

Questions Bank
BA 2
Semester 4
English (Compulsory)

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Prose

1. Why Are Beggars Despised?

#. Answer the following questions, choosing from the options below.

1. Orwell finds society's attitude towards beggars
 - a) interesting
 - b) despicable
 - c) curious
 - d) amusing

2. Why does Orwell compare beggars to criminals?
 - a) he despises them
 - b) society treats them both
 - c) he feels they should be as outcasts imprisoned
 - d) they earn a living by stealing

3. "Beggars do not work' how does Orwell react to this statement?
 - a) he refutes it
 - b) he agrees with it
 - c) he questions the definition
 - d) he ask readers for their opinions

4. Which of the following professions in the essay has not been mentioned?
 - a) accountant
 - b) literary critic
 - c) construction worker
 - d) banker

5. How would you describe Orwell's approach to beggars and their profession?
 - a) realistic
 - b) comic
 - c) negative
 - d) tragic

6. Which of the following adjectives would apply modern society not to beggars?
 - a) honest
 - b) disreputable

- c) execrable
- d) unnecessary.

Answer the following questions in 3-4 sentences.

1. Why does society differentiate between 'working' people? beggars and ordinary
2. Why does Orwell refer to beggars as 'harmless parasites'?
3. From your reading of the essay, which professions do you think Orwell disapproves of? Why?
4. Does Orwell ultimately find an answer to the question he poses in the title of his essay? Give reasons for your answer.
5. According to Orwell, what 'test do beggars fail'?

Answer the following questions in 150-200 words.

1. Provide a brief account of Orwell's opinion on the social position of beggars.
2. 'In all the modern talk about energy, efficiency, social service and the rest of it, what meaning is there except "Get money, get it legally, and get a lot of it"?' Explain the meaning of the above statement and elaborate on its relevance in the present day and age.
3. Write a short note on the tone employed by Orwell in the essay. In what ways do you think it helps to convey his point to his readers?

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## 2. On the Conduct of Life

**# Answer the following questions, choosing from the options below.**

1. Who is this letter addressed to?
  - a) the author himself
  - b) the author's son
  - c) the reader
  - d) no one
2. What is the occasion on which the author is writing this?
  - a) He is going to college.
  - b) He is writing this to all students going for the first time to school.
  - c) His son is going to boarding school for the first time.
  - d) No special occasion.
3. What does his son first say about the school?
  - a) that it is full of stupid people
  - b) that he loves his school.
  - c) that he doesn't want to leave home
  - d) that he doesn't want to come back home.
4. What does the line 'Ill names beget ill blood' mean?

- a) Calling other people complimentary names causes offence.
- b) Calling people nasty names gives rise to unfriendliness and enmity.
- c) If you want to make friends, be nice.
- d) The worse you behave the worse people will behave towards you.

5. According to the author what is the source of his misfortune?

- a) to be bred among Dissenters
- b) to be taught to feel superior to everyone else
- c) to be poor
- d) to have too many children

6. Which of the following adjectives does the author use to describe his child?

- a) spoiled
- b) precious
- c) precocious
- d) happy

**# Answer the following questions in 3-4 sentences each.**

1. Who writes this letter? To whom is it addressed? When was it written, and where is the addressee?
2. What prompts the author to write the letter?
3. Why, according to the author, must one never despise others?
4. 'It was my misfortune perhaps to be bred up among Dissenters.! Why does the author say this?
5. What does the author refer to as 'the bane of the studious and learned'? How can this be avoided?

# Answer the following questions in about 150-200 words each.

1. Elaborate on the theme of prejudice found in this extract.
2. What do we learn about from this extract? the life and character of the address-
3. What can one say about the character and after having read this extract?

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3. Girl

Answer the following, choosing from the options given below.

1. Pick out the correct meaning of the word 'sleuth'
 - a) detective
 - b) labourer
 - c) cleaner
 - d) cook

2. How long had Hartley been searching for Vivienne's new address?.

- a) day
- b) a month
- c) a week
- d) three weeks

3. With the introduction of the character named Vivienne, what angle does the author seem to introduce to the story?

- a) tragic
- b) romantic
- c) mystery
- d) comic

4. What made Vivienne hesitate to go and live with Hartley?

- a) She did not wish to live in the city
- b) She did not wish to live in the suburbs
- c) She had got job somewhere else
- d) She did not like Hartley

5. From the author's description of Hartley and Vivienne's meeting, what relationship did the author imply they shared?

- a) employer and employee
- b) husband and wife
- c) lovers
- d) old friends

6. Who was Heloise?

- a) Hartley's wife
- b) Hartley's old friend
- c) Vivienne's friend
- d) Hartley's cook

Answer the following questions in 3-4 sentences.

1. What can you say about the location of Hartley's office from the author's description of it at the beginning of the story? What are we told about the profession of Robbins and Hartley?

