

CLASS –VIII

CHAPTER 1

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PRESENT IN THE WORLD

INTRODUCTION

No one wants war to happen. Nobody likes war. Soldiers too are human beings and do not want fights among the race. One should try to find out other sources and solutions to solve differences between two nations instead of wars. This is a story about Jim McPherson who was the officer of British Army. He wrote about experiences to his wife he had with the German army on the Christmas morning.

INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS

Ques.1 Tell the name of festival which celebrated all over the world on the birth of Lord Christ.

Ans. The Christmas

Ques.2 On which occasion do we sing corals?

Ans. On the eve of Christmas

Ques.3 Why Santa Clause is loved by children?

Ans. Santa clause is loved by children because he gives different types of gift.

WORD MEANING

Word	Meaning
1. Junk	Waste material
2. Clumsily	Awkwardly
3. Scorch marks	Burn marks
4. Veneer	A thin layer of plastic
5. Stuck fast	Shut tight
6. Scruples	Feelings that make you hesitate to do something wrong.
7. Trenches	Long deep holes in the ground where soldier hide from enemy
8. Parapet	High wall
9. Huddles	Heap
10. Stamping	Producing sound from your feet by patting on the ground
11. Orphan	Parentless Child
12. Muddle- headed	Confused
13. Conservatory	Greenhouse
14. Suffused with	Glow of happiness
15. Mingling	Mixing

VERY SHORT QUESTIONS

Ques.1 What did the author find in a junk shop?

Ans. The author found a roll- top desk for sale in a junk shop. It was made of oak wood, but it was in a very bad condition.

Ques.2 Who had written the letter, to whom, and when?

Ans. John Macpherson, a captain in the British army, had written that letter, dated Dec. 26, 1914, to his wife Connie.

Ques.3 What jobs did Hans Wolf and Jim Macpherson have when they were not soldiers?

Ans. before joining the army, Hans played the cello in the orchestra and Jim was a teacher.

Ques.4 Why did the author go to Bradford?

Ans. The author went to Bradford to meet Mrs. Jim Macpherson and deliver to her Jim's letter.

Ques.5 How old was Mrs. Macpherson now? Where was she?

Ans. Mrs. Macpherson was 101 years old. She was in nursing home.

Ques.6 Who did Connie Macpherson think her visitor was?

Ans. Connie thought that the visitor was her own husband, Jim Macpherson.

Ques.7 Why do you think the desk had been sold, and when?

Ans. The desk must have been sold when Connie's house had burnt. The table had been damaged by fire as well as water.

SHORT QUESTIONS

Ques.1 What did he find in a secret drawer? Who do you think had put it in there?

Ans. In the secret drawer of the desk, the author found a small tin box. It had a letter in it. I think the owner of the roll-top desk might have put it there.

Ques.2 Why was the letter written-what was the wonderful things that had happened?

Ans. The letter described a wonderful event. The two armies-the British and the German-fighting against each other celebrated Christmas together.

Ques.3 Had Hans Wolf ever been to Dorset? Why did he say he knew it?

Ans. No, Hans had never been to Dorset. He had only read about Dorset in Hardy's novel 'Far from the Madding Crowd'.

Ques.4 Do you think Jim Macpherson came back from the war? How do you know this?

Ans. No, Jim Macpherson never came back home from the war. Perhaps therefore his wife Connie had preserved his letters.

Ques.5 Which sentence in the text shows that the visitor did not try to hide his identity?

Ans. The sentence is, "you told me you'd come home by Christmas dearest," she said, "And here you are, the best Christmas present in the world. Come closer, Jim dear, sit down."

Ques.6 For how long do you think Connie had kept Jim's letter? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans. Connie must have kept Jim's letter for almost 70 to 75 years the reasons for that are:

- When the author bought the roll top desk. The junk seller said that the desk was of early 19th century.
- The letter dated 26th Dec. 1914 that is during the First World War.
- Now Mrs. McPherson was 101 years old.

Ques.7 Why do Jim and Hans think that games or sports are good ways of resolving conflicts? Do you agree?

Ans. Both Jim and Hans were soldiers. Both were warm hearted. They had seen the sufferings of war. So it was natural for them to hate war. They favoured a peaceful solution to settle disputes. Games or sports, they said, were good ways of resolving conflicts. I also quite agree with them.

Ques.8 Do you think the soldiers of the two armies are like each other, or different from each other? Find evidence from the story to support your answer.

