

## **Television**

*Television is a common thing that has become a part and parcel of our life. It is a electronic device that we use everyday for accessing news, entertainment, information etc. Television was invented by renowned Scottish Inventor John Baird which astonished the world. People witness the first ever device of is kind. Every evening, with hot tea, snacks and family is a must! It makes people relaxed and the time when all assemble to spend family time away from their busy schedule. Television even has a dark face. Television can be addictive and can lead to lost in emotional bonds along with harm to eyes. Though Television is blessing for the humankind but it's negative aspects also can't be ignored.*

The sun had just set on the horizon as I could see across the field stretching several miles before me. It had also gone dark overhead and soon the darkness began moving west and descending slowly on the western end of the field. At this dusk the full moon appeared on the east and its feeble light spread over the field and created an atmosphere between light and shade. I sat in the middle of the field, but not far from my farmer's bungalow and watched the daylight fade from mid-heaven down on the ~~we~~ western horizon



# The Ghost

The good thing about good people  
is that they are transparent.

The bad thing about ghosts is  
they are transparent.

In fact the way you see through them  
you don't see them at all!

And when you can see through them  
it isn't quiet a ball!

In fact you are up against  
A transparent vapour wall.

A few things it were best  
to know ~~about~~ about ghosts —  
they are bad hosts

For they are never in a station  
and worse guest

They barge in invitation  
or without invitation

Ghosts are not bad omens  
they don't bring doom.

They don't <sup>come</sup> ~~ride~~ in through chimneys.

They don't ride a broom.

But ghost stories can be true.

I could tell you a few.

- Keki N. Daruwala



Motilal Babu, zamindar of Kanthalia, was returning home with his family on a boat. At midday they moored near a market town for lunch when a young Brahmin boy, not more than 15-16, came up, and asked Moti Babu, "Where are you going?"

"To Kanthalia" replied Moti Babu

The boy asked if he could be dropped at Nandigram. Motilal Babu agreed and asked his name.

"Tarapada" the boy replied.

Tarapada was a good looking boy. He wore a shabby dhoti and did not cover the upper part.....



My five year old daughter Mini can't sit quiet even for a minute. She doesn't waste any time in silence. This irritates her mother greatly, and she would like to stop her prattle for a while, but I wouldn't. Being quiet is unnatural for Mini, I cannot bear her silence for a long time. My own chats with her is funny. One morning, as I was in midst of the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter of my new novel, my little Mini tiptoed into the room and putting her hand on mine, said: "Father! Ramdayal, our guard, calls a crow a kauwa! He doesn't know anything, does he?"



11. Read the following passage carefully.

## Speak Gently

1. Speak Gently ! It is better far  
To rule by love, than fear;  
Speak gently ! Let no harsh words mar  
The good we might do here !
2. Speak Gently ! Love doth whisper low  
The vows that true hearts bind;  
And gently friendship's accents<sup>1</sup> flow;  
Affection's voice is kind.
3. Speak gently to the little child,  
Its love is sure to gain;  
Teach it in accents soft and mild :  
It may not long remain.
4. Speak gently to the young, for they  
Will have enough to bear-  
Pass through this life as best they may,  
'Tis full of anxious care !
5. Speak gently to the aged one.  
Grieve not the care-worn heart  
The course of life is nearly run  
Let such in peace depart.
6. Speak gently, kindly to the poor,  
Let no harsh tone be heard,  
They have enough they must endure<sup>2</sup>,  
Without an unkind word.
7. Speak gently to the erring-know  
They may have toiled in vain;  
Perchance unkindness made them so;  
Oh, win them back again.
8. Speak gently ! He who gave his life  
To bend man's stubborn<sup>3</sup> will,  
When elements, were in fierce<sup>4</sup> strife<sup>5</sup>,  
Said to them, 'Please be still.'
9. Speak gently ! 'tis a little thing  
Dropped in the hearts deep well  
The good, the joy which it may bring  
Long days to come shall tell.

### VALUE POINTS

The poem is about :

The value of speaking gently and being kind to all.

