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# The English Treasure

Answer Key

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## 1. From a Railway Carriage

### Comprehension

- A.
1. a. The train is faster than fairies and witches.
  - b. The poet compares the railway carriages to troops in a battle because they are marching like soldiers towards their destination.
  - c. hill; plain.
- 2.
- a. It is an idiom used by the poet, which means 'very quickly'. The poet is referring to the speed of the train.
  - b. The adjective, 'painted' has been used to describe the stations. Another meaning of station is 'an assigned place or position'.
  - c. The tramp is standing and gazing aimlessly.
- B.
1. The poet uses an array of images because it highlights the underlying theme of the poem, which is speed and transience. Thus, he gives us various fleeting glimpses of images which are almost blurred.
  2. We can see bridges, houses, ditches, hedges, meadows, horses, cattle, hills, plains, stations, a child, a tramp, a cart, a man, roads, a mill and a river.
  3. He presents a contrast to the train's speed by showing a child moving with a lot of difficulty, a tramp gazing aimlessly and a cart which is lumping along the road.
  4. The poet means that you only get a quick look at something as the train passes it by, never to see it again.

### Vocabulary

- A.
1. Like troops in a battle.
  2. As thick as driving rain.

- B. 1. nails/a rock                      2. butter/fur                      3. sugar/honey  
4. an angel                      5. an eagle/a bird                      6. a tree

Sentence: *Free response.*

## Listening



### Play CD Track 1 or read the text aloud.

#### *Audio script*

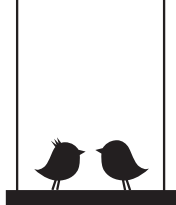
We boarded the train at Kastinagar. It would take us one day to reach Zariwapur. It was a cold, foggy morning and the station wore a deserted look. We could see a few beggars and the owner of an old tea shop, working drowsily, at the station. We were perhaps the only people who boarded the Tismabad Express that morning. The train chugged along. After an hour into the journey, the train stopped a little outside a tunnel. We were in the midst of a jungle. Alas! My parents didn't allow my brother and I to get down and explore the jungle. Apparently, a herd of elephants was passing and one of them had decided to sit right in the middle of the railway tracks. It took two hours for the forest department professionals to persuade and cajole the elephant to move away from the track. The journey had given us an exciting incident to narrate to our cousins in Zariwapur.

#### *Answers*

1. The journey began at Kastinagar.
2. The children were going to Zariwapur.
3. The train that the children boarded was called Tismabad Express.
4. The train stopped outside a tunnel in the middle of a jungle because a herd of elephants was passing by and one of the elephants sat in the middle of the tracks thereby blocking the train tracks.
5. The children wanted to get down from the train and explore the jungle.
6. The journey had given them an exciting incident to narrate to their cousins.

## Writing

*Free response.*



## 2. The Window

### Comprehension

- A.
1. a. The two men were patients at a hospital. They were seriously ill and were undergoing medical treatment.
  - b. One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to receive his daily medical treatment. The other man had to spend all his time flat on his back.
  - c. They spoke to each other about their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service and where they had been to on vacation.
2. a. The nurse said these words to the man who could not get up from his bed.
- b. The man who could not get up needed this encouragement because his roommate at the hospital had died.
- c. Although the man near the window was blind, he used to narrate the scene outside in vivid detail to cheer the other man, despite there being a brick wall outside. The nurse encouraged the other man to appreciate his deceased roommate's efforts.
- B.
1. According to the man near the window, the window overlooked a park with a beautiful lake. Ducks and swans played on the water. Children sailed their paper model boats in the water. Young lovers held hands and walked around colourful flowers. Grand-looking old trees graced the landscape and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance.
  2. The other man could not hear the parade because there wasn't actually a parade passing by. It was just a scene that the first man had created and described.
  3. The man near the window was blind. He did not know that his window faced a wall. He also knew that the other patient in the

room couldn't even get up and therefore, must be miserable. In order to encourage and enliven him and to make him feel better, the blind man would describe different scenes every day. It tells us that the man was compassionate, kind and sensitive to others. He was also quite the story-teller.

4. The theme of the story is that there is great joy in making others happy, in spite of our own situation. When happiness is shared, it is said to double. We must always remember that richness is not due to money; if we want to feel rich, we must count all the things we have that money cannot buy—such as affection, care and help.

### Vocabulary

1. rude
2. reduce
3. placate
4. conform
5. exquisite

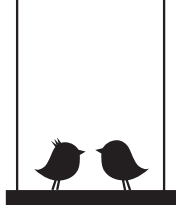
### Speaking

*Free response.*

### Writing

*Free response.*





### 3. My Financial Career

#### Comprehension

- A.
- a. The narrator went to the accountant because he wanted to see the manager to open an account in the bank.
  - b. The narrator is rattled by seeing the bank, the clerks, the wickets, money and everything else. He is rattled because he is entering an elaborate setup which is intimidating to an ordinary individual.
  - c. The manager looked at the narrator in alarm because he had requested to meet the manager 'alone'.
- 2.
- a. The narrator caught the echo of a roar of laughter.
  - b. There was an echo of a roar of laughter because the narrator had just made a fool of himself in the eyes of the entire staff at the bank.
  - c. He finally keeps his savings in silver dollars inside a sock.
- B.
1. The manager thought that the narrator was either one of Pinkerton's men, a detective, or the son of Baron Rothschild
  2. The people at the bank thought that the narrator might be an invalid millionaire.
  3. The clerk was shocked when he saw the cheque because the narrator had written the entire sum that he had just deposited.
  4. He made a wretched attempt to look like a man who had a fearfully quick temper. He made the attempt because he had ridiculed himself in front of everybody at the bank.
  5. The narrator chose to have the money back in fifties and in sixes.

