

## **QUESTION BANK**

**CLASS -11 TH**

**SUBJECT - ENGLISH**

**BOOK -: SNAPSHOTS**

### **CHAPTER -1 -: The summer of the beautiful white**

**horse** 1-Mark Questions (Very Short Answer / Objective)

1. Who is the author of the story?
2. To which tribe did Aram and Mourad belong?
3. What was the Garoghlanian family most famous for?
4. Who was the actual owner of the beautiful white horse?
5. What was Mourad's special talent according to Aram?

#### **2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Why couldn't Aram believe his eyes when he looked out the window early that morning?
2. How did Mourad justify taking the horse without the owner's permission?
3. What happened during Aram's first solo ride on the white horse?

#### **3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Describe the defining hallmarks of the Garoghlanian tribe.
2. Describe Uncle Khosrove's temperament and his signature catchphrase.
3. What happened when John Byro encountered the boys walking with the white horse?

#### **5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. "A suspicious man would believe his eyes instead of his heart." Analyze John Byro's statement in the context of the story. How did his reaction influence the boys?
2. Compare and contrast the characters of Mourad and Aram. How do their differing perspectives drive the narrative?
3. Discuss the central theme of childhood innocence and how the boys manipulate the definition of "stealing."

#### **Extract**

Early one morning, when I was about nine years old, I woke up and looked out of the window.

My cousin Mourad was sitting on a beautiful white horse.

I rubbed my eyes in disbelief because I knew my cousin couldn't have bought the horse.

Our family was poor and famous for its honesty.

#### **Questions:**

1. Who is the narrator in this extract?
2. Why was the narrator shocked to see Mourad?
3. What does the extract reveal about the Garoghlanian family?

4. What conflict is introduced here?

## **CHAPTER -2-: Mother's Day**

### **Mark Questions (Very Short Answer / Objective)**

1. Who is the playwright of "Mother's Day"?
2. Where did Mrs. Fitzgerald learn the magic spell she uses to swap personalities?
3. What is the name of Doris Pearson's boyfriend, whom her mother heavily criticizes?
4. What does the "new" Mrs. Pearson (with Mrs. Fitzgerald's personality) ask for to drink during the day?
5. What is the nickname that people at the club secretly use for George Pearson?

### **2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Describe Mrs. Pearson's original character at the beginning of the play.
2. How does Doris react when she comes home and finds her mother smoking?
3. What is Mrs. Fitzgerald's strict advice to Mrs. Pearson right after they swap their personalities back?

### **3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Why does Cyril get angry with his mother upon returning home?
2. How does the "new" Mrs. Pearson shatter her husband George's ego?

### **3. Justify the title of the play, "Mother's Day". 5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. Compare and contrast the characters of Mrs. Pearson and Mrs. Fitzgerald. How does their contrast drive the plot?
2. Discuss the central theme of the play. How does J.B. Priestley use humor to deliver a serious social message?
3. Trace the change in the attitude of George, Doris, and Cyril by the end of the play. Do you think this change is permanent?

### **Extract:**

"You've been letting them treat you like that for years," said Mrs. Fitzgerald.

"If you don't let them, they won't. You must stand up for yourself."

Mrs. Pearson looked worried but listened carefully.

She knew things had to change in her family.

### **Questions:**

1. Who are the two speakers in this extract?
2. What problem is being discussed?
3. What advice is being given?

4. How does this moment affect the storyline?

### **CHAPTER -3 -: Birth**

#### **1-Mark Questions (Very Short Answer / Objective)**

1. Who is the author of the story "Birth"?
2. What is the name of the protagonist doctor?
3. Who was pacing the street, waiting for the doctor at midnight?
4. Why was this pregnancy particularly significant for the Morgans?
5. What is the medical term used in the text for the baby's condition upon birth?

#### **2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. What was Dr. Andrew Mans on's emotional and physical state before arriving at the Morgan house?
2. Why did Joe Morgan refuse to go inside the house with the doctor?
3. What dilemma did Andrew face immediately after the baby was born?

#### **3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Describe the condition of the baby when it was first delivered.
2. How did the elderly midwife react to the stillborn child, and what did she do?
3. What desperate method did Andrew use to revive t he baby?

