

MODEL TEST PAPER 6

ENGLISH (Core)

CLASS XI

(With Answers)

Time Allowed : 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 80

General Instructions :

- (i) This paper is divided into five Sections A, B, C, D and E. All the sections are compulsory.
- (ii) Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully.
- (iii) Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the question.

SECTION A – READING

(15 Marks)

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow : (8 marks)

1. It was a great shock to me to discover that I had motor neuron disease, I had never been very well co-ordinate physically as a child, I was not good at ball games, and my handwriting was the despair of my teachers. May be for this reason, I didn't care much for sport or physical activities. But things seemed to change when I went to Oxford, at the age of 17, I took up coxing and rowing. I was not Boat Race standard, but I got by the level of inter-college competition.

2. In my third year at Oxford, however, I noticed that I seemed to be getting more clumsy and I fell over once or twice for no apparent reason. But it was not until I was at Cambridge, in the following year, that my father noticed, and took me to the family doctor. He referred to me a specialist, and shortly after my 21st birthday, I went into hospital for tests. Although, there was a cloud hanging over my future. I found, to my surprise, that I was enjoying life in the present more than before. I began to make progress with my research, and I got engaged to a girl called Jane Wilde, whom I had met just about the time my condition was diagnosed. That engagement changed my life. It gave me something to live for. But it also meant that I had to get a job if we were to get married. I, therefore, applied for a research fellowship at Gonville and Cains college, Cambridge. To my great surprise, I got a fellowship up to 1974, I was able to feed myself and get in and out of bed. This lasted until I caught pneumonia in 1985. I had to have a tracheotomy operation.

3. Before the operation, my speech had been getting more slurred, so that only few people who knew me well, could understand me. But at least I could communicate. I wrote scientific papers by dictating to a secretary, and I gave seminars through an interpreter, who repeated my words more clearly. However, the tracheotomy operation removed my ability to speak altogether. For a time, the only way I could communicate was to spell out words letter by letter, by raising my eyebrows when someone pointed to the right letter on a spelling card. It is pretty difficult to carry on a conversation like that, let alone write a scientific paper. However, a computer expert in California, called Walt Woltoz, heard of my plight. He sent me a computer programme he had written, called Equalizer. This allowed me to select words from a series of menus on the

screen : by pressing a switch in my hand. The programme could also be controlled by a switch, operated by head or eye movement. When I have built up what I want to say, I can sent it to a speech synthesizer. At first, I just ran the Equalizer programme on a desk top computer.

4. However, David Manson, of Cambridge Adaptive Communication, fitted a small portable computer and a speech synthesizer to my wheel chair. This system allowed me to communicate much better than I could before. I can, manage upto 15 words a minute. I can either speak what I have written, or save it to disk. I can then print it out, or call it back and speak it sentence by sentence. Using this system. I have written a book, and dozens of scientific papers. "I have also given many scientific and popular talks. They have all been well received. I think that is in a large part due to the quality of the speech synthesizer, which is made by Speech Plus. One's voice is very important. If you have a slurred voice, people are likely to treat you as mentally deficient." This synthesizer is by far the best I have heard, because it varies the intonation, and does not speak like a Dalek. The only trouble is that it gives me an American accent.

5. I have had motor neuron disease for practically all my adult life. Yet it has not prevented me from having a very attractive family, and being successful in my work. This is thanks to the help I have received from Jane, my children, and a large number of other people and organisations. I have been lucky, that my condition has progressed more slowly than is often the case. But it shows that one need not lose hope.

A. Answer the following questions briefly :

- (a) *What was the cause of great shock for Stephen Hawking?* (1)
(b) *What symptoms of the disease were obvious during the early period of his life?* (1)
(c) *What was the major side effect of tracheotomy operation? How did he try to overcome it?* (1)
(d) *What is an Equalizer? How did it help Stephen Hawking?* (1)
(e) *Speech synthesizer helped the narrator _____.* (1)

(Complete with the correct option)

- (i) in communicating better than before (ii) in singing better
(iii) in playing video games (iv) in making calculations better
(f) *Tracheotomy operation _____.* *(Complete with the correct option)* (1)
(i) helped the narrator in speaking better (ii) improved his diction
(iii) removed his ability to speak altogether (iv) made him speak with a slur

(B) Find out words from the above passage having opposite meaning to : (2)

- (i) Hope (para 1)
(ii) distinct/clear (para 1)

2. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow : (7 marks)

Residents of the Bhirung Raut Ki Gali, where Ustad Bismillah Khan was born on March 21, 1916, were in shock. His cousin, 94-year old Mohd Idrish Khan had tears in his eyes. Shubhan Khan, the care-taker of Bismillah's land, recalled : "Whenever in Dumaraon, he would give rupees two to the boys and rupees five to the girls of the locality".

