

## Important Questions

### 1. Read the following extract carefully and answer the question below.

1. "I will learn to drive a car," he answers, looking straight into my eyes. His dream looks like a mirage amidst the bangles. Every other family in Firozabad, famous for its making bangles. It is the centre of India's glass-blowing industry where families have sent generations working around furnaces, welding glass, making bangles for all the women in the land it seems

#### i. The expression, "families have sent generations working around furnaces" signifies that

- (a) families were bound to do the same work because of their debt.
- (b) all members of the family were into same profession since generations.
- (c) they do not know anything except bangle-making
- (d) bangle making is a profitable business for them

#### ii. The word 'mirage' means the same as

- (a) reality
- (b) certainty
- (c) illusion
- (d) credence

#### iii. What function does the glass-blowing industry of Firozabad do?

- (a) It makes windows.
- (b) It makes crockery items.
- (c) It works to mould glass only.
- (d) It works to mould glass and make colourful bangles of it.

**iv. Who is the author of 'Lost Spring'?**

- (a) Sarojini Naidu
- (b) Kamala Das
- (c) Maha Devi Verma
- (d) Anees Jung

**1.B** It seemed a long way down. Those nine feet were more like ninety, and before I touched bottom my lungs were ready to burst. But when my feet hit bottom I summoned all my strength and made what I thought was a great spring upwards. I imagined I would bob to the surface like a cork. Instead, I came up slowly. I opened my eyes and saw nothing but water - water that had a dirty yellow tinge to it.

**i. Why did the nine feet deep pool seemed ninety to Douglas?**

- (a) Because he was afraid of the water and didn't know swimming.
- (b) Because he didn't know that the pool is so deep inside.
- (c) Because he didn't know the calculation.
- (d) Because the pool's water is so dirty

**ii. The expression "I imagined I would bob to the surface like a cork" implies that**

- (a) Douglas was afraid to die.
- (b) Douglas accepted his failure and ultimate death.
- (c) Though Douglas was frightened he was not out of his wits.
- (d) Frightened, Douglas was not able to shout for help.

**iii. Choose the word from the given options which means to 'make a quick, short movement up and down'**

- (a) Burst

- (b) Tinge
- (c) Bob
- (d) Summoned

**iv. The above extract has been taken from \_\_\_\_\_.**

- (a) The Last Lesson
- (b) Indigo
- (c) The Rattrap
- (d) Deep Water

**2. Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.**

**2.A** In the afternoon the second thing happened. Hana, working hard on unaccustomed labour, saw a messenger come to the door in official uniform. Her hands went weak and she could not draw her breath. The servants must have told already. She ran to Sadao, gasping unable to utter a word. But by then the messenger had simply followed her through the garden and there he stood. She pointed at him helplessly.

Sadao looked up from his book ....

“What is it?” he asked the messenger and then he rose, seeing the man’s uniform. “You are to come to the palace,” The man said. “the old General is in pain again.” “Oh”, Hana breathed, “is that all?”

**i. The messenger had come to Sadao’s house**

- (a) to talk to him
- (b) to arrest Sadao’s wife
- (c) to arrest the prisoner
- (d) to call Sadao to attend the General who was ill.

**ii. The above extract has been taken from**

- (a) The Third Level

- (b) The Enemy
- (c) Going Places
- (d) Lost Spring

**2.B** The corridor I was in began angling left and slanting downward and I thought that was wrong, but I kept on walking. All I could hear was the empty sound of my own footsteps and I didn't pass a soul. Then I heard that sort of hollow roar ahead that means open space and people talking. The tunnel turned sharp left; I went down a short flight of stairs and came out on the third level at Grand Central Station.

**i. What does the phrase "I didn't pass a soul" mean?**

- (a) That the narrator was dead.
- (b) That nobody was there except the narrator.
- (c) That there were so many dead souls roaming.
- (d) That the narrator was thinking about a ghost.

**ii. Which is the only sound that the speaker heard when he entered the corridor?**

- (a) Chirping of the birds
- (b) Voices of the people talking
- (c) Sound of the trains moving at the Grand Station
- (d) Empty sound of his own footsteps