## Vocabulary

- |    |               |              |
|----|---------------|--------------|
| A. | 1. beforehand | 2. timidly   |
|    | 3. detective  | 4. thrust    |
|    | 5. attempt    |              |
| B. | 1. worthy     | 2. confident |
|    | 3. cheerful   | 4. cautious  |
|    | 5. withdraw   |              |

## Listening



**Play CD Track 2 or read the text aloud.**

*Audio script*

If I had lots of money  
I would just eat milk and honey.

If I had lots of cash  
I would throw a great big bash.

If I had lots to spend  
All my toys I could mend.

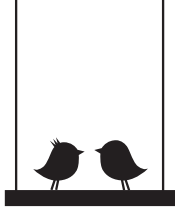
If I had lots to use  
You would see me on the news.

*Answers*

1. I would just eat milk and honey.
2. I would throw a great big bash.
3. All my toys I could mend.
4. You would see me on the news.

## Writing

*Free response.*



## 4. Abou Ben Adhem

### Comprehension

- A.
- a. He saw an angel in his room.
  - b. He could see in the darkness because of the moonlight streaming in his room.
  - c. The poet means that good people like Abou Ben Adhem should increase in this world to make it a better place.
- 2.
- a. Abou Ben Adhem said these words to the Angel that appeared in his room.
  - b. 'One' here refers to the names of people that were there on the list. He was enquiring if his name was on the list of people who loved God.
  - c. The speaker's name was not there on the first list. We know this because the vision told Ben Adhem that his name was not there on the list of those people who loved God.
- B.
1. Abou Ben Adhem woke up one night from a deep dream of peace.
  2. The Angel was writing the names of those people who loved God in a book of gold.
  3. By saying 'great wakening light,' the poet means that that night the angel came with a revelation and Ben gained true knowledge and became enlightened.
  4. Ben Adhem's name led all the rest because unlike every other person who claimed to love God, he chose to give his name as one who loves his fellow men. God was pleased with Ben Adhem's selfless attitude and chose to bless him first.

### Vocabulary

- A.
1. Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace

2. like a lily in bloom
3. Nay, not so
4. I pray thee, then
5. The next night

**B.** Simile: Making it rich, and like a lily in bloom.

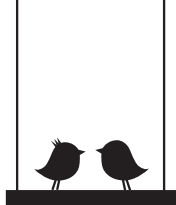
Explanation: The moonlight made Abou Ben Adhem's room light up like a fresh lily in full bloom.

### Speaking

*Free response.*

### Writing

*Free response.*



## 5. The Conjuror's Revenge

### Comprehension

- A.
1. a. The Quick Man said these words to the rest of the audience for every trick that the conjurer was performing.
  - b. The conjurer had just conjured up a bowl of goldfish out of an empty cloth.
  - c. The next trick performed by the conjurer was the famous Hindostanee rings trick, where he joined three separate rings together.
- 2.
- a. The conjurer wants to put the Quick Man's gold watch into the mortar and smash it.
  - b. The conjurer also asked for the Quick Man's handkerchief, silk hat, celluloid collar and spectacles.
  - c. The conjurer took his revenge by breaking the Quick Man's watch, punching holes into his handkerchief, burning his collar, smashing his spectacles and dancing on his hat.
- B.
1. a. He conjured a bowl of goldfish out of an empty cloth.
  - b. He performed the famous Hindostanee rings trick.
  - c. He extracted seventeen eggs from a hat.
2. The conjurer was upset by the fact that every trick performed by him was dubbed by the Quick Man as 'having things up his sleeves'. Soon, even the audience followed suit and thought like the Quick Man.
3. To prove to the audience that all his tricks were not up his sleeve, the conjurer asked the Quick Man to give his belongings in order to be smashed and destroyed.

