

Thinking about the text

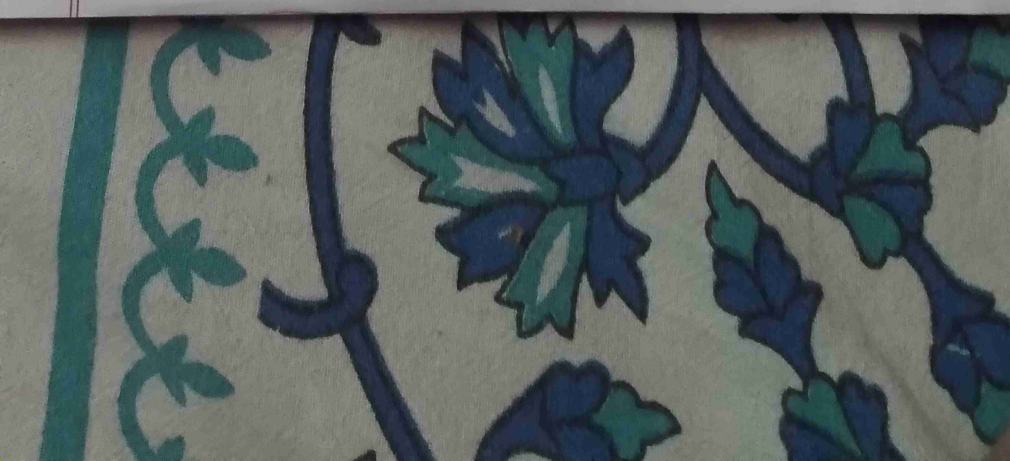
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- 1) The (Shehnai Pungi) was a 'reeded noise maker'.
- 2) (Bismillah Khan, A barber, Ali Bux) transformed the pungi to shehnai.
- 3) Bismillah Khan's paternal ancestors were (barbers, professional musicians).
- 4) Bismillah Khan learnt to play shehnai from (Ali Bux, paigambar Bux, Ustad Faiyaz Khan).
- 5) Bismillah Khan's first trip abroad was to (Afghanistan, USA, Canada).

II) Find the words in the text which show Ustad Bismillah Khan's feeling about the items listed below. Then mark a tick (✓) in the correct column. Discuss your answer in class.

Bismillah Words Positive feelings about

	Positive	Negative	Nubul
① Teaching Children music.	✓		
② The film word.		✓ ✓	
③ Migrating to the USA.		✓	
④ Playing at temples			✓
⑤ getting the Sharada ratna	✓		
⑥ The banks of the ganga.	✓		
⑦ Leaving Benaras and Aushraon.		✓	



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II) Why did Aurangzeb ban pungi?

A) Aurangzeb banned the playing of the pungi because of the shrill unpleasent sound of the instrument.

2) How is a shehnai different from a pungi?

A) Shehnai's stem is hollow, longer and a broader than that of a pungi. Shehnai has holes in its body.

3) Where was the Shehnai played traditionally? How did Bismillah Khan change this?

A) Traditionally, Shehnai was a part of the nautch or traditional ensemble of nine instrument found at royal Courts. It was played in temple and at marriages. Bismillah Khan took it onto the stage.

(4) When and how did Bismillah Khan get ~~to~~ his big break?

A) Bismillah Khan got his break with the opening of All India Radio in Lucknow in 1938. He became an often heard Sherai player on radio.

(5) Where did Bismillah Khan play Sherai on 15 Aug 1947? Why was the event historic?

A) Bismillah Khan played the Sherai from the red fort on 15th Aug 1947. He was the first Indian to greet the nation with his Shtarai. The event was historic because that is the day when India got independent. Bismillah Khan played Raag Hafiz to an audience that include Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru.

Q) Why did Bismillah Khan refuse to start a Shehnai school in the USA?

A) Bismillah Khan refused to start a Shehnai school in the USA because he didn't want to leave his country. He felt an unbreakable bond with his towns Dummer and Benaras and with river Ganga.

Q) Find at least two instances in the text which tell you that Bismillah Khan loves India and Benaras.

A) Two instances in the text which tell us that Bismillah Khan loves India and Benaras are:

1) He says that whenever he is in a foreign

Country, he weeps, yearning
to see Hindustan.

He also says that even
if in my opinion he thinks
of only Bharat and
the very Ganga.

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1) The (S)
noise mo

2) (B) smil
transfe

3) Bishnoi
Lore

4) Bishnoi