

Thinking about the Text

I. Tick the right answer.

1. The (shehnai, *pungi*) was a 'reeded noisemaker.'
2. (Bismillah Khan, A barber, Ali Bux) transformed the *pungi* into a shehnai.
3. Bismillah Khan's paternal ancestors were (barbers, professional musicians).
4. Bismillah Khan learnt to play the shehnai from (Ali Bux, Paigambar Bux, Ustad Faiyaz Khan).
5. Bismillah Khan's first trip abroad was to (Afghanistan, U.S.A., Canada).

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

<i>Bismillah Khan's feelings about</i>	<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>	<i>Neutral</i>
1. teaching children music	✓		
2. the film world		✓	
3. migrating to the U.S.A.		✓	✓
4. playing at temples	✓		✓
5. getting the Bharat Ratna	✓		
6. the banks of the Ganga	✓		
7. leaving Benaras and Dumraon		✓	

THE SHEHNAI OF BISMILLAH KHAN

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- 1) Aurangzeb ban the playing of pungi because it had a shrille and unpleasant sound.
- 2) Ashahnai is a pipe with a natural hollow that is longere and broodere than a pungi. It has 7 holes in it.
- 3) The shehnai was played traditionally in the temple at the royal courts and on occasion of weddings. The credit must go to Bismillah Khan to take this instrument onto classical stage.
- 4) Bismillah Khan got his big break with the opening of All India Radio in Lucknow in 1938.
- 5) Bismillah Khan played the shehnai on 15 August 1947 at the Red fort. He was 1st Indian to greet the nation with his musical instrument. This event was historic because we got Independence on that day. He poured his heart out in the presence of a large no. of people including ~~Jama~~

Jawaharlal Nehru.

6) He refused to start a shehnai school in the USA because he never wanted to leave India. He loved India so much and he did not want to settle anywhere except India.

7) Bismillah Khan loves India and Benaras the sound of music is from bottom of his heart. He misses the holy Ganga when he goes abroad. While in Mumbai, he thinks of only Benaras and holy Ganga. And when in Benaras he remembers the unique matha of Dumraon.

* Thinking about Language

I. Look at these sentences.

- Evelyn was determined *to live a normal life*.
- Evelyn managed *to conceal her growing deafness from friends and teachers*.

The italicised parts answer the questions: "What was Evelyn determined to do?" and "What did Evelyn manage to do?" They begin with a to-verb (*to live, to conceal*).

Complete the following sentences. Beginning with a to-verb, try to answer the questions in brackets.

1. The school sports team hopes to win (What does it hope to do?)
2. We all want to succeed (What do we all want to do?)
3. They advised the hearing-impaired child's mother to take her to a specialist (What did they advise her to do?)
4. The authorities permitted us to play (What did the authorities permit us to do?)
5. A musician decided to play a new raga (What did the musician decide to do?)

II. From the text on Bismillah Khan, find the words and phrases that match the definitions and write them down. The number of the paragraph where you find the words/phrases has been given for you in brackets.

1. the home of royal people (1) royal residence
2. the state of being alone (5) solitude
3. a part which is absolutely necessary (2) an indispensable component

4. to do something not done before (5) improvise

5. without much effort (13) effortlessly

6. quickly and in large quantities (9) thick and fast

III. Tick the right answer.

1. When something is *revived*, it (remains dead/lives again). ✓
2. When a government *bans* something, it wants it (stopped/started). ✓
3. When something is considered *auspicious*, (welcome it/avoid it).
4. When we *take to* something, we find it (boring/interesting). ✓
5. When you *appreciate* something, you (find it good and useful/find it of no use).
6. When you *replicate* something, you do it (for the first time/for the second time). ✓
7. When we *come to terms with* something, it is (still upsetting/no longer upsetting). ✓

IV. Dictionary work

- The sound of the shehnai is *auspicious*.
- The *auspicious* sound of the shehnai is usually heard at marriages.

The adjective *auspicious* can occur after the verb *be* as in the first sentence, or before a noun as in the second. But there are some adjectives which can be used after the verb *be* and not before a noun. For example:

- Ustad Faiyaz Khan was *overjoyed*.

We cannot say: *the *overjoyed* man.

Look at these entries from the *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2005).

elder *adj., noun*

adjective 1 [**only before noun**] (of people, especially two members of the same family) *older*: my elder brother • his elder sister 2 (*the elder*) used without a noun immediately after it to show who is the older of two people: the elder of their two sons 3 (*the elder*) (formal) used before or after sb's name to show that they are the older of two people who have the same name: the elder Pitt • Pitt, the elder.

awake *adj., verb*

adjective [**not before noun**] not asleep (especially immediately before or after sleeping): to be half/fully awake; to be wide awake. I was still awake when he came to bed.