He was very keen to play shehnai again in the local Bihariji's Temple where he had started playing shehnai with his father, Bachai Khan, at the age of six. His original name was Quamaruddin and became Bismillah only after he became famous as a shehnai player in Varanasi.

His father Bachai Khan was the official shehnai player of Keshav Prasad Singh, the Maharaja of the erstwhile Dumaraon estate, Bismillah used to accompany him. For Bismillah Khan, the connection to music began at a very early age. By his teens, he had already become a master of the shehnai. On the day India gained freedom, Bismillah Khan, then a sprightly 31 year-old, had the rare honour of playing from Red Fort. But Bismillah Khan won't just be remembered for elevating the shehnai from an instrument heard only in weddings and naubatkhanas to one that was appreciated in concert halls across the world. His life was a testimony to the plurality that is India. A practicing Muslim, he would take a daily dip in the Ganga in his younger days after a bout of *kusti* in *Benia Baga Akhada*. Every morning, Bismillah Khan would do *riyaaz* at the Balaji temple on the banks of the river. Even during his final hours in a Varanasi hospital, music didn't desert Bismillah Khan. A few hours before he passed away early on Monday, the shehnai wizard hummed a *thumri* to show that he was feeling better. This was typical of a man for whom life revolved around music.

Throughout his life he abided by the principle that all religions are one. What marked Bismillah Khan was his simplicity and disregard for the riches that come with musical fame. Till the very end, he used a cycle rickshaw to travel around Varanasi. But the pressure of providing for some 60 family members took its toll during his later years.

(a) *On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it, using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations, wherever necessary.* (5)

(b) *Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words and suggest a suitable title also.* (2)

SECTION B – WRITING

(20 Marks)

3. You are Geeta/Geet, the Head Girl/Head Boy of Blossoms Public School, Patna. Write a notice in about 50 words, informing the students of classes XI and XII about an inter-class debate competition to be held in the school in the first week of April. Give the necessary details. (5 marks)

Or

You want to dispose off your land and an office block at Okhla near Delhi. Draft an advertisement to be published in The Hindustan Times, Delhi. You are Kirpal / Maneesha of Chandni Chowk, Delhi. (Word-limit 50)

4. The number of female children has drastically declined since 1991 even in the capital of the country, as suggested by a survey. The number is getting abysmally low in various states. Write an article in about 150 words on the decreasing number of females in the country. Suggest measures to tackle this problem. (8 marks)

Or

You are Rupali. As a special correspondent of a local daily, you are sent to cover a two-day cultural fiesta, organised by the Rotary Club of Chennai for the city school students in commemoration of the centenary year of the club. Write a report in about 150 words for publication in the newspaper.

5. This summer vacation you are planning to visit Shimla. Write a letter to a travel agency in Shimla requesting them to book you a room in a five star hotel. Give other details of your journey and facilities you require there. Sign your name as Leela/Mohan, C/5, Guwahati, Assam. (7 marks)

Or

You purchased a Frost-free Godrej Refrigerator from ABC company, Trivandrum. After using it for a month, you found that the freezing section is not functioning. Write a letter to the Sales Manager, complaining about it. You are Raja / Ragini, 23, Lake View Road, Trivandrum. (Words-limit 150-200)

SECTION C – GRAMMAR

(10 Marks)

6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect words and the correction against the correct blank number in your answersheet. The first one has been done for you as an example. (4 marks)

	<i>Incorrect</i>	<i>Correct</i>
"I've been in lots for restaurants	e.g., for	of
and they have all seemed to being friendly	(a) _____	_____
places. That's why in a recent Monday	(b) _____	_____
night, I stopped at one to a cup of coffee.	(c) _____	_____
I am returning home after an all day car	(d) _____	_____
trip and needed something for help me travel	(e) _____	_____
the last 45 miles. The place is quiet and	(f) _____	_____
lonely then I entered. After a long wait, a tired	(g) _____	_____
looking waitress, approached me and her	(h) _____	_____
order pad.		