Ans. All human beings are alike in many ways. They love peace and hate war. They want to live together. Examples from the story: "Then they were calling out to us from a cross no man's land. "Happy Christmas, Tommy! Happy Christmas! "When we had got over the surprise some of us shouted back." Same to you, Fritz! Same to you!"

Ques.9 Mention the various ways in which the British and the German soldiers become friends and find things in common at Christmas.

Ans. The British and the German soldiers belonged to different camps. They were enemies in war time. But after all they were human beings and therefore they had similar feelings. They shared the festive spirit of the Christmas. They got over hatred and played games, feasted and drank like good friends. Both hated war. Both were anxious to go back to their families at the end of war.

Ques.10 What is Connie's Christmas present? Why is it the best Christmas present in the world?

Ans. Connie thought that Jim had come back home from war. She mistook the author for Jim. She had been waiting for her husband Jim. So the coming home of Jim was the best Christmas present in the world for her.

Ques.11 Do you think the title of the story is suitable for it? Can you think of any other title(s)?

Ans. Decidedly the title of the story is most suitable. For the old Connie, no other present could have given her such joy as the coming home of Jim, her husband. Her presumption might be wrong, but she got the greatest happiness of her life.

Since the story revolves around Christmas, the alternate title of the story could be 'War and Peace' or 'Christmas Gift'. But neither can be a match to the present title.

LONG QUESTION

Ques.1 Imagine that you are Jim. You have returned to your town after that war. In your diary record how you feel about the changes you see and the events that occur in your town. You could begin like this: 25 December, 1919 it's Christmas today but the town looks ?

Ans. 25th December its Christmas today But the town looks changed. Everything has changed. The buildings, the houses, the shops that were standing a year back have no traces now. Instead there is only debris, rocks and soil. I can't find my family, my neighbors my friends. Have they become the prey of this war? Today on Christmas I have no one to share my happiness. My family my wife my son is dead. The war destroys not only the family's religion, society but also humanity. Man has become so mean that he finds no importance to life in front of his profits and selfishness why do we have wars?

WORKING WITH LANGUAGE

Ques.1 Look at these sentences from the story.

Ans. I spotted it in a junk shop in Bradford.... The man said it was made in the early nineteenth century.... This one was in a bad condition

The italicized verbs are in the past tense. They tell us what happened in the past, before now.

i. Read the passage below and underlines the verb in the past tense.

A man got on the train and sat down. The compartment was empty except for one lady. She took her gloves off. A few hours later the police arrested the man. They held him for 24 hours and then freed him.

Ans. A man got on the train and sat down. The compartment was empty except for one lady. She took her gloves off. A few hours later the police arrested the man. They held him for 24 hours and then freed him.

Now look at these sentences.

The veneer had lifted almost everywhere. Both fire and water had taken their toll on this desk.

Notice the verb forms had lifted, had taken (their toll).

The author found and bought the desk in the past.

The desk was damaged before the author found it and bought it.

Fire and water had damaged the desk before the author found it and bought it.

We use verb forms like had damaged for an event in the 'earlier past'. If there are two events in the past, we used the 'had....' Form for the event that occurred first in the past.

We also use the past perfect tense to show that something was wished for, or expected before a particular time in the past. For example, I had always wanted one.....

Discuss with your partner the difference in meaning in the sentences below.

When I reached the station, the train left.

When I reached the station, the train had left.

ii. Fill in the blanks using the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

My little sister is very naughty. When she _____ (come) back from school yesterday, she had _____ (tear) her dress. We _____ (ask) her how it had _____ (happen). She _____ (say) she _____ (have, quarrel) with a boy. She _____ (have, beat) him in a race and he _____ (have, try) to push her. She _____ (have, tell) the teacher and so he _____ (have, chase) her and she _____ (have, fall) down and _____ (have, tear) her dress.

Ans. My little sister is very naughty. When she came back from school yesterday, she had torn her dress. We asked her how it had happened. She said she had quarreled with a boy. She had beaten him in a race and he had tried to push her. She had told the teacher and so he had chased her, and she had fallen down and had torn her dress.

Underline the verbs and arrange them in two columns: Past and Earlier.

a. My friends set out to see the caves in the next town, but I stayed at home because I had seen them already.

Ans. Stayed, had been

b. When they arrived at the station, their train had left. They came back home, but by that time I had gone out to see a movie.

Ans. Arrived, had left, came, had gone

c. So they sat outside and ate the lunch I had packed for them.

Ans. Sat ate, had packed

d. By the time I returned, they had fallen asleep.