### Vocabulary

- A.
- |          |             |          |
|----------|-------------|----------|
| 1. crib  | 2. magician | 3. occur |
| 4. decay | 5. braces   |          |

- B.**    1. two                      2. four                      3. three  
          4. three                    5. two

## Listening



**Play CD Track 3 or read the text aloud.**

*Audio script*

## Zig Zag Girl

### Table of death

## Indian Rope Trick

## Devil's Torture Chamber

## Bullet Catch

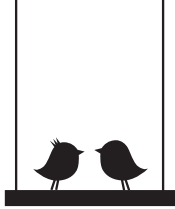
## Answers

Students will tick:

1. Zig Zag Girl
2. Table of Death
3. Indian Rope Trick
4. Devil's Torture Chamber
5. Bullet Catch

## Writing

*Free response.*



## 6. The Surprise Gifts

### Comprehension

- A.
1. a. Madam Sofronie said these words to Della.  
b. Madam Sofronie wanted to take a look at Della's beautiful hair before buying her locks.  
c. She was pleased to see the brown cascade of Della's hair ripple down as she untied her hair to be examined.  
d. Della was immediately offered twenty dollars for her prized possession.
  2. a. Della said these words to Jim.  
b. Dandy is an exclamation that is used to refer to something that is excellent.  
c. The speaker is referring to the platinum fob chain that she bought for Jim's gold watch.  
d. The listener was taken aback by the surprise and tumbled down on the couch and smiled at Della's gesture. He realised that both of them had parted with their most prized possessions. Jim asked her to put their Christmas presents away saying that they were too nice to be used at present.
- B.
1. Della counted one dollar and eighty-seven cents. She counted it thrice to make sure that she had not mistakenly left out any more money than the little amount that she had.
  2. Yes, poverty poses as an obstacle for Della's happiness because it prevents her from expressing her love for Jim.
  3. Della gets upset because she is scared that Jim might get upset when he sees her and might no longer find her pretty.
  4. Della bought a simple and elegant platinum fob chain for Jim's watch while Jim bought Della a set of pure tortoise shell combs with jewelled rims. The gifts were special because it was what

both of them had really wanted but had been unable to afford for themselves.

### **Vocabulary**

1. practiced
2. depreciate
3. simplest
4. bright
5. wise

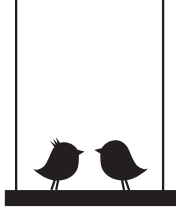
### **Speaking**

*Free response.*

### **Writing**

*Free response.*





## 7. The Owl and the Pussy Cat

### Comprehension

- A.
1. a. The Cat said these words to the Owl.  
b. The Cat suggested that they should now get married.  
c. The speaker made the request because they had already delayed their marriage for a long time.  
d. They had delayed the marriage because they had been unable to find a ring.
  2. a. The Owl and the Pussy Cat set sail in a boat and travelled to the land where the Bong-Tree grew in search of a ring.  
b. The Pig willingly gave the two lovers the ring for one shilling.  
c. The buyers took the ring and were married the next day by the Turkey who lived on the hill.
- B.
1. An owl, a pussy cat, a pig and a turkey appear in the poem.
  2. The Owl and the Cat decide to set sail to get married. They go out to sea in a beautiful pea-green boat.
  3. Yes, there was a delay in their marriage. The Cat says that their marriage was delayed because they waited for a long time and it got delayed further because they were unable to find a ring.
  4. The Owl and the Cat bought their ring from the Pig.
  5. After marriage, the Owl and the Pussy Cat went to the hill and dined on mince and slices of quince with the Turkey. They went hand in hand and danced by the light of the moon.

### Vocabulary

*Free response.*

## Listening



**Play CD Track 4 or read the text aloud.**

*Audio script*

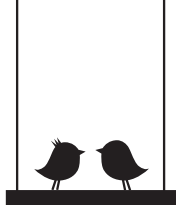
Man is the only creature that consumes without producing. He does not give milk, he does not lay eggs, he is too weak to pull the plough, he cannot run fast enough to catch rabbits. Yet he is lord of all the animals. He sets them to work, he gives back to them the bare minimum that will prevent them from starving, and the rest he keeps for himself. Our labour tills the soil, our dung fertilises it, and yet there is not one of us that owns more than his bare skin. You cows that I see before me, how many thousands of gallons of milk have you given during this last year? And what has happened to that milk which should have been breeding up sturdy calves? Every drop of it has gone down the throats of our enemies. And you hens, how many eggs have you laid in this last year, and how many of those eggs ever hatched into chickens? The rest have all gone to market to bring in money for Jones and his men. And you, Clover, where are those four foals you bore, who should have been the support and pleasure of your old age? Each was sold at a year old—you will never see one of them again. In return for your four confinements and all your labour in the fields, what have you ever had except your bare rations and a stall?

*Answers*

- |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|
| 1. T | 2. T | 3. F |
| 4. F | 5. F | 6. F |

## Writing

*Free response.*



## 8. What's Your Dream?

### Comprehension

- A.
1. a. The beggar said these words to the narrator.
  - b. The listener replied that he didn't remember what dream he had last night.
  - c. The speaker was not satisfied with the reply because he was referring to something else.
  - d. The beggar was satisfied when the narrator told him what he truly dreamt of having—a room of his own.
- 2.
- a. The beggar said these words.
  - b. He wants the boy to be strong and wise because achieving one's goals requires hard work and determination as there is no magic formula for it.
  - c. The beggar advises the boy to follow his dreams but cautions him against standing in the way of other people's dreams and causing them harm. Such a dream fulfilment would be of no use.
- B.
1. The narrator was startled when the beggar spoke because he asked a very strange question and spoke in English, which was a rarity in those days in India.
  2. The boy was not happy with his current room because he had to share it with his brothers and sisters and also his aunt when she would visit.
  3. The beggar advised the young boy to work persistently towards achieving his goals, to keep distractions away and to not take away any other person's dreams. He also advised him not to be greedy or careless and not to take things for granted.
  4. *Free response.*

5. The boy went back home and demanded a room of his own. He realized that freedom was something that one had to insist upon.