#### **4-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. "I've done something; oh, God! I've done something real at last." Explain the profound significance of Andrew's concluding words.
2. Contrast Andrew's mental state at the beginning of the story with his state at the end. How does the night's event transform him?
3. Discuss the intense atmosphere and the battle for life depicted in the Morgan bedroom. How does the author build suspense?

#### **Extract:**

Andrew stood beside the bed, exhausted and tense.

The child lay motionless, not a sound coming from it.

The midwife had already wrapped it up, believing it was dead.

But Andrew suddenly remembered a method to revive the baby.

#### **Questions:**

1. What was the condition of the baby?
2. How did the midwife react?
3. What decision did Andrew take?
4. What qualities of Andrew are shown here?

## **CHAPTER -4 -: The tale of the melon**

### **city 1-Mark Questions (Objective)**

1. Who is the poet of "The Tale of Melon City"?
2. How does the poet initially describe the king?
3. What structure did the king order to be built across the thoroughfare?
4. What mishap occurred when the king rode under the newly built structure?
5. According to the idiot who passed the City Gate, who should be the next king?

### **2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. What was the king's stated purpose for building the arch?
2. Why did the placid king suddenly lose his temper?
3. How did the architect successfully defend himself and shift the blame?

### **3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Outline the chain of blame that occurs before the final hanging.
2. Why was the oldest man in the city summoned, and what was his verdict?
3. How was the new ruler of the city chosen ?

### **5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. Examine the heavy irony behind the king's characterization as "just and placid."
2. "The Tale of Melon City" is a sharp satire on the nature of statecraft, justice, and the public. Discuss.
3. Analyze the significance of the "noose" in the poem. How does it dictate the climax of the story?

### **Extract:**

The king ordered that a guilty person must be punished.

But when the blame was passed, each person blamed another.

The architect blamed the workmen, and the workmen blamed others.

The chain of blame continued endlessly in the court.

### **Questions:**

1. What kind of justice system is shown here?
2. Why does the blame keep shifting?
3. What does this reveal about the king?
4. What is the satirical element in this extract?

## **POEMS -:**

### **A photograph**

**1-Mark Questions (Very Short Answer / Objective)**

1. Who is the poet of "A Photograph"?
2. What material is the frame holding the photograph made of?
3. Who are the two cousins holding the poet's mother's hands in the photograph?
4. How old was the poet's mother when the photograph was taken?

5. Who took the photograph of the three girls on the beach?

**2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. What has not changed over the years, as mentioned in the poem?
2. Why did the mother laugh when looking at the snapshot years later?
3. What does the word "cardboard" denote in the context of the poem?

**3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Explain the literary device and meaning behind the phrase "terribly transient feet."
2. What is the meaning of the line, "Both wry with the labored ease of loss"?
3. What is the "silence" that the poet refers to in the final stanza?

**5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. Analyze how the poem explores the themes of loss, memory, and the inevitable passage of time.

2. How does the poet contrast the immortality of nature with the mortality of human beings?

Provide examples from the text.

3. Discuss the significance of the three distinct stanzas in the poem. What phase of life does each represent?

**Extract:**

The cardboard shows me how it was

When the two girl cousins went paddling.

Each one holding one of my mother's hands,

And she the big girl, some twelve years or so.

**Questions:**

1. What does "cardboard" refer to?
2. Who are the people in the photograph?
3. How old was the mother then?
4. What theme is reflected in this extract?

**Labrum Top**

**1. 2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. How does the poet describe the arrival of the goldfinch?
2. Why does the poet compare the goldfinch to a lizard?

3. What does the phrase "her barred face identity mask" mean?

**3-Mark Questions (Short Answer) .**

1. Explain the phrase "the engine of her family."
2. Describe the transformation that the Laburnum tree undergoes in the poem.
3. What is the significance of the color yellow in the poem?

**5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. "The Laburnum Top" effectively uses contrasting imagery of silence and noise. Discuss this statement with references from the poem.
2. Analyze the symbiotic relationship (mutual dependence) between the Laburnum tree and the goldfinch.
3. Explain the central theme of the poem. How does the poet capture the transient (temporary) nature of life and energy?

**Extract:**

Then sleek as a lizard, and alert, and abrupt,  
She enters the thickness, and a machine starts up  
Of chitterings, and a tremor of wings, and trillings.  
The whole tree trembles and thrills.

**Questions:**

1. Who is "she" in the extract?
2. Why is she compared to a lizard?
3. What happens after she enters the tree?
4. What imagery is used here?

