

Question 41.

List out the words and expressions that indicate the mad flight of the balloon.

Answer:

The mad flight of the balloon is described:

- The basket trembles and tips over.
- The guy-rope touches the tall trees.
- The balloon passes with frightful rapidity.
- Bewildered chickens, pigeons, and ducks fly away
- Cows, cats and dogs run, terrified, toward the house.

Question 42.

What action does Mallet perform?

Answer:

Mallet reaches for the rope to the escape valve and hangs on to it. Then the cord to the anchor is cut with a knife.

Question 43.

Comment on the visual effect of 'the balloon landing'.

Answer:

The balloon landing is visualized like the fall of a wounded beast during a hunt. It is very effectively pictured as a wounded beast trying to escape. But then it falls down and struggles, finally breathing its last.

Question 44.

Describe the reception of the balloon by the peasants.

Answer:

The peasants ran towards the landing balloon and as they waited for the balloon to deflate, a few of the peasants were jumping and gesturing like savages. The peasants were accommodating and hospitable and helped the travellers to pack all their material and carry it to the nearest station.

Question 1.

Imagine that you get a chance to be the captain of a tour programme. What type of a captain would you like to become?

Answer:

I would like to be a smart and efficient tour programme captain. Everyone in the programme should enjoy and have fun.

List the qualities of an ideal Captain.

- Helpful
- Efficient
- Smart
- Resourceful
- Courageous
- Humorous

Activity – II (Live TV report)

Question 2.

Draft a live TV report of Le Horla's take off.

Answer:

Next on our infotainment section we have Rahul Binoy reporting live on the story "Le Horla Conquers the Skies' from the Gas works at La Villette.

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Today is the day, 8th July, for Le Horla is taking off from La Villette. We are right in front of Le Horla, the hot air balloon. It is getting filled up and is swelling and wriggling like a huge worm. It is surrounded by some 300 enthusiastic people. Now the passengers are getting in. The Captain is Jovis. The others in the basket attached to the balloon are Lieutenant Mallet, M. Etierine Beer, M. Paul Bessand, and M. Patrice Eyries.

I see them talking animatedly. Now Patrice Eyries is coming down. It seems he can't go because the balloon can't take the weight of all of them. He walks away dejectedly. Poor guy! All his dream of an adventure is gone!

M. Joliet tells the ladies to keep off. When the balloon lifts sand will be thrown into their hats. He cuts the ropes that hold the balloon to the ground. Look! Le Horla is lifting upward, like a bird lifts off. Up, up and up goes the balloon! People scream with joy! Le Horla climbs above the city of Paris and it is slowly disappearing! The sight of the earth from the balloon will be fantastic. We wish the passengers a lot of luck!

Activity – III (Dos and Don'ts)

Question 3.

While planning a trip, we have to consider many things. What are the dos and the don'ts while doing so?

Answer:

DOs

- Take a first aid kit.
- Wear appropriate clothes.
- Wear proper shoes.
- Ensure you have some drinking water.
- Keep enough money.
- If you are going abroad, ensure you have your . passport and visa with you.
- Have your camera.

DON'Ts

- Don't carry expensive things
- Don't overeat before you start a trip.
- Don't carry too much luggage. Less luggage more comfort.
- Don't try to show off by doing very risky things.
- Don't get upset with small irritants.

Activity – IV (Comparison)

Question 4.

Nothing is more amusing, more delicate, more interesting than the manoeuvring of a balloon.

What degree of comparison is used here?

Comparative Degree Read the passage on p.

88. Rewrite it comparing it with the life on earth.

Answer:

Now our minds and thoughts are more independent than they were when we were on earth. We are happier here because we have no regrets. We look and feel better here. Our journey here is wilder and more fantastic than any journey on earth because here the only thing we can see is the moon. We are a wandering, travelling world, like our sisters, the planets. The five of us have almost forgotten

that we belong to the earth as we move in the space like birds. No crowds, no noise, no dust, no smoke! Beautiful blue sky and the right moon! We feel we are in heaven, floating through a stream of joy!

Activity – V (Narration)

Question 5.

Read the notes on the mode of narration given below:

Narrate the landing of the balloon from the point of view of one of the peasants there.