Ans. Returned, had fallen.

PAST

- a. Stayed
- b. Arrived
- c. Came
- d. Sat
- e. Ate
- f. Returned

EARLIER PAST

- Had seen
- Had left
- Had gone
- Had packed
- Had fallen
- Had fallen

Ques.3 The table below contains a list of nouns and some adjectives. Use as many adjectives as you can to describe each noun. You might come up with some funny descriptions!

Nouns	Adjectives
Elephant	Circular, striped, enormous,
Face	Multi coloured, round, cheerful,
Building	Wild, blue, red, chubby,
Water	Large, medium-sized, cold

Ans. 1. Elephant – enormous, striped, wild

1. Face – cheerful, round, chubby
2. Building – circular, large, multi coloured
3. Water – blue, cold.

SPEAKING

Ques.1 In group discuss whether wars are a good way to end conflicts between countries. Then present your arguments to the whole class.

Ans. War means bloodshed, hate and destruction. It shows the animalism in man. Even the animals fight for some sound reason. But nations go to war to settle some petty dispute or in the name region. War solves no problem. Understanding alone can end differences. All religious condemn greed and bloody quareels. Let us learn this great lesson from history.

Ques.2 What kind of presents do you like and why? What are the things you keep in mind when you buy presents for others? Discuss with your partner. (For example, you might buy a book because it can be read and re-read over aperiod of time).

Ans. Personally I am against the practice of exchanging expensive gifts. A rose or a token of affection suits every person and every pocket. This is why some guests offer bouquets or greeting cards alone. In case the gift is essential, it should satisfy some need and have utility. When I go to buy a present, I first take into account the liking of my classmate, relative or girl/boy friend.

WRITING

Ques.2 Given below is the outline of a story construct the story using the outline? A young newly married doctor _____ freedom fighter _____ exiled to the Andaman and Nicobar Island by the British _____ infamous cellular Jail _____ Prisoners tortured _____ revolt by inmates _____ doctor hanged _____ wife waits for his return _____ becomes old _____ continues to wait with hope and faith.

Ans. There was a young, newly married doctor who lived in a small town. He practiced medicine in the town and he was very happy. But one day few British soldiers come to his house and caught him calling him a freedom fighter. They exiled him to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands

to the infamous cellular Jail. The wife kept asking the authorities about status of her husband but all in vain. She could not make them believe that her husband was a simple doctor and not a freedom fighter. There in the Jail the Prisoners were tortured and beaten up brutally by the Bruisers. One day the inmates revolted. The authorities caught hold of them and hanged them. The doctor was also among them. The wife kept waiting for the justice and for her husband to return. She grew old and still even after independence waits with hope and faith. She is 103 years old.

DICTIONARY WORK

By the end of the journey verb in the sentence.

Ans. Find these phrasal verbs in the story.

Burn out, light up, look on, run out, keep out.

Write down of the phrasal verb in the sentence.

Ans. a. No-12 turned out to be nothing but a burnt-out shell. (completely burnt)

b. That was the moment her eyes lit up with happiness. (Glow up)

c. Hans wolf and I looked on and cheered, clapping our hands and stamping our feet. (watched)

d. When the game was finished, the schnapps and the rum and sausage had gone since run out, and we knew it was all over. (Finished)

e. No 12 turned out to be nothing but a burned- out shell, the gaping, the windows boarded up. (covered with wooden boards)

f. You just keep out of this quarrel. (stay away)

Ques.1 The table below contains a list of nouns and some adjectives. Use as many adjectives as you can to describe each noun. You might come up with some funny descriptions.

a. Elephant: Enormous elephant, cheerful elephant, wild elephant, large elephant, medium sized elephant.

b. Face: Circular face, enormous face, multi coloured face, striped face, rounded face, cheerful face, wild face red face, chubby face, large face, medium sized face.

c. Building: circular building, enormous building, multi colored building, rounded building, cheerful blue building, red building, large building, brick building,

d. Water Pool water: enormous water, multi coloured water, cold water.

HOTS QUESTIONS

Ques.1 What was Connie's Christmas present?

Ans. The tin box was the Christmas present of Connie.

Ques.2 How did the old lady react when the author gave her letter back to her?

Ans. The old lady became very happy to receive the letter. Her eyes lit up. Her face was suffused with a sudden glow of happiness. She kissed the author. In fact she thought that her husband Jim had come back.



VALUE BASED QUESTIONS

Value of this chapter is: - Peace should be given preference over war.

