

1. What answer did the stars give to the wind?

Ans: Since the stars have their own light so they answered in their own way. They told the wind that they have their own light and with this light they shine for the others to find their way. They are independent. Life of independence is no life. Having their own light is the life for them.

Q2. What was the moon's reply?

Ans: The moon replied that its life is nothing without stars because it borrows its light from them and this inadequate light is the cause of its black spots. Due to this its life is like a widow. Its life is dependent on others and feels lifeless entity, child of an ocean.

3. What was the oceans response?

Ans: The Ocean replied that the idea of life is to realize one's limits and maintain one's dignity to contain all bitter experience and take them as pearls and rubies. The life is also a penance or renunciation, as if it (ocean) is the cause of someone's death it also regrets it by giving them pearls and rain because salty water of it creates pearls and create clouds of rain.

4. What was the earth's reply to the question put forth to her by the wind?

Ans: For earth the meaning of life is 'love'. Earth considers itself the mother of all lives and says that the sympathy of mother is the gift of life. Earth says that it takes water from clouds, rivers and streams and distributes everything that sprouts from it, so this taking and giving is life for it.

Q5. What was the little girl doing when the wind saw her?

Ans: The little girl was lighting new lamps with the lamp that was already alight in her hand.

Q6. Why was the Wind impressed by the little girl?

Ans: The wind was impressed by the girl because he found the real meaning of life from the words that the girl told her. The wind understood that helping those who has a strong desire to live is the real meaning of life.

Q7. Why did the wind join the girl?

Ans: The wind joined the girl because she got the answer what she was looking for. She was impressed by the answer given by her.

### Language Work

Choose appropriate tiller for the following:

1. He tames because he

Ans: (c). He is fond of them.

2. He is so lazy that he

Ans: (c). He can seldom complete his work.

Whichever way you approach the problem

Ans: (d), It will not be solved.

3. The doctor warns him that unless he gives up smoking

Ans: (d), He will not recover.

11. Write two synonyms of each of the following Words:

1. Abhor.....Hate, Detest, Dislike, Despise

2. Betray.....Expose, Reveal, Deceive, Grass

3. Counsel.....Advice, Discuss, Guidance, Direction

4. Delight.....Please, Satisfy, Pleasure, Happiness, Joy

5. Educate.....Amend, Improve, Teach, Instruct

6. Fate.....Destiny, Fortune, Luck

7. Generous.....Benevolent, Big hearted, Lavish, Liberal

8. Hasty.....Quick, Speedy, Hurried, Swift, Rapid, Fast

9. Intellectual.....Knowledgeable, Intelligent, Logical, Scholarly

10. Justice.....Fairness, Impartiality, Rightfulness, Uprightness

11. Languid.....Lazy, weak, Unhurried, Unenergetic, Relaxed

12. Mend.....Aid, Patch, Repair, Fix, Restore

13. Nonsense.....Senseless, Gibberish, Babble, Drivel

14. Obstacle.....Difficulty, Problem, Complication, Hindrance, Restraint

15. Palatable.....Edible, Pleasant, Tasty, Satisfying

16. Queer.....Unusual, Unexpected, Odd, Expose, Endanger

17. Religious.....Sacred, Spiritual, Holy, Pious, Puritan

18. Sober.....Temperate, Moderate, Intoxicated, Serious

19. Transient.....Fleeting, Passing, Brief, Temporary, Short-lived

20. Urge.....Need, Wish, Impulse, Itch, Craving

Class: 8<sup>th</sup>

LIFE

English

Grammar Work

Write the following sentences inserting 'to' wherever necessary before the infinitive in brackets:

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|--|--|
| 1. I have no money (lend) you.                     | Ans. I have no money to lend you.                    |
| 2. We saw the thief (run).                         | Ans. We saw the thief running.                       |
| 3. We heard her (sing).                            | Ans. We heard her singing.                           |
| 4. They watched their team (play).                 | Ans. They watched their team to play.                |
| 5. He made us (wait) for a long time.              | Ans. He made us to wait for a long time.             |
| 6. Let him (work).                                 | Ans. Let him to work.                                |
| 7. Need I (come) tomorrow?                         | Ans. Need I to come tomorrow?                        |
| 8. Do you wish make (make) a complaint?            | Ans. Do you wish to make a complaint?                |
| 9. He heard a cock (crow) and got up.              | Ans. He heard a cock crowing and got up.             |
| 10. How dare you (read my letter)?                 | Ans. How dare you to read my letter?                 |
| 11. It is up to you (increase) your knowledge.     | Ans. It is up to you to increase your knowledge.     |
| 12. Bid him (go) there.                            | Ans. Bid him to go there.                            |
| 13. Good bye! I hope (see) you again.              | Ans. Good bye! I hope to see you again.              |
| 14. I would like (be) a teacher.                   | Ans. I would like to be a teacher.                   |
| 15. He learnt (swim) when he was ten years old.    | Ans. He learnt to swim when he was ten years old.    |
| 16. I'm tired. I want (go) to bed.                 | Ans. I'm tired. I want to go to bed.                 |
| 17. What have you decided (do)?                    | Ans. What have you decided to do?                    |
| 18. We should learn (speak) the truth.             | Ans. We should learn to speak the truth.             |
| 19. Where is Sumaya? I need (ask) her something.   | Ans. Where is Sumaya? I need to ask her something.   |
| 20. I'm trying (concentrate). Please stop talking. | Ans. I'm trying to concentrate. Please stop talking. |

Let's Write:

1. Write a dialogue (100-150 words) on 'Life is Gift'.

Daniel (walking towards the park) Hello George, how is life treating you?