7. Correct errors in the following sentences and rewrite the correct sentences : (4 marks)

- (a) *The camel has been used since thousands of years.*
- (b) *I can not adapt with life in mountains.*
- (c) *Can you give me an advice ?*
- (d) *Either you or he are mistaken.*

8. Rearrange the words or phrases given below to make meaningful sentences. (2 marks)

- (a) *they / in the hall / for / two hours / watching / had been / television*
- (b) *blessings / you / all on / may / showered / be*

SECTION D – TEXTBOOK QUESTIONS

(20 Marks)

9. Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow : (3 marks)

Upward to heaven, whence, vaguely form'd, altogether
changed, and yet the same,
I descend to lave the droughts, atomies, dust-layers of
the globe,
And all that in them without me were seeds only, latent,
unborn;

Questions :

- (a) *Where are these lines from and who is the poet ?*
- (b) *How does the rain get formed ?*
- (c) *What transformation does it bring about after falling down ?*

Or

Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow :

Yet have I killed
The seed I spent or sown it where
The land is his and none of mine ?

Questions :

- Where are these lines from and who is the poet ?
- Explain the metaphor 'seed' here.
- Why is the land 'none of mine' ?

10. Answer any THREE of the following questions in 30-40 words :

(2 × 3 = 6 marks)

- What are the three different phases of thought that the poet deals with in the poem 'A Photograph' ?
- What all realisations about the childhood does the poet have, when he looks back ?
- Describe the wave which came over the boat during the storm.
- How does human population affect the ecological balance ?
- What was Ranga's opinion on marriage and what would he do if he did not get a suitable girl ?
- Finally, what did Manson do to bring back the still born to life ?

VALUE BASED QUESTION

11. 'The Ailing Planet : The Green Movement's Role' somewhere brings home the crucial fact that to a large extent, over population is responsible for distorting the ecological existence of the human society. Taking clue from such thoughts and stirring your own ideas, write an article in about 100 words on 'The Effect of Over population on the Environment'. (5 marks)

12. Answer the following questions in about 150 words :

(6 marks)

How do you come to know that the grandmother and the author were very good friends ?

Or

What shows the deep attachment between the author and the grandmother ?

Or

What do you think of the King ? Is he really 'just and placid' ?

SECTION E – LONG READING TEXT – NOVEL

(15 Marks)

THE CANTERVILLE GHOST

13. In what way is 'The Canterville Ghost' a critical reflection of the American culture ? Give evidence from the text. (Word limit : 150-200 words)

(8 marks)

14. How did the sudden disappearance of Virginia affect the family ? What did they do to look for her ? Answer in about 130 words.

(7 marks)

UP FROM SLAVERY

13. To what extent was Booker T. Washington successful in addressing the problem of slavery and racial discrimination ? Answer in about 150 words.

(8 marks)

14. Booker T. Washington, in his Atlanta Address, advised the audience to "Cast down your bucket where you are". What does this phrase mean ? Write your answer in about 130 words.

(7 marks)

MODEL TEST PAPER 6
SECTION A – READING

1. (A)(a) It gave Stephen Hawking a great shock to realise that he had motor neuron disease.

(b) He was not good at ball games and his handwriting was the despair of his teacher. As a child he had not been very well co-ordinate physically and so didn't care much for physical activities.

(c) The tracheotomy operation removed his ability to speak altogether. He tried to remove this side effect and to communicate by spelling out words letter by letter by raising his eye brows when someone pointed to the right letter on a spelling card.

(d) An Equalizer is a computer programme which can be controlled by a switch operated by head or eye movement. This programme proved helpful to Stephen Hawking as it allowed him to select words from a series of menus on the screen by simply pressing a switch in his hand, which he could send to a speech synthesizer.

(e) (i) in communicating better than before

(f) (iii) removed his ability to speak altogether

- (B) (i) despair
(ii) slurred.

