I was praying not to repeat last week's tragedy. We all were praying for that. Now we all are really happy. The most challenging task is done with this shot, I think. I've almost completed the important scenes to the film. Still there should be a detailed discussion and review. Any way I'm relieved now. The deal with Bharat Circus also is over. I am really thankful to them. How co-operative that team was! And my dear tiger, I'm thankful to you too. Meet you again in big screen!

12. Read the given hints and write a profile of Satyajit Ray 6 marks

Born	: 2 May 1921, Kolkata
Education	: Ballygunge Government High School, Visva-Bharati University, Presidency University
Occupation	: Film director, script writer, author, lyricist, music composer
Directed	: 36 films, documentaries, short stories
Awards	: National film awards, Honorary Academy award, Dada Saheb Phalke award, Bharat Ratna
Died	: 23 April 1992, Kolkata

### **Profile of Satyajit Ray**

Satyajit Ray, the famous Indian film director, was born in Kolkata on 2 May 1921. He received education from Ballygunge government high school, Viswa - Bharati university and Presidency university. He worked as film director, script writer, author,

lyricist and music composer. He has directed 36 films. A number of documentaries and short films were also directed by him. He won National film awards, Honorary Academy award, Dada Saheb Phalke Award and Bharat Ratna. He died on 23 April 1992 in Kolkata.

## **LESSON 5**

### **THE BEST INVESTMENT I EVER MADE**

#### **Summary**

This article is an autobiographical write up by Dr. A.J. Cronin. He is narrating an unforgettable meeting with a social activist. When he was setting a sail from New York, one day he happened to meet a couple on the deck. They introduced themselves as Mrs. and Mr. John. They were eager to speak to him. When he listened them in detail, Dr. Cronin came to know that it was his second meeting with that man.

Before a quarter of a century, when Dr. Cronin was practicing as a young doctor in a working class district of London, he had had an opportunity to save this man's life. Mr. John, an orphan by then, was working as a clerk. Utterly friendless, he had fallen victim to the loose society of the streets. He had lost all his small savings and happened to steal seven pounds and ten shillings from his office. Terrified of the prosecution, he made an attempt to commit suicide. When Dr. Cronin came to know of his plight, he gave seven pounds and ten shillings to Mr. John and asked him to put it back in office.

That paltry sum, which was spent to save an orphan, turned out the best investment in Dr. Cronin's life. Later Mr. John dedicated his life for the uplifting of the backward, maladjusted and delinquent youth. For the past twenty five years, he was searching Dr. Cronin to express his gratitude. When the couple narrated all these, Dr. Cronin proudly realized, that seven pounds and ten shillings was the best investment he had ever made in his life. It could save the life of a maladjusted youth and created a saviour for many other maladjusted ones in the society.

#### **Short summary**

One day Dr. Cronin met Mrs. and Mr. John in a ship. They happily told Mr. Cronin that he had saved John's life many years back. When John was living a life of orphan, he happened to fall in asocial life. He stole some money from his office. Fearful of prosecution, he made a suicide attempt. It was Dr. Cronin who helped him

restart his life. Mr. John became a social activist later. It all happened because of the financial help done by Dr. Cronin. That sum turned out the best investment in Dr. Cronin's life.

1. From the state of loss and despair, John in the lesson 'The Best Investment I Ever Made' came to a life of success and joy. What helped him do so? Prepare a speech on the topic 'Self help is the best help'.

5 marks

### **Answer**

Dear friends and teachers,

Here I like to share my views on the topic 'Self-help is the best help'. We have received a commendable instance of self-help in the lesson 'The best investment I ever made'. The character Mr. John, who had fallen victim to the loose society of the streets, could make up his lifestyle by self-help.

Self-help means our emotional, intellectual, and behavioural improvement. It also comprises of one's socio-economic uplift. We can achieve all these by lending an ear to our well-wishers, following their instructions, learning new skills, confronting our fears, giving up our bad habits, reconnecting with old friends etc.

Friends, in my opinion, waiting for someone else's help is meaningless. Whenever you're in need of a help, think, there is a hand always ready at the end of your sleeve. So let me stop here. Thank you all.

2. Imagine that Mr. John after meeting the narrator for the second time, writes his diary. What would be the possible diary entry? Write it down.