### Vocabulary

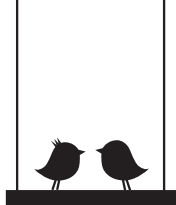
1. Think before you act.
2. Do not delay important work.
3. All that looks nice on the outside need not be really valuable.
4. What you do will decide what you get.
5. It is what we do that matters and not just what we say.
6. Don't think too much about what has already been done.

### Speaking

*Free response.*

### Writing

*Free response.*



## 9. The Demon Driver

### Comprehension

- A.
1. a. The cop said these words to the driver when he was driving a car.
  - b. The cop had confiscated the driver's license. However, when the driver handed him money, possibly as bribe, the cop promptly handed his license back. So, now, driving for the driver was not a problem anymore.
  - c. After handing over money to the cop, the driver could now drive all the way to Kolkata if he wanted.
2. a. 'We' refers to the driver's friends in the above lines. They are going to help the driver after his new car is damaged.
- b. The driver had damaged his car and his friends were consoling him.
  - c. The 'fresh start' in the poem refers to the help that the friends are offering the driver. They were going to gift the driver a nice bullock-cart.
- B.
1. We know that the speaker is a bad driver because he has battered the bumper and damaged the hood of his new car. His driving skills are also questionable because he flouts all traffic norms.
  2. The drivers on the highway would not give way to the speaker. The speaker skimmed past a truck and revolved around a van. He also gave lift to a man who was carrying a load.
  3. The man carrying the load was so frightened by the driving of the speaker that got out of the vehicle almost as soon as he sat in it.
  4. The speaker had to pay his neighbour a handsome amount of money for damaging his wall, he also had to send his new car for repairs.

5. The poet aptly titled the poem as 'The Demon Driver' because the driver seems to have no regard for his own life or other people's lives whatsoever. He drives like a maniac and everything about him leads to disaster.

## Vocabulary

Students will circle these words:

- |              |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. mailbox   | 2. snowflake | 3. bumblebee |
| 4. dragonfly | 5. update    |              |

## Listening



**Play CD Track 5 or read the text aloud.**

*Audio script*

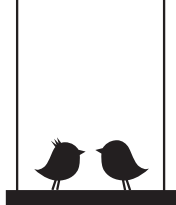
Sometimes, during our vacations, we would go to visit my uncle who lived on the outskirts of a flourishing village called Khasgopikar. He owned lots of farms and had a huge house. It was a treat to spend my vacations there. However, the driver who used to drive us around was the best part about the vacation. He would take us children out for a drive and as soon as we would be out of sight, he would ask us to take the wheel! We were between 10 and 12 years of age. I was the youngest and of course, I couldn't drive as my feet would not reach the brake or any other foot pedal. But my cousins had a whale of a time driving around. We would have gone on many adventurous trips but one sad day, my cousin's tutor happened to come from the opposite direction. He saw a troop of happily screaming children in his student's father's car and promptly went and reported the matter to my uncle. Sigh! It goes without saying that we got a sound earful that day. The driver, of course, was banned from taking us around.

*Answers*

- |                                |                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. uncle; Khasgopikar          | 2. ten                     |
| 3. adventure; secretly driving | 4. feet; brake; foot pedal |
| 5. tutor; reported; banned     |                            |

## Writing

*Free response.*



## 10. The Diary of a Young Girl

### Comprehension

- A.
- a. Anne Frank said these words.
  - b. The speaker gives a description of the secret place where the Frank family had been hiding.
  - c. The washroom was without a window because no one outside was supposed to know that a family was hiding inside the house.
- 2.
- a. Anne's hands were shaking because she thought that her family's secret hiding place had been discovered.
  - b. Someone who had come to fill up the extinguishers had almost discovered the Franks' hiding place.
  - c. Anne thought that the carpenter had perhaps heard a noise and wanted to check if there was something odd about the bookcase.
- B.
1. Anne shared her room with her sister Margot. She was hiding, along with her family, in a secret house in Holland.
  2. Anne's family got a bookcase built in front of the entrance to act as a concealment from the prying Nazis.
  3. Westerbork was a big camp in Drenthe where the Gestapo used to send all the Jews. The living conditions there were horrible as people got almost nothing to eat, much less to drink, as water was available only one hour a day; and there was only one toilet and sink for several thousand people.
  4. Anne was saddened by the terrible living conditions of the Jews, the rough treatment being carried out by the Gestapo and the prospect of innocent people being murdered. The English radio reported that the Jews were being gassed.