Mode of Narration	Description
First-person narration	In this mode, the narrator is usually the protagonist or central character in the story.
Second-person narration	Directions and instructions are usually narrated from the second-person's perspective.

Third-person narration

There are three distinct modes of third-person narration: objective, limited, and omniscient.

Third-person objective	The narrator does not reveal any of the characters' thoughts or feelings.
Third-person limited	The narrator reveals the thoughts and feelings of one character through explicit narration.
Third-person omniscient V	The narration will reveal more than one character's internal workings; the narrator is all-knowing.

Answer:

I see a huge balloon from which a basket is hanging over the canal at a distance. The basket trembles and tips over slightly. I can see a rope trailing behind touching the tall trees on both banks. Now it is passing with frightful speed over a large farm. The bewildered chickens, pigeons and ducks fly away. The terrified cows, cats and dogs run towards the house. I don't know what is happening. Now the balloon is passing over the trees. I see the balloon and the basket shaking. Something falls down and suddenly the balloon stops. Soon it touches the ground. The basket touches the earth. Then it goes up again. Once more, it falls and bounds upward again and at last, it settles on the ground. The balloon is struggling madly like a wounded beast. Now it comes to a standstill. I see five

men climbing out of the basket. There is the joy of success on their faces. My companions and I help them. They say they want to go to Heyst, a railway station nearby. They want to take the 20:20 train to Paris. We help them to carry their luggage to the station.

Activity – VI (Travel Essay)

Question 6.

Read the notes on Travel Writing on below:

Description of physical features	Paris spreads out beneath us, a dark bluish patch, cut by its streets, from which rise, here and there, domes, towers, steeples...
Practical issues related to travel	...two trumpets, the eatables, the overcoats and raincoats, all the small articles that can go with the men in that flying basket.

<p>Experiences of the place</p>	<p>With the help of the accommodating and hospitable Belgian peasants, we are able, in a short time, to pack up all our materials...</p>
<p>Personal impressions</p>	<p>...we float along through space in delicious inertia. We have become something indescribable, birds who do not even have to flap their wings.</p>

Now, write a travel essay, describing a travel experience you had recently.

Answer:

My parents had promised me a foreign trip if I passed my SSLC with very high scores. I worked very hard and I passed with distinction. So my parents allowed me to go on a trip to Europe. Since travelling alone would be difficult, I decided to join a tour group organized by the company called Intersight, Kochi. The first problem was getting a European visa. The company said it would get it for me. I was planning to go in April. April is hot in Kerala, but in Europe it is still cold. So I had to get warm clothes for the trip. I also needed a good camera.

We started our travel from Kochi. The representative from the Intersight was there to organize things. I reported to the airport 3 hours before the take off time. After completing the check-in, I went for the immigration formalities. After a thorough body check, I was allowed to go into the comfortable waiting lounge.

We were flying by Qatar Airways to Zurich. The flight was announced and we got into the aircraft. It was a huge aircraft. The smiling airhostesses showed us to our seats. Soon we took off. We were served refreshments. After that I watched an in-flight movie. After 3 hours, we landed at Qatar airport. It is a huge airport. We had to spend some time at the airport lounge to get our flight to Zurich.

The flight to Zurich was also by Qatar airways. We were served meals in the flight. After the meals I went off to sleep. Eight hours later, we landed at Zurich. We were taken to our hotel in a coach. It was then I came to know who the people in the group tour were. There was another boy of my age and soon we became friends.

Our first visit was to the Titlis Mountains, in the Alps. On our way, we saw the life of the people. How disciplined people were. How nicely they behaved on the roads. No animals and birds crossed the roads. We hardly saw anyone walking on the roads. On both sides there were fields. We could see cattle grazing. Switzerland is a beautiful country.

Soon we reached Titlis. We would be taken to the top by rope ways and lifts. We reached the top. The scene was breathtaking. The whole area was covered with snow and ice. People were skating. We went for an ice-tunnel walk. They have built a tunnel in the ice and I walked for nearly a kilometre inside the tunnel. Ice on top, ice at the bottom and ice on both sides. It was a wonderful experience. I was exhilarated. Tomorrow we would go to Paris by coach to see the Eiffel Tower and other wonderful sights of that great city.