Ques.1 What is the irony in the story “The Best Christmas present in the world”.

Ans. The irony of this story is that the writer is comparing war with Christmas. In this festival people unite and exchange presents thus Connie aged 101 receives a present from a stranger awaited husband. Thus the irony is the present or mistaken identity of the visitor.

St. Xavier's World School

THE ANT AND THE CRICKET

INTRODUCTION

This is a fable that conveys a moral. This poem is about an ant and a cricket and contains an idea of far-reaching significance which is as true of a four legged cricket as of a two- legged one. The moral behind the poem is “Live today but save for tomorrow”.

There was a young cricket which is used to sing day and night during summers and springs, and did not save any food for winters. When the winters came he looked for food and went to an ant. She refused to give him food and asked him to sing and dance to send away the winters. The cricket understood that he did not think for future. One should always save for tomorrow.

INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS

Ques.1 Which insects does store his food during off season.

Ans. The Ant.

Ques.2 Which insect is laborious and intelligent?

Ans. The Ant.

Ques.3 Does cricket always keep in singing?

Ans. Yes

WORD MEANING

Word	Meaning
1. Accustomed	Used to singing
2. Crumb	A piece of bread
3. Famine	Scarcity of food
4. Miser	One who does not spend much money
5. Quoth	Said
6. Warrant	Prove
7. Starvation	Suffering from hunger
8. Lay nothing by	save nothing

SHORT QUESTIONS

Ques.1 The cricket says, “Oh! What will become of me?” When does he say it, and why?

Ans. The cricket speaks these words when in his home he finds no food to eat in winter.

Ques.2 Find in the poem the lines that mean the same as “Neither a borrower nor a lender be” (Shakespeare).

Ans. The line is: But we ants never borrow; we ants never lend.

Ques.3 Which lines in the poem express the poet’s comment? Read them aloud.

Ans. The poet’s comment is expressed in the last two lines.

“Folks call this a fable, I’ll warrant it true.”

LONG QUESTIONS

Ques.1 What is your opinion of the ants’s principles?

Ans. The ant’s principle is not bad. It teaches lesson to everybody to plan for the rainy day. I agree with what the ant says first that one should save something for the future so that he does not need to borrow or lend. But I don’t agree with the ant’s principle what he told later. If he says he is a friend of cricket then he should also help the cricket at the time of distress. On the other hand I believe that a friend in need is a friend indeed.

Ques.2 The ant tells the cricket to “dance the winter away.” Do you think the word ‘dance’ is appropriate here? If so, why?

Ans. The word ‘dance’ here means ‘merry making and wasting time.’ It is appropriate here. The irresponsible cricket does not deserve any sympathy. The ant told the cricket to “dance the winter away” because when it asked the cricket what it did in the summers and why it had not stored any food for summers, the cricket answered that it sang through the warm and sunny months of summers, Therefore, in reply to this the ant asked the cricket to “dance” the winter away just like it “sang” all through the summers and did not bother to store food for winters.

Ques.3 Write the comment in your own words.

Ans. People say that this story of the cricket and the ant is imaginary or a fable with a moral. But I think that the story is true and educative. Some people live only in the present. They spend what they earn, and make merry. But they regret this habit later on. This comment by the poet means that this poem is indeed a fable as it had a moral behind it. The cricket did not have anything to eat during the winters because it did not bother to store some food during summers. It was negligent and sang all through the summers. The ant, on the other hand, had built a nice home for itself and had stored food so that it would not starve during winters. It worked hard during summers to achieve this, Thus, the moral of the poem is to be prepared for the adverse times and always work hard instead of being negligent.

VERY SHORT QUESTIONS

PASSAGES FOR COMPREHENSION

Read the given stanzas carefully and answer the question that follows each.

1. A silly young Come

Ques.1 Why the young cricket was called silly?

Ans. The young cricket was called silly because he did not think for winters and sang throughout summer and spring.

Ques.2 What did he do during the summer and spring?

Ans. He sang during summer and spring.

Ques.3 What did he find in winter?

Ans. He found his cupboards empty.

Ques.4 Find the rhyming word from the passage for 'sing'.

Ans. Sing - Spring.

2. At last and sorrow (Pg 21)

Ques.1 What happened to the cricket?

Ans. The cricket suffered from Starvation and famine.

Ques.2 What did he do?

Ans. He become bold and dripping wet reached to the ant to ask him some food.

Ques.3 Where did he go?

Ans. He went to the ant.