5. Despite being a German herself, Anne thinks of them as tyrants who are enemies of not only Jews but humanity too. She thinks of them as murderers who have an altogether different nationality.
6. A wooden staircase led from the downstairs hallway to the third floor. At the top of the stairs was a landing, with doors on either side. The door to the right of the landing led to the Secret Annex at the back of the house. There was just one small step in front of the door, and then straight ahead was a steep flight of stairs. To the left was a narrow hallway that opened into a room, which the Frank family used as a living room and bedroom. There was a smaller bedroom next door of the two young ladies of the family. To the right of the stairs was a windowless washroom with a sink. The door in the corner led to the toilet and another one to Margot and Anne's room.

### Vocabulary

1. Meaning 1: to guide  
Meaning 2: a strap for restraining a pet or an animal
2. Meaning 1: simple  
Meaning 2: a large area of flat land with few trees
3. Meaning 1: a type of a water bird  
Meaning 2: to bend the body to avoid a blow or so as not to be seen
4. Meaning 1: a fixed basin with a water supply  
Meaning 2: go down below the surface of something

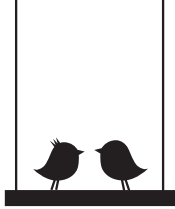
### Speaking

*Free response.*

### Writing

*Free response.*





## 11. Thank You, M'am

### Comprehension

- A.
- a. Mrs Jones said these words to Roger.
  - b. Roger needed to be ashamed of the fact that he had tried to steal Mrs Jones' pocketbook.
  - c. Roger did the shameful task because he wanted to buy a pair of blue suede shoes and did not have enough money to buy them.
- 2.
- a. He thought she was going to tell him about the mistakes she had made, 'but' that she never stole when she was young.
  - b. She told him that she, too, had made many mistakes as a young person, some so shameful or terrible that she couldn't share them with anyone, not even God.
  - c. Mrs. Jones came to know that Roger was expecting a different answer because he inadvertently frowned when she spoke.
- B.
1. Mrs Jones helped Roger even though he tried to steal from her. Instead of handing him over to the police, she took him to her home, made him wash his face, gave him food, talked to him about her childhood experiences and explained that stealing would do him no good. Roger is taken aback by her kindness and appears to have a change of heart.
  2. Roger does not run away because he didn't want to disappoint Mrs Jones or have her mistrust him. He was afraid of what she would think of him. He wanted to show her that he could be good person.
  3. Roger realises that Mrs Jones' kindness and sympathy are genuine. Thus, he sits at the far end of the room where she can see him if she wants to. He wants her to know that he is not going to steal from her again.
  4. We come to know that Mrs. Jones is a woman of modest

income because she has to work late at night at a low-paying job at a beauty shop; she rents a room in a boarding house instead of having a house of her own; her evening meal is relatively simple and consists of leftovers and she has a 10 cent cake for dessert.

5. Roger was astonished by Mrs Jones' compassion and humaneness. He was in awe of her. As he was about to thank her, she shut the door and thus he could not express his gratitude.

### Vocabulary

- |                |            |         |
|----------------|------------|---------|
| 1. weak        | 2. empty   | 3. bend |
| 4. made a face | 5. bolting |         |

### Listening



**Play CD Track 6 or read the text aloud.**

*Audio script*

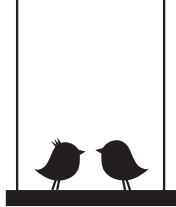
1. All good things must come to an end.
2. Birds of a feather flock together.
3. Don't put all your eggs in one basket.
4. People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.
5. Too many cooks spoil the broth.
6. The early bird catches the worm.
7. When in Rome, do as the Romans do.

*Answers*

1. All good things must come to an end.
2. Birds of a feather flock together.
3. Don't put all your eggs in one basket.
4. People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.
5. Too many cooks spoil the broth.
6. The early bird catches the worm.
7. When in Rome, do as the Romans do.

### Writing

*Free response.*



## 12. The Adventures of Isabel

### Comprehension

- A.
1. a. The bear said these words.
  - b. The bear was hungry and cruel and it wanted to eat Isabel to satisfy its hunger.
  - c. Isabel neither screamed nor scurried. She merely washed her hands, straightened her hair up and then quietly ate the bear up.
2. a. The giant was horrid, hideous and hairy. It had an eye in the middle of his forehead.
- b. He first greeted Isabel and then promptly told her that he was going to grind her bones to make bread for himself.
  - c. Isabel continued to be self-reliant. She did not get scared. Instead, she finished the food that she used to eat every day and beheaded the giant.
- B.
1. Isabel met a bear, a witch, a giant and a doctor.
  2. Isabel first faces a bear who tries to frighten her and wants to eat her up. She remains unruffled and instead of crying or getting afraid, she kills and eats up the animal. Then she meets an ugly witch who is determined to curse and turn her into a toad. She simply squeezes the witch, turns her into milk and drinks her up. Next she meets a horrible looking giant with one eye. The giant wants to grind her bones. Isabel refuses to be scared. She simply beheads the giant. Lastly, the young girl meets a troubled doctor who tries to offer her treatments and pills. Again, she remains calm. Her unruffled attitude ends up calming and treating the troubled doctor.
  3. The troubled doctor shocked Isabel by punching and poking her. She ends up calming and treating him by her unruffled attitude.
  4. The poet repeatedly uses these lines to emphasise Isabel's courage

in the face of adversities. Instead of being scared, she remains calm and composed and manages to overcome her adversaries.