2. Which are the lines in the story that tell you this?

3. What impression do you form of Vivienne based on her conversation with Hartley?

4. Who is Rafford Townsend? Why did Hartley dislike him?

5. "The Law of the Jungle. do you want the pack to tear you in pieces? the kill is mine." who/ what is Hartley talking about? In what context does he say this?

6. What condition does Vivienne place before Hartley before agreeing to live with him?

Answer the following questions in 150-200 words.

1. Write a note on how the author creates and sustains an air of mystery and suspense throughout the story, citing examples from the text.

2. 'O. Henry deliberately misleads readers into believing there is a romantic angle to the story by leaving specific clues for them throughout the text! Justify this statement.

3. Think of an alternative title for the story and state the reasons for your choice.

4. The Magic Shop

Answer the following, choosing from the options given below.

1. Why did the narrator enter the magic shop?

- a) he was interested in magic
- b) he had never seen the shop before
- c) his son was interested in the shop
- d) he was curious about the shop

2. What was the first trick the shop keeper performed for the narrator and his son?

- a) he made a rabbit disappear
- b) he drew a glass ball from his head
- c) he made Gip disappear
- d) he made toy soldiers come alive

3. What did the narrator and Gip find in keeper when he suddenly vanished? place of the shop

- a) a white rabbit
- b) a kitten
- c) a glass ball
- d) a magician's hat

4. Why did the narrator not want to go to the show-room of the magic shop?

- a) he was scared
- b) he did not have much time
- c) he felt the magic was a little too genuine
- d) his son was scared

5. What did Gip's fourth parcel from the magic,shop contain?

- a) a magic train
- b) a kitten
- c) a pigeon
- d) a magic toy sword

6. "Like a thing in a nightmare it was!" What is the narrator talking about here?

- a) his son disappearing
- b) the show-room
- c) the magic tricks that the shop keeper was showing them
- d) the actions of one of the odd-looking assistants

Answer the following questions in 3-4 sentences.

1. What was the name of the magic shop the narrator and his son entered? Do you think it was a suitable name for the shop? Why/why not?

2. Why do you think the child named Edward found the door to the magic shop locked?

3. What was the second thing the shop keeper wrapped for Gip? What about this parcel amazed the narrator?

4. 'It's a little too genuine for my taste.' Who said these words to whom? In what context did the speaker say this?
5. What was Gip's impression of the magic shop and the events of the afternoon he spent there?
6. How did the narrator plan to pay the shop keeper from the magic shop?

Answer the following questions in 150-200 words.

1. 'In that instant my boy had utterly disappeared' Give an account of the events that led to this. What did the narrator do immediately after this?
2. Do you find any difference in the narrator's attitude towards magic and the magic shop by the end of the story? What do you think was the reason for this? Support your answer with relevant examples from the text.
3. Attempt a short character sketch of the shop keeper of the magic shop.

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## Poetry

### 1. Where is the Mind is without Fear

**# Answer the following questions, choosing from the options below.**

1. In the poem, the country is imagined as
  - a) heavenly
  - b) free
  - c) sleeping
  - d) awake
2. Whom does the poet refer to using the phrase 'my Father'?
  - a) the reader
  - b) his country
  - c) god
  - d) his father
3. Reason is compared to a .....
  - a) country
  - b) stream
  - c) mountain
  - d) desert
4. The poet hopes that our minds would be directed by
  - a) thought
  - b) god
  - c) freedom
  - d) action
5. What does the word 'domestic' in the phrase 'narrow domestic walls' indicate?
  - a) reluctance to look beyond one's own community
  - b) reluctance to be happy in one's own home

- c) reluctance to return to one's country
- d) none of the above

6. What does the phrase 'head. held high' give an impression pools of?

- a) Pride and fear
- b) Fear and integrity
- c) Fearlessness and pride
- d) Freedom and fear

7. The poem expresses the poet's

- a) regret for the past.
- b) record of the present.
- c) hope for the future.
- d) imaginative fantasies.

8. Which of the following phrases gives a sense of forward motion?

- a) from the depth of truth
- b) the clear stream of reason
- c) let my country awake
- d) ever-widening thought and action

**# Answer the following questions in 3-4 sentences.**

1. What does the poet mean by 'Where the head is held high'?
2. What does the poet say about knowledge?
3. Explain the phrase dreary desert sand of dead habit.
4. Where does the poet want god to lead the mind?
5. The poet wishes that words come out from the depth of truth. What does this wish indicate about the present state of the world?
6. What is Tagore's definition of freedom?

**# Answer the following questions in 150-200 words.**

1. Describe the central idea of the poem.
2. Does the poem apply only to pre-Independence India, relevant to all countries at all times? Give reasons.
3. What qualities does the poet wish his country to have?