2. (a) Notes :

1. Shock at Bismillah Khan's dem.
2. His early life
 - (a) started playing sh. at six
 - (b) played shehnai in tem. – with father
 - (c) reco. as Bismillah at Vnasi.
3. Music as family heritage
 - (a) father – official sh. pl. at Dumaraon
 - (b) Bismillah acc. him
 - (c) at 31 – sh. – Red Fort – 1947
4. At Vnasi.
 - (a) simple life
 - (i) cycle rickshaw to travel
 - (ii) riyaz at Balaji temp.
 - (b) loved music
 - (c) his death bed hummed last thumri.
5. Bismillah beyond rel. – rels one.

Key To Symbols And Abbreviations

1. dem.	—	demise	5. Vnasi.	—	Varanasi
2. sh.	—	shehnai	6. pl.	—	player
3. temp.	—	temple	7. acc.	—	accompanied
4. reco.	—	recognised	8. rel.	—	religion

Title – A Homage to Bismillah Khan

(b) **Summary** – Residents of Bismillah Khan's birthplace were in shock at his demise. Bismillah Khan born and brought up at Dumaraon, started playing shehnai (at the age of six) with his father in the temple. He was recognised as "Bismillah" at Varanasi. His father was an official shehnai player at Dumaraon. Bismillah always accompanied him. He had an honour to play his thumri tune at Red Fort on India's Independence Day. At Varanasi, he led a life of simplicity. He travelled by cycle-rickshaw. He believed that all religions are one. Music, being his soul, even on his death-bed he hummed his last thumri in the hospital at Varanasi.

SECTION B – WRITING

3.

Blossoms Public School, Patna

NOTICE

INTER-CLASS DEBATE COMPETITION

15th February,.....

This is to inform the students of classes XI and XII that an inter-class debate competition will be held on 4th April in the school hall. The topic of the debate is 'Should Boys Learn To Cook?' The participants can speak for or against the motion. Each participant will be given 5 to 7 minutes to speak. For further details or any queries, contact the undersigned.

Geeta

(Head Girl)

Class XI

Or

For Sale

Available for immediate sale a plot measuring about – 1200 sq.mtrs., with two units of 35 × 20 mtrs and 25 × 20 mtrs. respectively and an office block measuring 90 sq. mtrs., with necessary fittings in the industrial area at Okhla, Phase II, New Delhi. Interested parties may contact the following within the next two weeks :

Kirpal, B – 20/13,
Chandni Chowk, Delhi
Phone : 23315669

4. Decreasing Number of Females in India

From time to time, surveys of various towns, villages and cities have been conducted to get at the truth about the girl child. A recent survey of sex ratio of Delhi reveals a horrifying fact that the number of female children has greatly declined since 1991 even in the capital of the country. The number is getting abysmally low also in various other states. It has been both shocking and disturbing to know that at most places in India, the birth of a girl child is still not welcome so much so that female infanticide is practised with no qualms whatsoever. Gender discrimination is at the root of this trend.

Be it south or north of India, the gender discrimination is rampant all over. Very often, a girl is discriminated against her more privileged brother by her mother at home. In school, she is treated as 'weak' by her male classmates. As she grows older and goes out for work, she suffers discrimination and harassment of all kinds. No doubt, the conditions in the country appear to have changed to a large extent. The constitution of free India has given protection to woman's rights thereby putting her at par with man politically, socially and economically. Education today gives her a place of some honour. In fact, women have excelled as doctors, artists, administrators, engineers, scientists, sports personalities and so on..... A girl, indeed, is no less capable as a daughter than a son to her parents. It is the woman alone who can take on the double burden of work outside and work at home. There is no reason why a girl child should be treated as inferior or as a burden.

The change in the woman's status is, however, superficial. Looking at the real picture, a girl in the family is still an unwanted burden and in some cases she is even denied the right to live.

What is most required is compulsory education of girls all over so that they develop into self-sufficient individuals. Urgent steps also need to be taken to make parents and society aware of the importance of girls everywhere. Laws, made to protect the rights of women, must be implemented with honesty and efficiency. Women have to rise as a force to defend the rights of a woman. Besides, the Government and Non-Government Organisations must tap their sources to correct the gender imbalance that still ails our society if we want our country to progress.

Or

A Cultural Fiesta – A Report

by Rupali (Special Correspondent)

The Hindu,
Chennai.

October 6, 20.....