Ques.4 Give the meaning of starvation.

Ans. Starvation - suffering from hunger.

Ques.5 Find the rhyming words for bold, borrow, rain.

Ans. Bold – cold, borrow – sorrow, tomorrow, rain – grain.

3. Says winter away. (Pg 22)

Ques.1 What did the ant say to the cricket?

Ans. The ant said that he was cricket's friend and servant but he never borrows and never lends.

Ques.2 What did the ant ask him? What was his reply?

Ans. The ant asked the cricket did not he lay anything when the weather was warm. The cricket said no, as he was busy singing and dancing.

Ques.3 What did the ant say in the end?

Ans. The ant said sarcastically that then goes and dance winter away.

HOTS QUESTION

Ques.1 What does the poet mean when says "Some crickets have four legs and some have two"

Ans. The poet means that the fable is true for human being as well through two legged some of us behave like that four legged cricket. The poet refers to the people who spend all their earnings and lay nothing by.

Ques.2 The misery ant spoke of a principle. What is it?

Ans. The missilery ant said," we ants never borrow, we ants never lend.

The Value of this chapter is "save something for the bad days".

One should work even in leisure time and store thing for use in odd time. As ant have done in this poem.

Ques.3 What did the cricket say to the ant? How did the ant react to it?

Ans. The cricket requested the ant to give him shelter from rain. He also requested the ant to lend him a small amount of grains. He said that he would pay the ant back after a while. He only wanted to borrow. He said that if the ant did not do what he wanted, he might die.

ACTIVITY

If you know a fable in your own language narrate is to your classmates.

Ans. The Ant and The Dove

One hot day, an ant was searchiong for some water. After walking around for same time, she came to a spring. To reach the spring, she had to climb up a blade of grass. While making her way up, she slipped she could have drowned if a dove up a nearby tree had not seen her, seeing that the ant was in trouble, the dove quickly plucked off a leaf and dropped it into the water near the struggling ant. The ant moved towards the leaf and climbed up there. Soon it carried her safely to dry ground. Just at that time a hunter nearby was throwing out his net towards the dove, hoping to trap it.

Guessing what he was about to do the ant quickly built him on the heel. Felling the pain, the hunter dropped his net. The dove was quick to fly away to safety.

CHAPTER 2 - THE TSUNAMI

INTRODUCTION

The chapter includes many real incidents from Andaman and Nicobar islands as well as from Thailand when tsunami hit these areas on December 26, 2004. These incidents involve stories of courage survival, bravery, fate and destiny.

INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS

Ques.1 What is the cause of earthquake?

Ans. Sudden slippage of rocks along the faults inside the earth may cause severe or tremors of as earthquake.

Ques.2 What is Tsunami?

Ans. Tsunami is a very large and powerful wave caused by earthquake under the sea.

Ques.3 Where does Tsunami like disaster occur .

Ans. Coastal belt

WORD MEANING

Word	Meaning
1. Fled	Run away
2. Slammed	Hit
3. Eyewitness	One who witness something happening of his own
4. Enticed	Seduced
5. Approaching	Coming closer
6. Perished	Died, finished
7. Archipelago	A group of many islands and the surrounding sea
8. Tremor	A slight shake
9. Chaos	Complete confusion
10. Swept	Taken away by water
11. Rescue	Help
12. Daze	Unconscious/ half sleepy
13. Recede	Move back from where it was
14. Traumatized	Greatly shocked and distressed
15. Trigger	Caused
16. Hysterical	When you are hysterical you shout, laugh or cry in an excited way.
17. Refuge	Shelter from danger
18. Withstood	Educed without collapsing
19. Surge	Force.

VERY SHORT QUESTIONS

Ques.1 Why did Tilly's family come to Thailand?

Ans. Tilly's family had come to Thailand to celebrate Christmas.

Ques.2 What were the warning signs that both Tilly and her mother saw?

Ans. Both saw the sea rise and it started to foam and form whirlpools.

Ques.3 Do you think Tilly's mother was alarmed by them?

Ans. No, Tilly's mother was not alarmed by them.

Ques.4 Where had Tilly seen the sea behaving in the same strange fashion?

Ans. Tilly had seen the strange sea behavior in a video.

Ques.5 Where did the Smith family and the others on the beach go to escape from the tsunami?

Ans. They went to the third floor of the hotel and were saved.

Ques.6 How do you think her geography teacher felt when he heard about what Tilly had done in Phuket?

Ans. She felt very pleased and satisfied.