Stanza 1

- Speak lovingly and not harshly

Stanza 2

- Love and friendship need no loud words

Stanza 3

- Child to be taught through the language of soft words

Stanza 4

- The young will endure anything with gentle words

Stanza 5

- The old people to be dealt with gently. Let them leave the world peacefully.

Stanza 6

- Do not be harsh or unkind to the poor.

Stanza 7

- Win back the wrongones with love

Stanza 8

- Speak gently even to those who are wilful and fiery

Stanza 9

- All good and affection comes with gentle words

### GLOSSARY

1. accents : ways of speaking
2. endure : bear
3. stubborn : not flexible
4. fierce : aggressive
5. strife : struggle

— David Bates



(a) Read the questions given below and write the option you consider the most appropriate in your answer sheet :

(i) 'Speak gently to the erring ..... back again !' means that

- (a) we should gently win back the right people
- (b) we should set right the wrong people
- (c) we should bring back the people who have gone astray
- (d) we should adjust with the wrong-doing people

(ii) What does the poet say "harsh words" may do ?

- (a) they may spoil the atmosphere
- (b) they may spoil the goodness expected of us
- (c) they may create enmity among the people
- (d) they may be infectious in spreading bitterness

(iii) What will speaking gently ensure in the long days to come ?

- (a) peace
- (b) joy
- (c) progress
- (d) contentment

(iv) 'The course of life is nearly run, let such in peace depart'. The emotion conveyed through the above lines is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) contentment
- (b) negligence
- (c) sympathy
- (d) pride

(v) The poet follows the same rhyme scheme in all the stanzas. What is it ?

- (a) abba
- (b) abca
- (c) abab
- (d) aabb

(b) Answer the following questions :

(i) The synonym of the word 'mar' in stanza 1 is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) harm
- (b) gain
- (c) ruin
- (d) create

(ii) The antonym of 'perchance' in stanza 7 is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) perhaps
- (b) happily
- (c) certainly
- (d) quietly

**Space for Answers**



Name

Date

Class &amp; Sec.

Roll No.

Marks OBT.

Read the following passage carefully.

## Environment and Wildlife

1. In his *insatiable*<sup>1</sup> greed for material things and physical comforts, man has *ruthlessly*<sup>2</sup> exploited natural sources. He has killed animals for meat, skin and entertainment. He has *felled*<sup>3</sup> trees for paper, fuel and furniture. He has uprooted plants for food and medicines. He has dug the ground for precious stones and minerals. He has not spared even the oceans and the sky. The result is clear from the signs of devastation all around. Air is poisonous and so is water. The disasters like Tsunamis, Katrina and Rita have rendered millions of people homeless around the globe. This is the direct outcome of global warming. Thousands of species of animals like passenger pigeons, moa, quagga and dodo have disappeared and many are on the verge of extinction.
2. Therefore, we human beings, must realize the significance of the signals nature is giving us in forms of flash floods, storms and hurricanes. We must control our lust to master nature. We should stop felling trees and let the forest cover increase. It will ensure the safety of animals and birds that serve us in many ways. We should make our industries environment-friendly. We should try to save underground water. We should ensure that vehicles on roads do not add to the air pollution.

(a) Choose the option which is correct or most appropriate.

- (i) Natural resources are being used \_\_\_\_\_  
 (a) discriminately (b) indiscriminately  
 (c) prudently (d) effortlessly
- (ii) Too much exploitation of natural resources is \_\_\_\_\_  
 (a) good (b) bad  
 (c) destructive (d) desirable
- (iii) Tsunamis, Katrina and Rita are \_\_\_\_\_  
 (a) film actresses (b) the names of sea storms  
 (c) ordinary girls (d) oceans
- (iv) Global warming leads to \_\_\_\_\_  
 (a) natural disasters (b) earthquakes  
 (c) accidents (d) violence and aggression
- (v) What should we do to improve the environment?  
 (a) we should stop felling trees (b) we should make industry environment-friendly  
 (c) we should try to save water (d) We should do all the above

### VALUE POINTS

The passage is about :

Environment and wildlife. Man has exploited nature. Disasters are the outcome of excessive tampering with nature.