An inter-school cultural show 'Shades and Rythms' was conducted by the Rotary Club of Chennai in commemoration of its centenary year on Oct. 3 and Oct. 4 at the Sivananda Hall,

Subramaniam Marg, Chennai. The show was formally inaugurated by the Education Minister of India. The entry was by tickets.

The first day started with a welcome song by the small children who later offered the Chief Guest flowers. The show began with an orchestra that played rhythmic numbers which included the various melodies from the different city schools. It was followed by the fusion dance item that mesmerized the audience. Next was a medley of dance-drama, depicting the various states of India. The participants danced on the typical tunes of different states.

The second day was 'dramatic' all the way with students from various schools performing theatrical spoofs from famous literary works like, 'Cinderella', 'The Post Office', 'Bishop's Candlesticks', 'One Dark Night' etc. 'The Post Office' turned out to be the most appealing play that stole the show due to its inherent plot and the superb acting of the children.

There were also some off stage events spread over two days which included creative Writing, Painting, Comic-caricatures, Cookery etc. At the end of the fiesta, the valedictory function was presided over by YuvRaj Singh, the well-known cricketer who also gave away the prizes. 'The Valley Senior Sec. School' bagged the overall shield and 'The Sanskriti School' and 'Vidyabharti School' were the runners up. The money, earned from the tickets, was donated to the slum children of the city. The show was a complete success in every way.

5.

C/5, Guwahati,
Assam.
5th April, 20.....

The Manager,
Seeta Travels,
Mall Road,
Shimla.

Subject : Booking Accommodation.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I intend to visit Shimla for a week in the third week of May as part of a holiday trip to Himachal. I shall be accompanied by three friends of mine and we plan to visit places in and around Shimla like Kasouli, Dagshai etc. Besides, we would like to know about a few trekking possibilities in Shimla and Kasouli.

I require your services to book us two rooms with double beds in a good five star hotel preferably close to the "Upper Mall". The rooms should have all the possible five star facilities along with a good view from the window of each room.

Kindly reserve this accommodation for six days from Monday to Saturday i.e., 18th to 23rd May. We expect to arrive at the hotel in time for lunch on the 18th and shall be leaving soon after breakfast on 24th May.

Kindly confirm the booking at your earliest. My Phone no. is 25238497.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,
Leela.

Or

23, Lake View Road,
Trivandrum.

29th June,

The Sales Manager,
ABC company,
Trivandrum.
Sir / Madam,

Sub : Defective Refrigerator

I bought a frost-free Godrej refrigerator (265 litres) from your showroom on 8th April, After just a month passed and it started giving trouble.

The main trouble began with its freezing section which suddenly stopped working. I had put up a complaint at your service centre. After many reminders, your service engineer was sent to correct the fault. He somehow made the freezing section work but it worked only for a few days. The freezing section broke down again. Now, I would want you to replace the defective refrigerator.

Since it carries one year guarantee, I'm entitled to get it replaced. Please do the needful at your earliest.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Raja

SECTION C – GRAMMAR

6. Incorrect

- (a) being
- (b) in
- (c) to
- (d) am
- (e) for
- (f) is
- (g) then
- (h) and

Correct

- be
- on
- for
- was
- to
- was
- when
- with

7. (a) The camel has been used for thousands of years.
(b) I can not adapt to life in mountains.
(c) Can you give me a piece of advice ?
(d) Either you or he is mistaken.
8. (a) They had been watching television in the hall for two hours.
(b) Blessings may be showered on you all.

SECTION D – TEXTBOOK QUESTIONS

9. (a) These lines are from the poem 'The Voice of the Rain'. It is composed by Walt Whitman.

(b) The rain gets formed over the land and the sea. The vapours go to the heaven and form clouds. These clouds have the droplets which form the rain on the earth.

(c) This rain descends down to wash and bathe the dry and thirsty things. The atoms, the dust layers on the earth, all get fully soaked in this rain.

Or

(a) These lines are from 'Father to Son' and it is composed by Elizabeth Jennings.

(b) The 'seed' stands for the son. The father bemoans the fact that he has been unfortunate because, in his son, he had sown a seed which has not grown very well.

(c) The land belongs to his son as the father had brought up his son thinking he would remain a part of the family. But the son has gone to some distant place so the father can't really claim him as his and thus the land is not his.