Ques.7 In the 'Tsunami 150,000 people died. How many animals died?

Ans. Very few animals died.

Ques.8 How many people and animals died in Yala National Park?

Ans. Sixty visitors and two animals.

Ques.9 What do people say about the elephants of Yala National Park?

Ans. People say that the elephants ran from the beach an hour before the Tsunami hit the coast.

Ques.10 What did the dogs in Galle do?

Ans. The dogs in Galle refused to go to the beach for their daily exercise.

Ques.11 If Tilly's award was to be shared, who do you think she should share it with – her parents or her geography teacher?

Ans. It is very obvious. Tilly's award should be shared with her geography teacher. Her parents could not guess the tsunami was coming.

SHORT QUESTION ANSWERS

Ques.1 Discuss the following questions in class. Then write your own answers:

When he felt the earthquake, do you think Ignacious immediately worried about a Tsunami? Give reasons for your answer. Which sentence in the text tells you that the Ignacious family did not have any time to discuss and plan their course of action after the tsunami struck?

Ans. No, Ignacious did not think about the tsunami. He thought that it was just an earthquake. So he took the television off the table and put it on the ground. His family did not have time to discuss and plan their course of action. The following sentence tells about the chaos and confusion.

“...two of his children caught hold of the hands of their mother’s father and mother’s brother, and rushed in the opposite direction.”

Ques.2 Which words in the list below describe Sanjeev, in your opinion?

(Look up the dictionary for word that you are not sure of)

Cheerful	ambitious	brash	brave	careless
Heroic	selfless	heartless	humorous	

Ans. brave, heroic, selfless

LONG QUESTION ANSWERS

Ques.1 How are Meghna and Almas’s stories similar?

Ans. Meghna and Almas – both were lucky. Meghna was carried away with her parents and other people. But she alone survived. She was washed ashore by a wave. Almas climbed on to a log of wood. When she opened her eyes, she found herself in a hospital in Kamorta.

Ques.2 What are the different ways in which Tilly’s parents could have reacted to her behaviour? What would you have done if you were in their place?

Ans. Tilly foresaw the danger of tsunami at once. She became hysterical. Her parents didn’t ignore her. They were sure that something wrong must be going to happen. So they all left the beach and were saved. If I were in place of Tilly parents, I might not have believed her. I might have scolded her for making a nonsense situation.

Ques.3 What are the two different ideas about why so few animals were killed in the tsunami? Which idea do you find more believable?

Ans. Very few animals were killed in the tsunami. Perhaps they feel the tremor much before humans do. Secondly, the animals have sixth sense. They can guess the coming disaster and so run away to safer places/higher ground.

The idea that the animals are gifted with the sixth sense is more believable. They move fast to get over the crisis.



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Ques.4 Suppose you are one of the volunteers who went to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands for relief work after the tsunami. You work in the relief camps, distributing food, water and medicine among the victims. You listen to the various stories of bravery of ordinary people even as they fight against odds to bring about some semblance of normalcy in their lives. You admire their grit and determination. Write a diary entry.

You may start in this way.

31 December, 2004

The killer tsunami struck these islands five days ago. But the victims are being brought in even now. Each one has a story to tell.....

Ans. The killer tsunami struck these islands five days ago. But the victims are being brought in even now. Each one has a story to tell. Their stories are hair raising as well as heartening or inspiring. Many were determined to start a new life. They don't want to stay in the camp for long. They feel small because living on charity was disgraceful. Most of them want to return to their cottages which are no more there, and to get a fishing boat to earn their livelihood. One woman, though old, recalled how she had saved a child from drowning.

Ques.5 The story shows how a little girl saved the lives of many tourists when tsunami struck the beach, thanks to the geography lesson that she had learnt at school. She remember the visuals of a tsunami and warned her parents.

Ans. I was going to my grandparent's house along with my parents by a car. I was very excited and desperate to meet them as I was going after one year. On the way we were singing, eating and enjoying music. Suddenly the driver stopped the car we found a man lying on the road. We got down seeing. He was a middle aged, well dressed man lying with his motorcycle. He was sweating and had his hand on his chest. He was having pain in the chest. I suddenly remembered my science lesson which I had studied few days ago. When a person has a heart attack he has pain on the left side of his chest, sweats a lot and has difficulty in moving and breathing. I remembered the first aid to be given in such condition which my teacher had taught us in the class. I asked my father to lift him and take him to the car.