5 marks

### **Diary**

Date

This is the happiest day in my life. For many years I was eagerly waiting to meet Dr. Cronin once again. I could make it happen today. For my wife also it was a happy day.

I'm very happy to find him healthy and active even now. He couldn't recognize me. But I will recognize him ever in my life. He is the person who virtually resuscitated my life. That doctor brought life back not only to my body but to my soul also. So I could better the life of many delinquent and maladjusted youth. God!, I remain thankful in front of You today. Thankful for having met him once again. And thankful for making me a tool to uplift many delinquent youth.

3. Drug addiction and alcoholism are major social issues today. The English club is to conduct a seminar to make the children aware of the dangers of these issues. Imagine you're the convenor of English club. Prepare a notice for it.

5 marks

### Answers

<p>A B C High School Kozhikode NOTICE</p> <p>07 November 2020</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Seminar on Drug Addiction and Alcoholism</p> <p>All students are hereby informed that the English Club is conducting a seminar on "The dangers of Drug addiction and Alcoholism " on 14 November 2020 at 10. 00 am. in our school auditorium. All of you are expected to participate in the programme.</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Club secretary _____</p> <p>Sd/- _____</p>
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4. Imagine Dr. Cronin was moved by his meeting with John and his wife. He is sharing the whole thing to his wife. Prepare an imaginary conversation between Dr. Cronin and his wife. 5 marks

Dr. Cronin : Agnes, you know, something strange had happened in my ship.  
 Wife : Really? What's that?  
 Dr. Cronin : I met a couple on ship-boards. I had saved that man from a suicide attempt earlier.  
 Wife : Oh! Good! When was it?  
 Dr. Cronin : It was nearly twenty five years back, when I started my practice in London.  
 Wife : God! Then how did you recognize him?  
 Dr. Cronin : Actually I didn't. It's he who came to me. It seems that the couple was eager to meet me.  
 Wife : For what? To say thanks?  
 Dr. Cronin : Exactly. When he had committed that attempt, he was only a delinquent one. But now the couple works for the wellbeing of similar youth.  
 Wife : Wow! That's great! So you've created a good Samaritan!  
 Dr. Cronin : Really Agnes. When I heard him I was extremely happy. I felt he is the best reward I have ever received.  
 Wife : Good. I'm proud of you.

5. Prepare a character sketch of Mr. John in the lesson 'The Best Investment I Ever Made'. 6 Marks

### **Mr. John - Character Sketch**

After he lost his parents in his teenage Mr. John remained utterly friendless. His derelict way of life made him fall victim to the loose society of the streets. He made bad companions and lived like a young fool. He was eager to taste pleasures far beyond his means. He began to bet on horses and lost all his small savings. It led him to steal money from his office shelf. Terrified of prosecution, he attempted to commit suicide. In his teenage we see lack of self-confidence, and self-reliance in Mr. John. He underwent fear and temptations But he was a man of gratitude. He decided to better his life after that suicide attempt.

Later we see this same character dedicating his life for the betterment of delinquent and maladjusted youth. He and his wife work for these derelict adolescents and place them in healthy environment. They heal them in mind and body and send them back into the world. As the director of a charitable organization he is training the derelict youth to make useful handicrafts. This skill helps them take their place as worthily members of the society. It becomes a work of redemption for maladjusted and delinquent youth. Mr. John also could make a redemption from his previous misdeeds. We can find his here as a loving, selfless and dedicated social servant, sincerely urging the delinquent youth to better their own life.

6. Prepare a character sketch of Dr. A.J. Cronin

6 Marks

### **Dr. A.J. Cronin - Character Sketch**

Dr. A.J. Cronin is versatile in character traits. He was successful in both professions. He is a renowned writer as well as a doctor. He prefers to avoid the tedium of casual and importunate contacts. Though he neglects strangers, he holds a good observation skill. While narrating the appearance and behavior of Mr. John, we notice his keen observation. He is considerate and cooperative. When the sergeant arrived at midnight to take him, he responded positively at once. This shows that Dr. A.J. Cronin is an attentive, reliable and responsible medical practitioner. He sincerely did the work of resuscitation. After the strenuous exertions he could bring the victim back to life. So we come to know that he is skillful and trustworthy in emergencies.