**The of voice of the rain**

**2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. How does the rain describe its upward journey?
2. What happens to the seeds when the rain falls?
3. What does the phrase "altogether changed, and yet the same" mean?

**3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Explain the primary functions of the rain when it descends back to earth.
2. How does the rain "give back life to my own origin"?
3. Why are the last two lines of the poem placed in brackets?

**5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. Justify the parallel drawn between the rain and a song/poetry in the poem.
2. Discuss the central theme of the poem "The Voice of the Rain."

**Extract:**

And who art thou? said I to the soft-falling shower.

Which, strange to tell, gave me an answer.  
I am the Poem of Earth, said the voice of the rain,  
Eternal I rise impalpable out of the land and the bottomless sea.

**Questions:**

1. Who is asking the question in the first line?
2. What is unusual about the rain?
3. Why is rain called the "Poem of Earth"?
4. What literary device is used here?

## **Childhood**

### **1-Mark Questions (Objective / Very Short Answer)**

1. Who is the poet of the poem "Childhood"?
2. At what specific age does the poet suspect his childhood ended?
3. What two places could the poet not locate in his geography books?
4. What did the poet realize about the behavior of adults?

lovingly.

5. Where does the poet conclude his childhood has finally gone?

### **2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Why does the poet specifically mention the age of eleven?
2. What is the poet's profound realization regarding his own mind?
3. What is the shift in the poet's questioning in the final stanza?

### **3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Outline the three major stages of realization the poet goes through in his quest to find his lost childhood.
2. Explain the significance of the lines: "Was it the time I realised that adults were not all they seemed to be?"
3. Why does the poet say that his childhood is "hidden in an infant's face"?

### **5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. Discuss the central theme of the poem "Childhood." How does Markus Natten explore the psychological process of growing up?
2. "Childhood is an essential state of innocence that is lost to the complexities of adulthood." Discuss this statement with reference to the poem.
3. Analyze the poet's changing perspective towards adults in the poem. How does this realization contribute to the loss of his childhood?

### **Extract:**

When did my childhood go?

Was it the day I ceased to be eleven?

Was it the time I realised that Hell and Heaven

Could not be found in Geography?

**Questions:**

1. What is the poet trying to find?
2. Why is the age eleven important?
3. What realization is described here?
4. What theme is highlighted?

**Father to son****1-Mark Questions (Very Short Answer / Objective)**

1. Who is the poet of "Father to Son"?
2. How long have the father and son lived together in the same house?
3. What does the father say surrounds him and his son?
4. What biblical figure does the father compare his son to?
5. What are the father and son both putting out towards each other at the end of the poem?

**2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. What is the central complaint of the father in the opening stanza?
2. What does the father mean by "The seed I spent or sown it where / The land is his and none of mine"?
3. How does the father react to the grief of estrangement?

**3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Why is the father willing to accept his son as a "prodigal"?
2. Explain the paradox in the line: "We speak like strangers, there's no sign / Of understanding in the air."
3. What is the significance of the phrase "Longing for something to forgive"?

**5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. "Father to Son" is a universal commentary on the generation gap. Discuss how the poem brings out the tragedy of a breakdown in communication.
2. Analyze the father's internal conflict and helplessness as depicted in the poem.
3. Comment on the ending of the poem. Does it offer a resolution or leave the situation unresolved? Justify your answer with reference to the text.

**Extract:**

I do not understand this child  
Though we have lived together now  
In the same house for years.  
I know nothing of him.

**Questions:**

1. Who is speaking these lines?

2. What problem is highlighted here?
3. What does this show about their relationship?
4. What theme is reflected in this extract?

## HORNBILL

### CHAPTER -1 -: The portrait of a lady

#### 1-Mark Questions (Objective / Very Short Answer)

1. Who is the author of "The Portrait of a Lady"?
2. How did the author's grandfather appear in the portrait hung in the drawing -room?  
covered his chest.
3. What did the grandmother carry with her to feed the village dogs?
4. What marked the "turning point" in the friendship between the author and his grandmother?  
parents.
5. How did the sparrows react to the grandmother's death?

#### 2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)

1. Why was it hard for the author to believe his grandmother was once young and pretty?
2. Why was the grandmother distressed by the education the author received at the English city school?
3. What was the grandmother's reaction to the author learning music?