5. Isabel demonstrates courage and bravery in the face of difficulty by not panicking. Thus, the poet lauds the man's ability to overcome difficult situations in life.

### Vocabulary

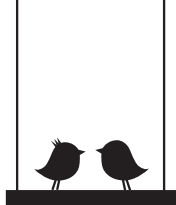
- A.
- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. bear : bare | 2. hair : hare  |
| 3. eye : aye   | 4. bread : bred |
| 5. meet : meat |                 |
- B. (Students may also give other responses)
1. bear-care
  2. ravenous-cavernous
  3. worry-scurry

### Speaking

*Free response.*

### Writing

*Free response.*



## 13. The Luncheon

### Comprehension

- A.
1. a. The lady said these words to the narrator.
  - b. The woman wanted to meet the narrator because she had written a letter to him, praising his book and wanted to have a chat with him over lunch.
  - c. It had been twenty years since the narrator met the woman fan.
2. a. This statement is peculiar because the woman keeps on insisting that she doesn't eat more than one thing for lunch but repeatedly exploits the narrator by ordering various things.
- b. The woman ate salmon, caviar, asparagus, ice cream with coffee and peaches.
  - c. The waiter, along with the woman, was making the narrator feel uncomfortable. The waiter was repeatedly coming to narrator's table with the most expensive suggestions for them to order.
- B.
1. The narrator wouldn't have recognised the woman because she had gained an enormous amount of weight since their last meeting in Paris, twenty years ago.
  2. He agreed to meet her at Foyot's because he was young and inexperienced and couldn't say 'no' to women. He felt flattered and excited about meeting a fan. She was not as young as the narrator had expected. She turned out to be an unattractive woman of forty.
  3. He was startled when the menu was brought because the prices were a lot higher than his expectation. He would find it insulting if he would need to borrow money from his guest. She assured him by saying that she never ate more than one thing for luncheon.

4. She called him a humorist because he told her he'd not have dinner that night in response to her repeated and ironical statement that one should never eat more than one thing. He was not being a humorist at that time. Rather, he was being sarcastic.
5. The inconsiderate woman knew the young writer couldn't possibly afford to treat someone unknown at an expensive restaurant, yet went ahead by eating some of the most expensive dishes there. The narrator had his revenge at last because the woman who had manipulated and cheated him, was now terribly obese, ungainly and unsightly.

### Vocabulary

- |           |              |         |
|-----------|--------------|---------|
| 1. swim   | 2. amphibian | 3. fur  |
| 4. spots  | 5. lungs     | 6. calf |
| 7. mammal | 8. white     | 9. Asia |

### Listening



**Play CD Track 7 or read the text aloud.**

*Audio script*

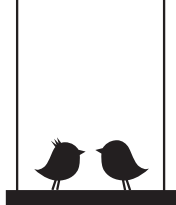
broccoli  
peach  
lentil  
salmon  
asparagus

*Answers*

- |             |              |           |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|
| 1. broccoli | 2. peach     | 3. lentil |
| 4. salmon   | 5. asparagus |           |

### Writing

*Free response.*



## 14. The Happy Prince

### Comprehension

- A.
- a. A mother said these words to her crying son.
  - b. The above words were spoken because her son was crying as he could not get the moon for himself.
  - c. According to the speaker, the Happy Prince was happy because he never dreamt of crying for anything.
- 2.
- a. The little Swallow said these words to the Happy Prince.
  - b. The speaker had gotten wet because of the tears that were running down the cheeks of the Happy Prince.
  - c. The listener was weeping because now, when he stood tall on a pedestal, he could see all the ugliness and the misery of the city. His heart is saddened by these sights, thus he can do nothing but weep.
- B.
1. The statue of the Happy Prince stood high above the city, on a tall column. He was gilded all over with thin leaves of fine gold. He had two bright sapphires for his eyes and a large red ruby glowed on his sword-hilt.
  2. The Prince was called happy because he led a luxurious life and got whatever he wanted. However this was just a facade because he was always away from the misery and the harsh reality of life through a high boundary wall around the palace. He never really got a chance to see the suffering of the poor and unprivileged people on the other side of the wall. He didn't experience any kind of physical or mental pain or sorrow. He lived and died a happy person.
  3. The Swallow told the blind Prince about all the marvellous things he saw when he flew around the city. As a Prince, he didn't know what misery meant. Now that he had seen

suffering, he wanted to help those in need. He now knew that real joy and peace in life could be attained by addressing the suffering of men and women. According to him, life's purpose ought to lie in helping others which was more marvellous than anything else.

4. After the Swallow died, the Prince's leaden heart snapped into two pieces.
5. God was pleased with his Angels because he had asked them to bring the two most precious things from the city and the Angels had brought over the Happy Prince's leaden heart and the dead bird.

