

Date

Name

Class & Sec.

Roll No.

Marks OBT.

13. Read the poem carefully :

## The Snare

1. I hear a sudden cry of pain!  
There is a rabbit in a snare<sup>1</sup> :  
Now I hear the cry again,  
But I cannot tell from where.
2. But I cannot tell from where  
He is calling out for aid<sup>2</sup>!  
Crying on the frightened air,  
Making everything afraid!
3. Making everything afraid!  
Wrinkling up his little face!  
And he cries again for aid;  
And I cannot find the place!
4. And I cannot find the place  
Where his paw is in the snare!  
Little One! Oh, Little One!  
I am searching everywhere!

– James Stephens

(a) Complete the following passage by writing the missing word in each blank :

The speaker (possibly a boy) hears the (a) pain of a rabbit (b) crying in a (c) snare somewhere. He hears the cry (d) of the rabbit but cannot say from (e) where the sound of the cry comes. The cries of the rabbit have filled the whole atmosphere with fear. The rabbit cries again for (f) for aid but the speaker cannot find out the (g) location where the paw of the rabbit is caught in the (h) snare.

(b) Find the words in the poem which have the same meanings as :

- (i) full of fear (para 2) frightened
- (ii) looking for (para 4) searching

### VALUE POINTS

#### About the poem

The poem gives expression to a boy's reaction on hearing the cry of a rabbit caught in a snare. The boy wants to help the rabbit but is unable to locate where it is.

#### Stanza 1

- a rabbit caught in a hunter's snare crying
- its cry heard by the speaker (a boy)
- unable to trace the direction of the cry

#### Stanza 2

- the boy unable to know from where the rabbit is crying for help
- the whole atmosphere full of fear

#### Stanza 3

- cries of the rabbit for help
- the boy, highly upset, panicky, as he does not know where the rabbit is

#### Stanza 4

- the boy unable to find the place where the rabbit's paw caught in the snare
- searching everywhere, but in vain

### GLOSSARY

1. snare : a loop of wire to catch and kill a rabbit, used by hunters
2. aid : help



(ii) The antonym of 'spiritual' as given in paragraph 3 is .....

(a) immoral

(b) material

(c) earthly

(d) physical

### Space for Answers

- (a) 1. As per reported, the rise in incidents of violence and unrest have gone up by five times which has been seen between 2002 and 2008.
2. The writer is concerning about the responsibilities and ways which are helping to promote the increasing affairs in violence and unrest by expressing in this passage.
3. No, the cases of increase in violence and unrest are not in a normal state but are affecting the stabilised conditions of our cities and towns.
4. The two reasons which involve the growing rate of violence and unrest are the amount which is rich in the increasing tendencies to get rich by hook or by crook, forming the decline of moral values and secondly, the level of outwitting the framed authorities have been inculcated.
5. The rate of blind race for wealth and material things accounts for the modern man's stress and strain.



# Worksheet

16

Reading : Comprehension Passage

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16. Read the passage carefully :

- In the last about three decades, of all genres, Punjabi short story has dominated<sup>1</sup> the literary discourse<sup>2</sup>. Kesra Ram, who belongs to Hisar, Haryana, is a well-known modern story writer in Punjabi with four collections of stories to his credit. He has done a lot of translation work as well, translating Punjabi literature in Rajasthani and Hindi. He has translated into Punjabi some of the writings of English literary theorist Terry Eagleton which received universal acclaim<sup>3</sup>. The present collection of eight long stories *Thanks a Lot Putra* (*Thanks a Lot My Son*) deals with the present-day problems spawned by the distortions in the system that has ruffled all categories of our socio-cultural mechanism.
- In some of these stories like, *Khushbu Khushbu*, an old man Shingara Singh longs for the fragrance of roses that has disappeared under the impact of genetic modification, though flowers of unheard of colours can be seen in the garden. *Thanks a Lot Putra* deals with the predicament of an old couple living in a mofussil town waiting for the arrival of their son working for a multinational company on a senior position in a metropolitan city. The parents keep on waiting for his calls but the son rarely obliges them nor does he respond to their calls. Whenever they get a message of his arrival, the mother prepares his favourite delicacies. But each time he betrays their hope on the pretext of an important meeting. The disappointment of the old people can well be imagined.

— The Tribune

(a) Complete the following statements :

- Kesra Ram has to his credit in four collections of stories.
- Terry Eagleton is a great literary theorist.
- Translated works of Kesra Ram are available in Rajasthani and Hindi.
- Socio-cultural problems are highlighted in Thanks a Lot Putra.
- The son always betrayed the hope of his parents.

(b) Say whether the statements are True or False.

- Kesra Ram is famous only as a translator. False
- 'Thanks a lot Putra' focuses on snags in our society. True

(c) (i) The synonym of 'ruffled' as given in paragraph 1 is .....

- (a) made up                      ~~(b) broken~~  
(c) troubled                      (d) upset

## VALUE POINTS

### About the passage

Kesra Ram, modern Punjabi short story writer and translator, deals with the social, economic problems of the day in a satirical manner to bring out the hypocrisy of the society.

### Para 1

Kesra Ram, hailing from Hisar, is a great modern Punjabi short story writer along with being an acclaimed translator. His collection of stories deals with modern society and its problems.

### Para 2

The story *Khushbu Khushbu* highlights the impact of genetic modification. *Thanks a lot Putra* deals with the predicament of an old couple waiting for the return of their son working in a multinational company.

## GLOSSARY

- dominated : had a great influence on
- discourse : discussion
- acclaim : praise