#### 3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)

1. Describe the grandmother's daily routine in the village.
2. How did the grandmother spend her time in the city after the author went to the university?
3. How did the grandmother celebrate the author's return from abroad, and what was the consequence?

#### 5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)

1. Trace the changing phases of the relationship between the author and his grandmother from the village to his departure for higher studies.
2. The grandmother was a woman of strong character and deep religious conviction. Justify this statement with examples from the text.
3. Discuss the subtle yet deep bond of love between the author and his grandmother, highlighting how the story serves as a touching tribute.

### The Portrait of a Lady

#### Extract:

My grandmother, like everybody's grandmother, was an old woman. She had been old and wrinkled for the twenty years that I had known her. People said she had once been young and pretty. But that was hard to believe.

#### Questions:

1. How does the author describe his grandmother?
2. Why was it hard for him to believe she was young once?
3. What does this reveal about the narrator's perception?

4. What tone is used here?

**CHAPTER -2 -: we are not afraid to die if we all are together**

**1-Mark Questions (Objective / Very Short Answer )**

1. What was the name, length, and weight of the author's boat?  
beauty.
2. Why did the narrator and his family embark on this sea voyage?  
Captain James Cook.
3. Who were the two crewmen the author hired in Cape Town?

4. What was the first indication of impending disaster on January 2?

appeared aft of the ship.

5. What island were they desperately trying to reach for safety?

### **2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Why did the author hire the two crewmen in Cape Town?

2. How did the author protect himself and the crew before the massive wave hit?

3. What did the author use to temporarily fix the gaping holes in the starboard side?

### **3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Describe the immediate aftermath of the colossal wave striking the Wavewalker .

2. What role did Larry and Herb play during the crisis?

3. How did Suzanne (Sue) react to her injuries during the ordeal?

### **5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. Justify the title of the story. How does it reflect the central theme of the narrative?

2. Contrast the reactions of the adults and the children when faced with the danger of sinking.

3. Describe the final stretch of their journey and what made Ile Amsterdam the "most beautiful island in the world" to them.

### **Extract:**

A tremendous wave hit the boat.

The deck was shattered, and water rushed in.

I was thrown overboard but managed to get back.

The boat was badly damaged and in danger.

### **Questions:**

1. What caused the disaster?

2. What happened to the narrator?

3. What was the condition of the boat?

4. What theme is highlighted here?

## **CHAPTER -2-: Discovering tut the saga continues**

### **1-Mark Questions (Objective / Very Short Answer)**

1. Who discovered King Tut's tomb, and in what year?

2. Who was Zahi Hawass?

3. What new name did Amenhotep IV take, and what did it mean?

disk).

4. What startling fact was revealed by an anatomy professor who X-rayed the mummy in 1968?

5. What caused the CT scanner to temporarily stop working during King Tut's scan?

### **2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Why did Howard Carter have to chisel away the solidified resins from King Tut's mummy?
2. Why was King Tut's body subjected to a CT scan in 2005?
3. What did Carter's men do to the mummy to remove the gold adornments?

### **3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. "The mummy is in very bad condition because of what Carter did in the 1920s." Explain Zahi Hawass's statement.
2. Describe the drastic changes Amenhotep IV brought about during his reign in Egypt.
3. What is "The Curse of the Pharaoh," and how did the weather on the night of the scan seem to reflect it?

### **5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. Discuss the stark contrast between the archaeological methods of Howard Carter in 1922 and the modern methods used on King Tut today.
2. "King Tut's demise was a big event, even by royal standards." Elaborate on this statement based on the text.
3. Describe the tense atmosphere and the technical challenges faced by the team on the night King Tut was scanned.

### **Extract:**

In 1922, Howard Carter discovered King Tut's tomb.  
The mummy was found adorned with gold and treasures.  
Years later, it was damaged due to rough handling.  
Modern technology was later used to study it again.

### **Questions:**

1. Who discovered the tomb?
2. Why was the mummy damaged?
3. What modern method was used later?
4. What does this reveal about archaeology?

## **CHAPTER -3:The ailing planet**

### **1-Mark Questions (Objective / Very Short Answer)**

1. When and where was the world's first nationwide Green party founded?
2. Who is the author of the article "The Ailing Planet: the Green Movement's Role"?
3. According to Lester R. Brown, what are the earth's four principal biological systems ?
4. What question did the First Brandt Commission Report raise regarding the earth's future?

impoverished landscapes and ailing environment?"