When he brought the young man back to life, he volunteered to donate seven pounds and ten shillings to that youth. Though it was a paltry sum, it could promote his future. This action of Dr. Cronin says that he is good at timely intervention. At the end of the article, we see that he is feeling proud of that intervention and investment. He frankly admits that donation was the best investment in his life, where he could gain only frustration anxiety and disappointment from other investments. The way he narrates this incident tells us that he holds an excellent narrative skill. He could create interest and curiosity among his readers.

7. Imagine Dr. Cronin is writing a diary after his meeting with Mr. John. Write a similar diary. 5 Marks

**Diary**

15 April 1959

I feel I very happy and contented today I met a couple, Mrs. And Mr. John from London on shipboard, today. They were staring at me for the past few days. And I was quiet annoyed of that. But when the couple came and talked to me, it gave me an immense pleasure. That gentleman, Mr. John, is one of the best human I have ever met. He is now working for the betterment of the delinquent and maladjusted youth. For the past fifteen years, God! You please bless them again continue that selfless service let God bless you, my dear ones!

What you're doing now is a divine action, Mr. John. Only angels can do it. How many derelict adolescents had been saved by you! Incredible it is! You're conveying an inspiring message to the society. Surely you people are role models. Now I feel pity on me. What could I do for the derelict ones in my life? What could I spend for them? And what could I earn in my life? I have made a lot of investments in different fields. Surely some of them were profitable. But many of them created only anxiety, disappointment and frustration in my life. That seven pounds and ten shillings was the only good investment I've done so far. Sure that's the best investment I've ever made.

8. Read the given hints and write a profile of A. J. Cronin 6 marks

Born : 19 July 1896, Cardross, U K  
 Education : Dumbarton Academy, St. Aloysius College, University of Glasgow  
 Occupation : Physician, novelist  
 Famous works : 'The Citadel', 'The Stars Look Down', 'Hatter's Castle'  
 Awards : National Book Award for fiction  
 Died : 6 January 1981, Montreux, Switzerland

**Profile**

A. J. Cronin was born in Cardross, U K on 19 July 1896. He was educated from Dumbarton Academy, St. Aloysius College and University of Glasgow. He could perform as a novelist as well as a physician. 'The Citadel', 'The Stars Look Down', and 'Hatter's Castle' are his famous works. He won National Book Award for Fiction. He died on 6 January 1981 at Montreux in Switzerland.

## LESSON 6

### THE BALLAD OF FATHER GILLIGAN

#### Summary

It's a ballad written by the Irish poet W. B Yeats. A ballad is a song/poem which tells a story in simple language. 'The Ballad of Father Gilligan' narrates the plight of an old priest Peter Gilligan and the divine help he received from God during a fatal epidemic. Then the priest was supposed to reach every dying man's home in time, for last prayers.

#### Stanza 1

The old priest Peter Gilligan was very tired that day as he was serving his flock (people in his parish) day and night. Half of his people were either lying on their death bed or buried under green sod ( soil covered with grass).

#### Stanza 2

Once, when he was asleep on chair at the evening, he was again called to a dying man's home. He became very sad.

#### Stanza 3

'I don't get any rest as people die again and again. Oh God, forgive me, it's my body speaks; not I", he cried.

#### Stanza 4

He knelt down to pray but slept leaning on the chair. Time passed. It became night.

#### Stanza 5

A lot of stars appeared in the sky. Leaves shook in the wind. God took care of the world, especially mankind.

#### Stanza 6

The old priest Peter Gilligan got up only at the early morning. By the time sparrows and moths had reappeared. He was shocked as he couldn't reach that dying man's house in time.

#### Stanza 7

'Oh, God! that man died when I slept'. He rode his horse to that home in a hurry.

#### Stanza 8

He rode very fast through rocky lane and wetland. When he reached that home, the sick man's wife opened the door. In a wonder she said, "Father, you came again!".

#### Stanza 9

Father enquired whether that man had died. "He died an hour ago" was the answer from that dead man's wife. He felt very bad and was about to fall down.

**Stanza 10**

The woman said, " when you returned, he died happily". Having heard it, the old priest knelt down and thanked God.

**Stanza 11**

He said, "Oh! God, you have created the night of stars. You take care of the tired and bleeding people. You have sent one of your angels down to earth to help me in time".

