

Model Question English – 1

(Ajay Kumar Chakraborti, Ballygunge Govt. High School, Kolkata)

1. Complete each of the sentences which follow by choosing the correct answer from the alternatives given : 1 x 4 = 4

(i) "The young lady stepped close to the expert"

___ The 'young lady' was

(a) Miss Bennet

(b) Miss Smith

(c) Miss Sullivan

(d) Miss Raby

Ans: (b) Miss Smith

(ii) The man who was sitting on the bench near the writer was a

(a) cotton merchant

(b) tobacco merchant

(c) hide merchant

(d) wheat merchant

Ans: (b) tobacco merchant

2. Answer the questions which follow (each in about 30 words) 3

"The idea originated with Ram Saran"

___ What was the idea and how was it carried out ?

Ans: The 'idea' was to establish a school for the children of workmen and of the lowly-paid railway staff at Mokameh Ghat.

It was carried out by renting a hut for twenty odd students, appointing a master who had to tactfully overcome the initial hurdle of caste prejudices.

3. Answer the question which follow (in about 50 words) : 5

Q. What were the Christmas Day celebrations at Mokameh Ghat ?

Ans: The Christmas Day celebration was a big affair at Mokameh Ghat. On that day Ram Saran and his workmen would decorate the office with signal flags and flowers. Sharp at ten in the morning Ram Saran, colourfully attired, would fetch Corbett to the place. The programme would start with the garlanding of Corbett followed by a long speech of Ram Saran and a short one by Corbett. Subsequently, sweet would be distributed among the children. The celebration would conclude with the distribution of cash bonus to Ram Saran and his workmen.

5. Answer the question which follow (in about 30 words) 3

Q. How does Nature lead us to an unknown world ?

Ans: Nature, like a fond but strict mother, takes away our playthings (worldly ties and attachments) one by one and prepare us for our journey to an unknown world. She does so to give us eternal repose and peace.

6. Answer the question which follow (in about 50 words) : 5

Q. Bring out the significance of the title of the poem
“Where The Mind Is Without Fear”.

Ans: The title of Rabindranath Tagore’s poem, ‘Where the Mind is Without Fear’ is also the first line of the poem and is one of the most significant sub-clauses which go to build up the poem. The ‘World of Freedom’, which Tagore envisions for his countrymen, can only be attained if we possess a fearless mind. Only a fearless mind can hold its head upright. So attain true freedom one has to have a mind which is ‘Without fear’. In this sense the title is very significant and has been an apt one.

7. Answer the question which follow (in about 30 words) : 3

Q. How was the convict treated in the prison ?

Ans: In the prison the convict was very badly treated. He was chained like a wild beast and whipped like a dog. He was given dirty inedible food to eat and was made to live in a filthy condition. He had to sleep on wooden planks. His name was taken away and he was called by a number.

8. Answer the question which follow (in about 50 words) : 5

Q. Sketch the character of Bishop.

Ans: The Bishop in Norman McKinnel’s one act play “The Bishop’s Candlesticks” is the embodiment of a true Christian. He has all the virtues which a bishop ought to have — he is selfless, kind, generous and charitable. He has a childlike innocence and does not understand any ‘dupe’. His absolute faith in God has made him fearless. The convict’s treats to kill him fail to unnerve him. He hates sin but loves sinners. The way he restores the convict’s faith in Christianity is remarkable. Even the convict recognizes his goodness towards the end of the play, “... but somehow I — I ... know you are good...” He is the most adorable

character in the play. No wonder person calls him the best man in the whole of France.

9. Rewrite the sentences which follow as directed, without changing their meaning. 2 x 5 = 10

i) Move him into the Sun. (Change the voice)

Ans: Let him be moved into the Sun.

OR

You are asked to move him into the Sun.

ii) In many cases environmental plunder is an infringement of distributive justice (Use the verb form of 'infringement')

Ans: In many cases environmental plunder infringes upon distributive justice.

iii) 'Into that heaven of freedom let my country awake' (Turn into indirect)

Ans: The speaker prayed that his country should be awakened into the world of freedom.

iv) Nature deals with us and takes away our playthings one by one. (Turn into a simple sentence)

Ans: Nature deals with us taking away our playthings one by one.

v) All of this was very primitive. (Make it negative)

Ans: None of this was modern.

B. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions : $\frac{1}{2} \times 6 = 3$

_____ me _____ young man _____ England who had recently joined _____ railway and who had been sent _____ me _____ study the system of work.

Ans: With me was a young man from England who had recently joined the railway and who had been sent to me to study the system of work.

C. With each of the following wh-words, frame a question in such a way that the answer matches the given content : 1 x 2 = 2

i) How :

Content : Work at the start had been very strenuous for us.

Ans: How was the work at the start for you all ?

ii) What :

Content : Environmental degradation has compromised many improvements.

Ans: What has environmental degradation done ?

**10. Write a letter within 120 words to the editor of an English daily about the importance of afforestation (the planting of trees)
(cause of rainfall — prevention flood — balances O₂ and CO₂ — preservation of life on earth)** 10

Ans : 64/1 Biren Roy Road (East)
Kolkata – 700008
18 February 2009

The Editor
The Statesman
Kolkata – 700001.

Sir,

Unplanned urbanisation and indiscriminate felling of trees have destroyed the green cover of the earth and have made it what it is today — a jungle of concrete. This has posed a great threat to the environment and to our very existence. Trees play a vital role in maintaining the ecological balance and the way deforestation is going on at present, will have fatal consequences on ecology and the environment. Already we have started to feel the conditions throughout the world, frequent occurrence of natural calamities, changes in the cycle of seasons, global-warming, rising pollution — all these are directly or indirectly related to this large scale felling of trees. Some environmentalists fear that if we do not act now a catastrophe is imminent.

It is hightime that we take up afforestation programmes on a large scale to repair the damage that has already been done. Your esteemed column can play a great role in goading the Govt. to address the issue with all the seriousness that it deserves.

Yours truly
A. K. Chakrabarti

11. Write a summary of the passage which follows in about 100 words : 10

The historian is a person whose questions are about the past. He is generally supposed to be a person whose question are exclusively about the past, about a past, namely, that is dead and gone, and in no sense at all living on into the present. This is a delusion. The historian cannot answer questions about the past

unless he has evidence about it. His evidence, if he has it, must be something existing here and now in his present world. If there were a past event which had left no trace of any kind in the present world it would be a past event for which now there was no evidence and nobody — no historian — could know nothing about it. The past which a historian studies is not a dead past but a past which in some sense is still living in the present. There are in history no beginnings and no endings. History books begin and end, but the events they describe do not.

Ans:

It is a delusion to think that the historian deal with the dead past which has no connection with the living present. The historian needs evidence which has its existence in the present world, otherwise he would not be able to know anything about it. So the historian study the past which is in some sense living. The events described in history books have a link with the present and therefore do not have an end.