5. Whose words are these: "We have not inherited this earth from our forefathers; we have borrowed it from our children"?

**2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. What does the notice "The world's most dangerous animal" at the cage in the zoo at Lusaka, Zambia, signify?
2. What is the "holistic and ecological view" of the world that has recently emerged?
3. What does Article 48A of the Constitution of India state regarding the environment?

**3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. "Forests precede mankind; deserts follow." Explain the mechanics behind this statement.
2. How are the earth's principal biological systems collapsing under human pressure?
3. Define the concept of "sustainable development" as popularized in 1987.

**5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. "The earth's vital signs reveal a patient in declining health." Justify this statement with evidence from Nani Parkvale's essay.

2. Analyze the author's views on the problem of overpopulation. Why does he consider it one of the strongest factors distorting the future of human society?
3. Discuss the significance of the Green Movement as described in the chapter. How has it changed human perception?

**Extract:**

The earth's vital signs reveal a patient in declining health.

Forests are disappearing, and deserts are expanding.

Human activities are putting pressure on natural systems.

The future of the planet is at risk.

**Questions:**

1. Why is Earth compared to a patient?
2. What environmental problems are mentioned?
3. What is causing these problems?
4. What message does the author give?

**CHAPTER -4-: The Adventure**

**1-Mark Questions (Objective / Very Short Answer)**

1. Who is the author of the story "The Adventure"?
2. What was Professor Gangadhar pant Gaitonde 's profession?
3. Which major historical event's outcome was altered in the parallel universe Gaitonde visited?
4. What building did Professor Gaitonde visit in Bombay to research the changed history?
5. What is the name of the scientist friend who explains Gaitonde's bizarre experience?

**2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. What shocked Professor Gaitonde when he stepped out of the Victoria Terminus station in Bombay?
2. What was the crucial difference in the outcome of the Battle of Panipat in the alternate reality?
3. Why was Professor Gaitonde thrown off the stage at Azad Maidan?

**3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. How did the victory in the Battle of Panipat change the course of Indian history in the alternate universe?
2. What physical evidence did Gangadhar pant bring back from the alternate reality?
3. How does Rajendra Deshpande apply the "Catastrophe Theory" to the Battle of Panipat?

**5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. How does Rajendra Deshpande use Quantum Theory to explain Professor Gaitonde's transition to a parallel universe?

2. Compare and contrast the India of Gangadhar Pant's actual reality with the India of the alternate universe he visited.
3. Discuss the unique blend of history and science in Jayant Narlikar's "The Adventure."

**Extract:**

Professor Gaitonde stepped out of the station in Bombay.  
He was surprised to see things very different from what he knew.  
History seemed to have taken another course.  
He realized he might be in a parallel world.

**Questions:**

1. What shocked Professor Gaitonde?
2. What does the parallel world mean here?
3. Which concept explains this situation?
4. How does this affect the story?

**CHAPTER -5-: Silk Road**

1-Mark Questions (Objective / Very Short Answer)

1. Who is the author of the travelogue "Silk Road"?
2. What was the purpose of the author's journey?
3. What parting gift did Lhamo give the author before he left Ravu?  
protect him from the extreme cold.
4. Who was Tsetan?  
terrain to Mount Kailash.
5. Name the two companions who started the journey with the author.

**2-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Describe the Tibetan mastiffs as seen by the author.
2. Why was the author's experience in Hor a stark contrast to the religious texts he had read?
3. What physical problems did the author face when he arrived in Darchen?

**3-Mark Questions (Short Answer)**

1. Who was Norbu and why did the author find him to be an ideal companion?
2. How did the Darchen medical college treat the author's illness?
3. What was Tsetan's attitude towards the author's illness and potential death?

**5-Mark Questions (Long Answer)**

1. Describe the severe physical and mental struggles the author faced in Darchen before he met Norbu.
2. "The narrative 'Silk Road' contrasts the romanticized view of a pilgrimage with its harsh realities." Discuss.
3. Evaluate the character of Tsetan and his importance to the author's journey.

**Extract:**

The journey through the mountains was long and tiring.  
The air was thin, and breathing became difficult.  
The author felt weak and suffered from altitude sickness.  
Yet, he continued his journey with determination.

**Questions:**

1. What difficulties did the author face?
2. Why was breathing difficult?
3. What illness did he suffer from?
4. What quality of the author is shown here?