

ATTINGAL EDUCATIONAL DISTRICT
Standard 10 ENGLISH
The Adventures in a Banyan Tree

EWS 1

TOTAL TIME: 1 hour (5 minutes is given as cool off time)

Questions 1 – 5 : Read the following excerpt from ‘The Adventures in a Banyan Tree’ and answer the questions that follow.

(10 minutes)

Though the house and grounds of our home in India were Grandfather's domain, the magnificent old banyan tree was mine – chiefly because Grandfather, at the age of sixty-five, could no longer climb it. Grandmother used to tease him about this, and would speak of a certain Countess of Desmond, an English woman who lived to the age of 117, and would have lived longer if she hadn't fallen while climbing an apple tree. The spreading branches of the banyan tree, which curved to the ground and took root again, forming a maze of arches, gave me endless pleasure. The tree was older than the house, older than Grandfather, as old as the town of Dehra, nestling in a valley at the foot of the Himalayas.

1. Why did the old banyan tree become the boy's domain?
2. Why did grandmother tease grandfather?
3. What gave the boy endless pleasure?
4. The banyan tree was older than the _____ and _____.
5. A word from the passage means, 'very good, beautiful, or deserving to be admired'. Identify the word.

Question 6 : Answer in about 120 words.

(20 minutes)

The boy sitting on the banyan tree watches the deadly fight between the cobra and the mongoose. He decides to write a letter to one of his friends describing the fight and the involvement of the jungle crow and myna in it. Prepare the likely **letter**.

Question 7 : Answer in about 80 words.

(15 minutes)

The boy discovered that the hole in the banyan tree was crammed with knitting, and amongst the wool he found three white baby squirrels. Prepare a **newspaper report** on the incident.

Question 8. There are a few errors in the passage given below. They are underlined. Edit them.

(10 minutes)

cobra (a) know (b) only too well that the grey mangoose (c), three feet long, was a superb fighter, clever but (d) aggressive. But the cobra were (e) a skilful and experienced fighter too.