#### Para 1

- Man, exploiting nature, cruelly killed animals, felled trees, uprooted plants; results clear, signs of devastation, air, water poisonous; Tsunamis, Katrina, Rita outcomes of global warming.

#### Para 2

- Nature, giving signals, flash floods, storms, should stop felling trees, increase forest cover, ensure safety of animals, birds, make industries eco-friendly

### GLOSSARY

1. insatiable : not able to be satisfied  
 2. ruthlessly : cruelly  
 3. felled : cut



(b) Complete the following sentences :

- (i) Man has uprooted plants for food and medicines
- (ii) Disasters like Tsunamis are the direct outcome of global warming
- (iii) Many species of animals and birds are extinct or at the verge of extinction

**Space for Answers**

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## 3. Read the following passage carefully.

1. A cycle is one of the few vehicles that do not use any form of fuel or animal energy. It is powered by human energy and that makes it very eco-friendly. Its popularity is rising *meteorically*<sup>1</sup> and even people from *affluent*<sup>2</sup> background are taking it up as a hobby or for fitness. Many people are becoming aware of their carbon footprint and are biking to work once or twice a week. WWF India's Himanshu Pandey who lives in Gurgaon, says, "A bicycle has no carbon footprint and riding one *attunes*<sup>3</sup> you to a more conservational lifestyle with an eco-friendly mindset. The more your body adapts itself to pedalling, the more you want to push it in the direction where you save more fuel, more energy." He says a bicycle ride to his workplace takes him just 15 minutes more than a ride on a public transport, which is hardly much. Many areas have cycling clubs like Pedal Yatri in Gurgaon that have hundreds of people who get together in the morning for an enjoyable ride *spanning*<sup>4</sup> 50-200 km.

2. Choosing the perfect bicycle is a matter of utmost importance for those who are passionate about their rides. These cycle enthusiasts come from varied backgrounds and are willing to *shell out*<sup>5</sup> loads of money for the right bike. Sales of bicycles have been going up, especially that of high-end ones. Though there are more cyclists than ever before since the automobile age started, the ride has not been smooth and the riders have had to cough out, among other things, high prices for quality bikes.

## (a) Answer the following questions briefly :

- (i) Why do the rich take to cycling ?
- (ii) What awareness has cycling brought ?
- (iii) Where can cycling be of use ?
- (iv) Why has the ride on a bicycle not been smooth ?
- (v) Give the name of the cycling club in Gurgaon.

## (b) Answer the following questions :

- (i) The synonym of the word 'mindset' in paragraph 1 is \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - (a) behaviour
  - (b) mentality
  - (c) character
  - (d) psyche
- (ii) The synonym of 'adapts' in paragraph 1 is \_\_\_\_\_ .

## VALUE POINTS

## The passage is about :

the practice of using a cycle becoming popular as cycling saves fuel and keeps the rider fit.

## Para 1

- cycling both a means of transport and a hobby for keeping the body fit, leaves no carbon footprint.

## Para 2

- choosing the perfect bicycle, difficult on account of its cost.

## GLOSSARY

1. meteorically : very quickly
2. affluent : very rich
3. attunes : familiarizes
4. spanning : covering
5. shell out : spend



- (iii) The antonym of 'utmost' in paragraph 2 is \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(a) smallest (b) uppermost  
(c) least (d) less

(iv) The antonym of 'smooth' in paragraph 2 is rough out

### Space for Answers

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- i) Rich are taking cycling as a hobby or for fitness.
- ii) Bicycles are encouraging people to reduce carbon footprint and adopt an eco-friendly lifestyle. It is making people aware of fitness.
- iii) Bicycle can be used as a public transport or to travel long distances for adventures and nature exploration.
- iv) High prices of quality bikes and maintenance costs are common difficulties which create a rough environment for cyclists.
- v) 'Pedal Yatri' is a pedalling club in Gurgaon.