USE WORDS FROM THE LIST TO COMPLETE THE THREE SENTENCES BELOW.

- I don't know if Sanjeev was cheerful brash or ambitious.
- I think that he was very brave, heroic and selfless.
- Sanjeev was not heartless, careless or humorous.

Say whether the following are true or false:

- Ignesious lost his wife, two children, his father – in – law, and his brother – in – law in the tsunami. **True**
- Sanjeev made it to safety after the tsunami. **False**
- Meghna was saved by a relief helicopter. **False**
- Almas's father realised that a tsunami was going to hit the island. **True**

Her mother and aunts were washed away with the tree that they were holding on to. **True**

WORKING WITH LANGUAGE

Ques.1 Go through Part – I carefully, and make a list of as many words as you can find that indicate movement of different kinds. (There is one word that occurs repeatedly-count how many times!). Put them into three categories.

Ans.	Fast movement	Slow movement	Neither slow nor fast
	Rushed out	Rising	Floating
	Swept		Walking
	Away		
	Recede		
	Ran		
	Washed away		

There is more word in the first category as compared to the others because the incident (the tsunami) took place very quickly without giving time to plan or think anything. It was a disaster and swept away everything very quickly.

FILL IN THE BLANKS

(the verbs given in brackets will give you a clue)

- The earth trembled, but not many people felt the trembling. (Tremble)
- When the zoo was flooded, there was a lot of confusion and many animals escaped in to the countryside (confuse)
- We heard with relief that the lion had been recaptured. (relieve)
- The zookeeper was stuck in a tree and his rescue was filmed by the TV crew. (Rescue)
- There was much excitement in the village when the snake charmer came visiting. (excite)

Study the sentences in the columns A and B.

A	B
Meghna was swept away.	The waves swept Meghna away.
Almas's grandfather was hit on the head.	Something hit Almas's grandfather on the head.
Sixty visitors were washed away.	The waves washed away sixty visitors.
No animal carcasses were found.	People did not find any animal carcasses.

Compare the sentences in A to the ones in B. Who is the 'doer' of the action in every case? Is the 'doer' mentioned in A, or in B?

Notice the verbs in **A**: 'was swept away', 'was hit', 'were washed away', and 'were found'. They are in the passive form. The sentences are in the Passive Voice. In these sentences, the focus is not on the person who does the action.

In **B**, the 'doer' of the action is named. The verbs are in the active form. The sentences are in the Active Voice.

Say whether the following sentences are in the Active or the Passive Voice. Write A or P after each sentence as shown in the first sentence.

- (i). Someone stole my bicycle. A
(ii). The tyres were deflated by the traffic police. _____
(iii). I found it last night in a ditch near my house. _____
(iv). It had been thrown there. _____
(v). My father gave it to the mechanic. _____
(vi). The mechanic repaired it for me. _____

Ans. (ii). P (iii). A (iv). P (v). A (vi). A

HOTS QUESTION

Ques.1 What was it that triggered tsunami on 26 December 2004?

Ans. There was a massive earthquake off northern Sumatra early in the morning of December 26, 2004. It was that which caused tsunami.

Ques.2 Who was Ingestion? How did tsunami affect his life?

Ans. Ingestion was the manager of a cooperation society in catchall. His wife woke him up at 6.00 am on that day. She had left an earthquake. Before going out ingenious took the television off the table and put it on the ground. The intention was to preserve it from the tremors which could make it fall. Then the family rushed out of the house.

Value Of This Chapter – We should be ready to face disaster because it is a part of nature.

Ques.1 How was Tilly Smith instrumental in saving her family?

Ans. Tilly Smith had come to Thailand with her family to celebrate Christmas standing on the beach, she and her mother saw the sea water coming to the shore. The beach was getting smaller and smaller. The mother wondered what was happening.

Tilly Smith sensed that something was wrong. She remembered a geography lesson her teacher to the class two weeks before. In the mean time, she saw the sea slowly rise and start to foam.

ACTIVITY

Do you remember any incident when something that you learnt in the classroom helped you in some way outside the classroom?

Write your experiences in a paragraph of about 90-100 words.

Ans. The other day I was walking back from school. Suddenly my eyes fell on a cyclist. He seemed to be losing balance. Before I could think of helping him, he had somehow got down the cycle. However, he just left the cycle and lay on the side of the road. He was perspiring and

breathing with difficulty as a crowd gathered. I immediately remembered the lesson my biology teacher had taught me. I requested the people to stay away and sent one of them to call a doctor. In the mean time I fanned him to help him get a lot of fresh air. Then very tenderly, I massaged his heart. That was what my teacher had advised me to do. The man felt relief and was breathing easily when the doctor arrived.