### Vocabulary

1. a. wind  
b. whispering
2. a. woods  
b. lovely; dark; deep
3. a. heat  
b. beating down
4. a. time  
b. crawling
5. a. flowers  
b. waltzing

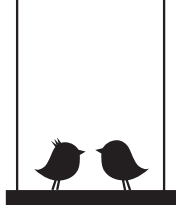
### Speaking

*Free response.*

### Writing

*Free response.*





## 15. In the Bazaars of Hyderabad

### Comprehension

- A.
1. a. The poet is describing a busy marketplace or a bazaar in Hyderabad.
  - b. They are crafting wristlets, anklets, rings, bells, girdles and scabbards.
  - c. The poet addresses the merchants, maidens, pedlars, musicians, magicians, vendors, fruitmen and flower-girls, in addition to the goldsmiths.
- 2.
- a. 'Cry' here means the way the fruitmen call out or entice the customers to buy their fruits.
  - b. The fruitmen sell citrons, pomegranates and plums.
  - c. The poet questions the musicians after the fruitmen.
- B.
1. The poet uses vivid imagery to bring out the magnificence of the goods sold in a traditional Indian bazaar.
  2. The poet uses words that lead the reader to experience the bazaar through their senses. Visually, we can see the vibrant colours of red, silver, blue, white, jade and azure. We can almost hear the sitar, drums and the chants of the magicians. Our sense of smell is stimulated through the fragrances when the poet describes sandalwood, henna and the smell of flowers.
  3. The poet is talking about the flower-girls who weave sheets of fragrant white flowers to be used on dead people's graves.
  4. The poet juxtaposes the idea of a new beginning i.e. marriage with that of death in the last stanza. The flower-girl weaves a garland of flowers for a couple who have just started a new life, as well as a sheet of flowers for the soul who has just departed.

### Vocabulary

- A.
1. rich + ly = richly

2. display + ed = displayed
3. bride + groom = bridegroom
4. gather + ed = gathered
5. vendor + s = vendors

**B.** (Students' answers may vary.)

- |                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. profit + able = profitable | Sentence- <i>Free response.</i> |
| 2. dis + mantle = dismantle   | Sentence- <i>Free response.</i> |
| 3. shame + less = shameless   | Sentence- <i>Free response.</i> |
| 4. hungry + ly = hungrily     | Sentence- <i>Free response.</i> |
| 5. dis + lodge = dislodge     | Sentence- <i>Free response.</i> |
| 6. mis + match = mismatch     | Sentence- <i>Free response.</i> |

## Listening



### Play CD Track 8 or read the text aloud.

*Audio script*

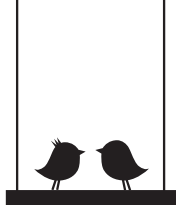
I lived in Pitrapet when I was a little girl. It was a village. Once in 3 months, there used to be a fair held near the village outskirts. It was an event that was attended by almost every man and woman in the village. There would be giant wheel rides, local merry-go-rounds where the children would sit on iron chairs connected to a pole. There would be a man who would begin to work the pole into circles and children would squeal in delight. There were bangle sellers who would be surrounded by young and old women at all times. I remember the rainbow hues of those glass and lakh bangles. The boys would be interested in horse rides and hitting the bullseye at a stall, for which the prize was a fruit of some sort. Towards the end of the fair, there would be a bioscope show and children and older people alike would peer into the bioscope and see moving images.

*Answers*

- |                         |                   |                  |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Pitrapet             | 2. three; village | 3. chairs; pole  |
| 4. rainbow; glass; lakh | 5. fruit          | 6. bioscope show |

## Writing

*Free response.*



## 16. A Horse and Two Goats

### Comprehension

- A.
1. a. Muni said these words to himself.
  - b. The foreigner was after Muni because he wanted to enquire about the horse statue.
  - c. Muni was not able to understand the foreigner because there was a communication gap between both of them. Muni spoke chaste Tamil and the foreigner spoke in English.
2. a. The foreigner said these words to Muni.
- b. The speaker says that he has a modest business because he was trying to explain to Muni that he could not take the whiskered soldier along with the horse statue.
  - c. The foreigner then asked Muni to give him a helping hand in lifting the statue from its pedestal.
- B.
1. Muni avoided looking at others in the village because they thought that they were of a higher caste and had more money. They looked down upon Muni or spurned him because he was the poorest among them and evidently of a low caste. Since they did not want to look at him, he decided to not look at them either.
  2. The foreigner assumed that the mud horse belonged to Muni because he sat on its pedestal just like other souvenir sellers did while presiding over their wares.
  3. The foreigner proposed to transport the statue on the back of his station wagon.
  4. He called the warrior a 'whiskered soldier' and doesn't take him along because he didn't have any more space at his home to keep the warrior.
  5. After Muni reaches home, he hears the bleating of his two goats outside his house. The goats followed him back home.