George: I'm pretty good.

Daniel: OK George. Now tell me, how were your exams?

George: Oh yes, I've done very well. I hope this year I could make the top.

Daniel: Oh that's great! I wish for your ascending success. How is your friend, Mark? I've not seen him for many days.

George: Daniel, our friend had been suffering from Asthma for the last seven years and.....yesterday he died of Asthma.

Daniel: Oh my God! That is so terrible.

George: Actually he was residing in pollution prone area. It is certainly said that life is a gift and we must take

great care of life.

## Achilles

**Q1. How was the Rose-Beetle man dressed?**

Ans: The Rose-Beetle Man was fantastically dressed. He wore a wide floppy brimmed hat. His shirt was worn out and had a blue coloured satin cravat round his neck. He had stuffed his coat pockets so much that they appeared bulged. His trousers were patched and drooped over his leather shoes with upturned toes.

**Q2. How do we know that the Rose-Beetle Man cared well for his pets?**

Ans: The Rose-Beetle Man seemed to take care of his pets very well. He had kept them separately in cages and sacks. The shells of his tortoises had been polished and their front legs were decorated with little red bows. The way in which he bowed for Roger also depicts his love for pets.

**Q3. What made the narrator select one particular tortoise from among the other animals?**

Ans: While the narrator was watching the tortoises, he found one of them more attractive than others. This one was of the size of a teacup and seemed to be more energetic and active than the rest. It had bright eyes and an alert walk. Thus the narrator was convinced that this was the pet that he wanted.

**Q4. How did Achilles enjoy eating strawberries?**

Ans: Achilles liked strawberries the most. He devoured the small strawberries at a gulp. For the bigger ones, he would grab the fruit firmly in his mouth and look for a secluded place in the flowerbeds, where he would relish it undisturbed.

**Q5. How were Roger and Achilles rivals?**

Ans: Roger and Achilles, both loved grapes very much and this was the reason for their rivalry. Although Roger always received his fair share of grapes, but he thought that it was a waste to give such delicacies to a tortoise.

**Q6. Why did Achilles find Roger irritating?**

Ans: When Achilles ate grapes, the juice would dribble down his chin. Roger would lie watching him with his mouth drooling with saliva. He would then creep upto Achilles and lick him vigorously to get the grape juice. This irritated Achilles a lot.

**Q7. How did Roger feel at Achilles funeral?**

Ans: At Achilles' funeral, Roger was continuously wagging his tail which was an indication that he was happy about Achilles' death.

**Q8. a) How had Achilles escaped?**

Ans: Achilles had escaped through the garden gate which was left open and he was nowhere to be found.

**Q8. b) Explain why the family shouted 'strawberries' during their search?**

Ans: Since strawberries were Achilles' favourite, the family thought that by shouting 'strawberries', Achilles would come running towards them to eat his favourite fruit.

**Q8. c) Where did the family find Achilles? What had happened to him?**

Ans: The family finally found Achilles fallen into a well which had disintegrated wall. To their regret, Achilles was quite dead and all the attempts of bringing him back to life failed.

**Q9. There are many instances of humour in the story. Pick out any two of them.**

Ans: The two instances of humour in the story are:

1. When some member of the family was sunbathing, Achilles chose a portion of his body to practice mountaineering.
2. Roger continuously wagged his tail at Achilles' funeral.

**Central Idea:-** Animals also possess feelings and emotions. They cannot express through words as humans do but they try to express their emotions by crying or gasping. They can exhibit exemplary faithfulness, loyalty and courage for their masters and can even sacrifice their life for them.

**Summary:** - The poem "Porus and His Elephant" is written in the form of ballad by Mary Dobson. In this ballad the poet narrates a story of a king and his elephant. It is a story of King Porus who went to fight against the army of Alexander the great, in order to defend his nation. King Porus was on his elephant, fighting a fierce battle against his enemies. Suddenly the king got wounded and fell from his elephant. The poet calls the elephant a faithful beast who played a gallant part in protecting his king against the attack of his enemies. It stood as a wall and took all the arrows on itself and then lifted his king to a safe corner. In the end the poet says that these animals may seem dumb to us but even they can love and show their feelings by crying and panting. King Porus was saved but his elephant died from his wounds. This story of animal faithfulness and bravery became a legend for the people to remember.

**Q.1** How did the elephant save the life of Porus?

**Ans** While fighting in the battle, King Porus fell down from his elephant after getting wounded. The elephant proved a faithful beast and played a gallant part in protecting its king. It stood above the king so that no harm reaches him. The elephant then took its king to a safe corner and thus saved the king. The elephant, itself died from its wounds.

**Q.2** What does the poet mean by ;

"Ah! These dumb things that but cry and pant, they, too, can love, for God made them so."

**Ans** The poet means to say that the animals may seem dumb to us but they have their own way of expressing themselves. They may not be able to speak but they cry and pant when they are sad. They too are capable of loving like we humans are. They too are made by God to love.

**Q.3** What is the rhyme scheme of the poem?

**Ans** The poem has a fixed rhyme scheme in each stanza i.e abab.

**Q.4** The poem reflects the faithfulness of an elephant towards his master. Explain.

**Ans** This poem is a story in which an elephant gives its life to save the life of its master. While King Porus was fighting on his elephant, it gave him a strong support from beneath. When the king got wounded, the elephant stood over him and protected him against any harm. This animal sacrificed its life for its master and became an example of faithfulness.