**Stanza 12**

" Oh,! God Almighty, you wear the purple robes and you are guarded by heavenly bodies. But you remembered me and had pity on me when I was asleep ". ( He believes that God sent an angel in disguise to perform the last prayers for the dying man ).

**Short Summary**

This poem is written in the background of an epidemic (spreading disease). When people die everyday, the parish priest gets tired. He can't run and reach every home. On such a day , God himself sent one of his angels to help father Gilligan. In the form of father Gilligan, that angel visited a dying man's home and performed the last prayers. So father Gilligan could take some rest.

1. Prepare an appreciation of the poem 'The Ballad of Father Gilligan '

4 marks

The poem 'The Ballad of Father Gilligan' is written by the famous Irish poet W.B. Yeats. It's written in the backdrop of a fatal epidemic in the countryside where people were dying day and night.

On a day of tiredness, father Gilligan couldn't reach a dying man's home in time. But next morning he came to know that God himself had sent one of his angels to there to perform his own priestly duties. Then he knelt down there to thank God.

The poem comprises four stanzas with a rhyme scheme 'abcb'. We feel the sad and serious tone of a narrative writing here. At the end of the poem, we also enjoy the relief of father Gilligan. The poet has tried his best to transfer his feelings into the reader's mind. He has successfully used poetic crafts. The rhyme scheme is 'abcb'. There are instances of alliteration in the poem. Eg. 'The old priest Peter Gilligan'. The consonant 'p' repeats in 'priest' and 'Peter'. The word 'flock' is a metaphor used for parishioners. These poetic crafts make the poem attractive.

Read the given lines and answer the questions.

4 marks

The old priest Peter Gilligan

Was weary night and day

For half his flock were in their beds



Or under green sods lay.  
 Once, while he nodded in a chair  
 At the moth-hour of the eve  
 Another poor man sent for him,  
 And he began to grieve.

2. Why was Peter Gilligan weary night and day?
3. What's the significance of the word 'flock'?
4. Why was his flock either in bed or lying under green sod?
5. What's the rhyme scheme of the stanzas?

Answer

2. A lot of people were dying every day and Peter Gilligan was rushing to each dying person's home to say the last prayers.
3. The word 'flock' means a group of people who regularly attend a priest. During the epidemic Father Gilligan attends his people with the care of a shepherd.
4. A fatal epidemic had broken out in that area.
5. abcb

Other possible questions

6. Give an example of alliteration
7. Give an instance of metaphor
8. Find out examples for visual image and auditory image

Possible answers

6. 'Was weary night and day'. We see the same consonant 'w' repeats at initial position in 'was' and 'weary'. This is alliteration.
7. The word 'flock' is used to represent the people of a parish. It's metaphor.
8. Visual image – the old priest Peter Gilligan.  
 Auditory image – grievance of father Gilligan.

9. Read the hints and prepare a profile of W. B. Yeats 6marks

Born	: 13 June 1865, Sandymount, Ireland
Education	: National College of Art and Design
Spouse	: Georgiana Hyde-Lees
Famous works	: The Wanderings of Oisín and Other poems, The Countess Cathleen, Deirdre, The Tower, The Winding Stair and Other Poems
Awards	: Nobel Prize in Literature
Died	: 28 January 1939

W. B. Yeats, the famous poet of twentieth century, was born on 13 June 1865, at Sandymount, in Ireland. He studied in National College of Art and Design and married Georgiana Hyde-Lees. His famous literary works are 'The Wanderings of Oisín and Other Poems', 'The Countess Cathleen', 'Deirdre', 'The Tower' and 'The Winding Stair and Other Poems'. He won Nobel Prize in Literature in 1923. He died on 28 January in 1939.

## Grammar – Model questions

### I Complete the conversation suitably

1. Boy : Grandpa, I saw a mongoose fighting with a cobra  
 Grandpa : Really ? \_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
 Boy : In the garden. I have seen it just now.  
 Grandpa : You were standing close to them, \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
 Boy : No, I was sitting in the banyan tree.  
 Grandpa : Thank God. If you had fallen down, \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 Boy : I know. The cobra was a big one. But mongoose killed it.  
 Grandpa : Still there may be many other snakes there .You had better  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 Boy : But I like sitting on the banyan tree. I would rather you  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 Grandpa : Okay. Let me see.