## Vocabulary

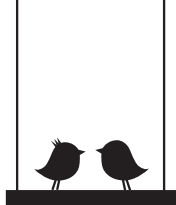
1. check in
2. step down
3. go off
4. take over
5. get along
6. gave up

## Speaking

*Free response.*

## Writing

*Free response.*



## 17. The Tyger

### Comprehension

- A.
- a. The repetition creates a chant-like mood which has further built an atmosphere of mystery.
  - b. The tiger appears to be burning because of its fiery appearance and the power that emanates from within it.
  - c. The lamb is seen as a sharp contrast to the tiger. The lines that say this are: 'Did he who made the Lamb make thee?'
- 2.
- a. Distant skies refers to the heavens where God created this marvellous creature.
  - b. Deeps here means hell. The poet is asking whether the tiger was created in heaven or in hell because the tiger is a fierce creature and the poet wants to know about its place of birth.
  - c. The poet wonders what God would have felt when he had finally created the tiger. Was he scared of the creature that he had created or was he proud of his creation?
- B.
1. The universal idea that the poet talks about in the poem is that the same Creator who made the lamb made the tiger. Fierce and gentle exist side-by-side, just as the tiger and the lamb do. Both have their own importance and the world cannot exist without either good or evil.
  2. The Creator or God is represented as a blacksmith. There are references to a blacksmith's instruments, i.e., hammer, chain, furnace and anvil.
  3. In the first stanza, the poet wonders who 'could have' created the tiger— he is questioning the ability of the creator. In the last stanza, the poet questions the nerve of the creator of the tiger by using the word 'dare'.
  4. The poem describes the tiger as a fierce creature.

## Vocabulary

- A. 1. stressed syllable- ty    2. stressed syllable- mor  
3. stressed syllable- me
- B. 1. feudal landlord; tiger    2. granny's lap; pillow  
3. books; holidays    4. voice; music  
5. friend; fool    6. sun; mother

## Listening



**Play CD Track 9 or read the text aloud.**

*Audio script*

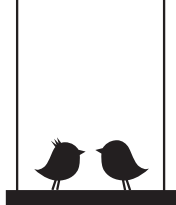
I had been sent to grandmother's place by my parents for summer holidays. The small, hilly town was called Kathnagar. My grandmother loved me and made all sorts of goodies for me but I was a handful for her. Once, I hid in her large courtyard, which was full of a cluster of thick, leafy, green trees. Behind it was the beginning of the jungle. I climbed on a high branch and sat looking down as she walked in and out of the house calling out my name, 'Soham...Sooo-hamm...come back child or the leopard will eat you up!' I giggled but decided to hide. Soon, evening turned into night. I saw a very worried granny go over to the neighbours and decided to climb back down. As soon as my feet touched the ground, I heard a low growl. Screaming, I ran inside the house, only to realise that the door was locked. Too scared to look behind, I sprinted from under the fence straight into a neighbour's house, found my granny and began to wail and weep. I had learnt my lesson. Never again would I trouble her.

*Answers*

- |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|
| 1. F | 2. T | 3. T |
| 4. F | 5. T |      |

## Writing

*Free response.*



## 18. The Refund

### Comprehension

- A.
1. a. Wasserkopf wants a refund of his tuition fee.
  - b. He is addressing the school's Principal.
  - c. According to him, he is justified in his demand because he learnt nothing at school and therefore he ought to get a refund.
2. a. Wasserkopf said these words to the History teacher.
- b. The History teacher had asked Wasserkopf when the Thirty Year's War took place and this was what Wasserkopf had said in reply.
  - c. This answer was ridiculous because the question had been about the duration of war and instead of answering the number of years, Wasserkopf had given the answer in 'meters'.
- B.
1. Wasserkopf could not sustain a job because he didn't know much about anything. He had got fired from his last job and he was broke. One of his classmates, out of frustration, suggested sarcastically that since he had learnt nothing, he must get a refund from his school. Wasserkopf found a lucrative deal in the idea and went to the Principal to get a refund for having learnt nothing at school.
  2. The Principal discussed the matter with the teachers at the school. The Mathematics teacher said that all the teachers must ensure that Wasserkopf passed in the examination even if he gave wrong answers.
  3. The teachers wanted Wasserkopf to pass at any cost because if they were to fail him, he would ask for a refund and others like him would follow suit.
  4. The physics question was whether the clocks in church steeples really become smaller as one walks away from them, or was it

an optical illusion. The teacher proved that since everyone is a victim of illusions, it appears as if the clock appeared to be getting smaller and that Wasserkopf's answer was brilliant.

5. The Principal and the other masters had successfully outwitted Wasserkopf and defeated him in his goal of cheating them. The teachers laid a trap and asked Wasserkopf to tell the amount which the school owed him. Wasserkopf calculated the exact amount in the minutest detail, thus giving the teachers a perfect reason to prove him wrong and nullify his claim.

## Vocabulary

- A.
1. Meaning: to act in a way that makes a bad situation worse  
Sentence: *Free response.*
  2. Meaning: a controversial issue  
Sentence: *Free response.*
  3. Meaning: making an extra effort to complete a task  
Sentence: *Free response.*
  4. Meaning: very rarely  
Sentence: *Free response.*
  5. Meaning: to raise a false alarm  
Sentence: *Free response.*
  6. Meaning: at a very short distance  
Sentence: *Free response.*

## Speaking

*Free response.*

## Writing

*Free response.*