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2. A Lament

Answer the following questions, choosing from the option below.

1. Who is the poet addressing?
 - a) Himself
 - b) Time
 - c) Death

d) God
2. Where is he located at the moment?

- a) on the last steps of a flight of stairs
- b) at the end of his life
- c) at the entrance to a house
- d) at bottom of a well

3. What is the refrain of the poem?

- a) softly, o 'softly
- b) no more-oh, never more!
- c) faster than fairies
- d) the charge of the light brigade

4. Which of the following seasons are not mentioned in the poem?

- a) spring
- b) summer
- c) winter
- d) autumn

5. How does he describe his heart?

- a) overflowing
- b) delirious
- c) faint
- d) running

6. Which of the following emotions are not present in the poem?

- a) happiness.
- b) sorrow
- c) despair
- d) regret

Answer the following questions in 3-4 sentences each.

1. What is the poet lamenting?

2. What is the relevance of the nature imagery used?

3. What has 'taken flight' from the poet's life? Why does he mourn its loss?

4. Explain the line: 'When will return the glory of your prime?'

5. Explain the lines: 'Move my faint heart with grief, but with delight / No more-oh, never more!'

Answer the following questions in about 150 to 200 words each.

1. How does the do poet treat time and youth in the poem? Why you think they seem to be so important to the poet?

2. Comment on the form of the poem. Is it suitable for the subject chosen? If so, how does it complement the subject of the poem?

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### 3. Love in a Life

**# Answer the following, choosing from the options given below.**

1. Identify the figure of speech used in the title of the poem.
  - a) metaphor
  - b) metonymy
  - c) personification
  - d) alliteration
2. What is the object of the poet's search in the poem?
  - a) a job
  - b) poetic success
  - c) the woman he loves
  - d) spiritual bliss
3. Pick out the correct meaning of the word looking-glass.
  - a) window
  - b) mirror
  - c) binoculars
  - d) French window
4. Which of these best describes the poet's attitude in the last two lines, of the poem?
  - a) hopeful
  - b) content
  - c) agitated
  - d) dejected

**# Answer the following questions in 3-4 sentences.**

1. List the words in the poem that indicate to you that the poet is looking for someone/something. What effect does the repetition of such words have on the reader?
2. "The poem suggests that the narrator is a servant in a large house attempting to woo a maid or cleaner of the same house.' Point out the lines in the poem that indicate this.
3. 'Yet the day wears, / And door succeeds door! Explain the meaning of these lines.
4. How would you describe the tone of the poem?

**# Answer the following questions in 150-200 words.**

1. Justify the title of the poem.
2. Write a note on the structure and the language used in the poem and comment on its role in conveying the poet's point to the reader.

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4. Up-hill

Answer the following questions choosing from the options below.

1. What does the inn offer?
 - a) security and darkness
 - b) labour and comfort
 - c) rest and labour
 - d) comfort and security
2. What is the nature of the journey to be undertaken?
 - a) It is easy but long.
 - b) It is difficult but short.
 - c) It is easy and short.
 - d) It is difficult and long.
3. Why, do you think, the speaker asks many questions ?
 - a) because she is filled with doubts and uncertainty about the journey
 - b) because she wishes to be prepared for the journey to be undertaken
 - c) because she does not wish to complete the journey any more
 - d) all of the above
4. Which of the following images best suggests the arduous nature of the journey?
 - a) for the night a resting-place
 - b) the slow dark hours
 - c) journey . . . the whole long day
 - d) road wind up-hill all the way
5. What might the inn at the end of the road stand for?
 - a) life
 - b) death
 - c) heaven
 - d) hope
6. Who are the wayfarers 'who have gone before'?
 - a) the unborn
 - b) the living
 - c) the dead
 - d) travel companions
7. What can you infer about the poet from this poem?

- a) The writer is a woman.
- b) The writer is religious.
- c) The writer is irreligious.
- d) The writer is religious and a woman.

8. What does the road symbolise?

- a) life
- b) death
- c) heaven
- d) hope to the faithful.

9. The poem provides

- a) rest and reward
- b) despair and reassurance
- c) strength and rest
- d) hope and reassurance

10. What do 'the slow dark hours' represent?

- a) night
- b) rest
- c) death
- d) sleep

Answer the following questions in 3-4 sentences.

1. What is the tone of the poem?
2. Who are the two speakers in the poem?
3. Describe the journey. What happens during the journey?
4. Is there a deeper meaning to the poem? Explain.
5. What is the journey the traveller is making?
6. Explain the philosophical implications of this journey.

Answer the following questions in 150-200 words.

1. Even though the main theme is very serious, how does the poet make the poem easy to read and understand?
2. How do the structure and style of the poem emphasise its central theme? Discuss.
3. Elaborate on the primary metaphor in the poem.

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