### Answer

- a. where did you see it ?  
 b. weren't you ?  
 c. it would have bitten you.  
 d. not to go there / avoid going there.  
 e. came along with me.
2. Homeopath : Mother, \_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
 Mother : Yes, I like this new house, why \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Homeopath : That house was very old. It was dangerous staying there.

Mother : You had met with some problem there, \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Homeopath : Yes, one day I saw a snake in my room.

Mother : God ! If you hadn't seen it, \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ .

Homeopath : Oh! no mother, you speak as if \_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_ .

Mother : No, you are not a small boy, still you had better \_\_\_\_\_ (f) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Answer**

a. do you like this new house ?

b. why did you shift to this one ?

c. hadn't you ?

d. it would have bitten you.

e. I am a small boy

f. take care

3. Thorat : Sir the tiger has done it quite well. I think you \_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_

Ray : Yes, I'm happy with the shot now.

Thorat : If you \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ , you can use them whenever you want.

Ray : No, thanks. I don't want any more shots with tiger.

Thorat : Then let's pack up, \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Ray : Yes, please. When \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Thorat : It will take nearly two hours to reach the camp

Ray : Then you had better \_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Answer**

a. you are happy with the shot now .

b. Take more shots with the tiger

c. shall we ?

d. When will we reach the camp ?

e. pack up fast / get ready now.

## II Edit the given paragraph.

1. It was an <sup>(a)</sup> april afternoon. And the warm breezes of <sup>(b)</sup> summer <sup>(c)</sup> approaching had sent everyone, including Grand father indoor.  
I was feeling <sup>(d)</sup> drousy.

**Answer :** a. April  
b. approaching summer  
c. indoors  
d. drowsy

2. It <sup>(a)</sup> is a hot summer night about ten 0' clock. I <sup>(b)</sup> have my <sup>(c)</sup> meal at the restaurant and returned to my room. I heard a noise <sup>(d)</sup> above from as I opened the door. The sound was a familiar one.

**Answer :** a. was  
b. had  
c. noise from above  
d. familiar

3. No one can beat <sup>(a)</sup> hollywood when it comes to <sup>(b)</sup> make films with animals in them. I remember films in my childhood – and there were <sup>(c)</sup> a few quite of them - that had an <sup>(d)</sup> Alsacian called Rin – tin - tin.

**Answer :** a. Hollywood  
b. making  
c. quite a few of them  
d. Alsatian

## III Use suitable phrasal verbs.

1. At night homeopath ..... a restaurant and had his meal. Then he .....  
to his room. He took 'The Materia Medica' and ..... it for a while. He heard a  
sound from the roof. But he didn't feel to ..... the matter as there was a  
regular traffic of rats.

[go on, go through, go back, look into, look after, call at ]

- Answers :**
- a. called at
  - b. went back
  - c. went through
  - d. look into

2. On the second day of my sail, I could (a) that a stranger wanted to (b) something to me. On the following forenoon, he and his wife (c) again and I (d). Then they (e) the story of his suicide attempt and my intervention.

[ bring up, make out, put out, put across, let them in, turn up]

- Answers :**
- a. make out
  - b. put across
  - c. turned up
  - d. let them in
  - e. brought up

3. To shoot the tiger scene Satyajith Ray and his team ..... (a) a village named Boral.

(b)

The tiger had ..... a thin steel wire around its neck. Ray asked the villagers

(c)

(d)

to.....from the tiger. But they didn't obey. As the team couldn't .....their

work, they opened the cage and the tiger emerged with a loud roar.

[ put off, put on, keep away, call on, call at, give up ]

- Answers :**
- a. Called at
  - b. Put on
  - c. Keep away
  - d. Put off

**Phrasal verbs** : Phrasal verbs are verbs in the form of phrases.

**Some examples**

Break down – collapse	Come across / upon - find by chance
Break in- enter by force	Get over – recover from
Break out - begin	Give up – abandon an attempt
Call at – visit (a place)	Go on – continue
Call on – visit (a person)	Go through – examine carefully, suffer
Call off – cancel	Put forward – suggest
Carry on – continue	put on – wear
Keep on – continue	Put off – postpone
Look after – take care of	Put up with – tolerate
Look for – search for	Set off – start (a series of events)
Look out – be watchful	Set off / out – start a journey
Look over – examine	Turn down – reject
Make out - understand	Turn up – arrive
Put across - communicate	

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