GEOGRAPHY LESSON

INTRODUCTION

The poem deals with the poet's feelings for the city he views from 10 thousand feet above the ground. He finds everything planned and perfect in proportion like a geometric design, very different from what it actually is.

SUMMARY

The poet says that from a mile the city seemed scaled and in style which actually is haphazard. From ten thousand feet he could see the country filled with cities where the rivers ran and the valleys were populated. He could find out the logic of geography that land and water always attract man as they are his basic necessities. When the poet reached six miles high, he could see the earth was round and that the earth has more water than land. The poet could not understand the reason for hatred of man with each other, to build walls across cities and to kill each other when from that height everything was clear.

INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS

Ques.1 What is Logic of Geography?

Ans. Logic of geography is to understand the physical area of a country.

Ques.2 What is the percentage of water to land?

Ans. 71% to 21%

Ques.3 Why do understand the logic of geography from a height?

Ans. Because we get panoramic view of land.

WORD MEANING

Word	Meaning
1. Sprang	To fly with a force
2. Inevitable	That cannot be avoided
3. Haphazard	Without plan or order
4. Delineated	Shown

VERY SHORT QUESTIONS

PASSAGES FOR COMPREHENSION

1. When sky

Ques.1 What was clear from the sky?

Ans. It was clear from the sky why the city had developed the way it had.

Ques.2 How high the jet was when the poet sees the land?

Ans. The jet was six inches to the mile.

Ques.3 What look inevitable?

Ans. It seemed inevitable to see the city neat from the sky that actually is haphazard.

Ques.4 Give the opposites of developed, unplanned.

Developed	Undeveloped
Unplanned	Planned

2. When the thousand feet.

Ques.1 How high the jet reached?

Ans. The jet reached ten thousand feet.

Ques.2 What did he see?

Ans. He saw why the country had cities where the rivers ran and why the valleys were populated. He understood the logic of geography.

Ques.3 What was clearly delineated?

Ans. The logic of geography was clearly delineated.

SHORT QUESTIONS ANSWERS

Ques.1 Find three or four phrases in stanzas one and two which are likely to occur in a geography lesson?

Ans. a. seeing it scaled six inches to the mile.
b. Rivers ran and why the valleys were populated.
c. Land and water attracted man.

Ques.2 Seen from the window of an aero plane, the city appears.

(i). as haphazard as on ground.
(ii). as neat as a map.

(iii). As developed as necessary.

Mark the right answer.

Ans. (iii). As developed as necessary

Ques.3 Which of the following statements are examples of “the logic of geography”?

(i). There are cities where there are rivers.

(ii). Cities appear as they are not from six miles above the ground.

(iii). It is easy to understand why valleys are populated.

(iv). It is difficult to understand why humans hate and kill one another.

(v). The earth is round, and it has more sea than land.

Ans. (i); (iii); (v) – these are correct statements.

LONG QUESTIONS ANSWERS

Ques.1 clear from the height.

Ans. The earth is round and it has more sea than land. From the height, it was clear why the country had cities where the rivers ran and why the valleys were populated. It was also clear that the earth was round and that it had more sea than land.

Ques.2 Not clear from the height.

Ans. Why men hate each other and build walls across the cities. From the height, it was not clear why the men on the earth found reasons to hate each other. It was also not understandable why men had to build walls across cities and why they had to kill.

HOTS QUESTION

Ques.1 By what logic of geography were both the cities and the valleys populated.

Ans. The logic of geography is that land and water attracted man. These were available near the rivers and in the valley. So man made cities along the river and valleys were populated for the same reason.

Ques.2 What was it which the poet could not understand from whatever height he observed the earth?

Ans. The poet could not understand when made people hate each other. He could not understand why man made walls across the cities and why he killed other human beings.

VALUE BASED QUESTION

Value of this chapter: - difference and jealousy

Ques.1 How did the earth appear to the poet from six miles above? What it was that the poet could not understand even then?

Ans. From six miles above the earth, it appeared round. It was also clear that there was more sea than land. It was thus a lesson in geography which the poet had learnt. However, a puzzle



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remained unanswered. The poet found it difficult to understand why people hated each other. He did not know why they built walls across the cities to kill other human beings. In brief the poet says that it is not difficult to learn about our globe but to understand human ways is indeed very difficult.

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