10. (a) The poet starts with the description of the photograph that captures an interesting moment from her mother's childhood. Then comes the stage of recollections. The poet imagines how her mother must have recollected her childhood. The poet herself also remembers sadly her mother who is now no more. Finally, the poet philosophises about life and death. She refers to the short-lived nature of life and talks about accepting the reality of death with the muting silence.

(b) The first realisation which the poet has is of the sudden going away of the childhood. When and where has it gone is what the poet questions throughout the poem. But the new realisation of being a mature person has made him calm and sober. The poet, for a while, appears to be missing the childhood but he is ready to face the world with his new understanding.

(c) The huge wave struck the ship on the 2nd January at 6 p.m. The sky became dark and an enormous cloud roaring frighteningly in the sky seemed to be towering above the boat. This cloud actually was a wave which hit the boat like an explosion. The wave threw the narrator towards the wheel and he was, temporarily, underwater. This wave was disastrous and destabilised the people on the ship:

(d) The growth of human population means an abnormal demand on the human resources and the principle biological systems. The over use of resources would result in collapse of sustenance providers. If there is no renewal done, the ecological degradation would wipeout the humanity.

(e) Ranga had a different opinion about marriage. He said he would marry only if he got the right kind of girl. If he married a young girl, she would never understand him. He stated in clear terms, that he would remain a bachelor if he did not get a suitable girl.

(f) Even after the special method of respiration the child did not revive. Then, Manson began to press and release the tiny chest of the baby with a rough towel. Suddenly, as if by miracle, the child gave a convulsive heave and then followed many heaves like that. The child was breathing and out of danger.

11. 'The Effect of Overpopulation on the Environment'

Climate change and global pollution can not be adequately tackled without addressing the issue of the world's booming population. By the middle of the century, the world population is likely to increase to more than nine billions. The extra resources needed to sustain this growth in population would put immense pressure on the planet's life support system even if pollution emissions per head could be dramatically reduced.

The explosive growth in the human population and concomitant effects on the environment have been largely ignored by many of those concerned with climate change. The growth of the world population need to be reduced if climate change is to be prevented. We urgently need to stabilise and reduce human numbers. There is no way that the growing population can meet its energy needs without unacceptable damage to the planet and a great deal of human misery.

Overpopulation is likely to distort the future of human society. More children does not mean more workers. In fact, it means more people without work. Unless we reduce the population humanely through family planning, nature will do it for us through violence, epidemics and starvation. Population control needs to be given top most priority if we want a safe, healthy, pure and happy environment to breath in.

12. The grandmother and the author, it appears were very good friends because in all situations, they found company in each other. In the early childhood of the author, which was

spent in a simple village, the grandmother managed the daily routine of the grandson. She gave him bath and took him to school everyday. She packed his tiffin of chapatti, butter and sugar for him. While he studied, she sat in the temple and read the scriptures. The stories from the scriptures were narrated to the author by her regularly because she wanted to instil holy faith in him. She assisted him even in the homework etc. She felt that science, maths etc. taught disregard towards religion. She accompanied him to the city, but she could not help him much. She became aloof when he had to go abroad for studies but she celebrated, in full vigour, the coming back of the author. Her age did not tolerate such a strain and she died soon after this.

Or

The King is in fact, a big fool and a dope. The phrase 'just and placid' has been used in the beginning of the poem to bring about ironical effect. The way the process of justice takes place proves that the King has no brains and he is even scared of his own subjects. He blamed the chief of builders for the low arch which toppled off his crown. When the chief of builders cries and says that it was the workmen who were at fault, the King immediately changes his decision. The workmen blame the masons and they in turn blame the architect. The architect blames the King in return. The foolish King trembles in anticipation of the crowd's reaction. In order to please the crowd, he orders measuring of people in which he himself is caught as the most suitable person to be hanged. By allowing other people to take charge of his life is a shame to his position. He has no sense of right or wrong. He has a weak determination and will-power and he does not have a firm opinion about things. His subjects do not want his interference and are happy with 'peace and liberty' he has given to them. They very soon forget him after his execution. The poet, by describing the King in such a manner, sarcastically scoffs at such a flawed governance.

SECTION E – LONG READING TEXT – NOVEL THE CANTERVILLE GHOST

13. As we read 'The Canterville Ghost' from chapter to chapter, we find that Oscar Wilde looks at the American culture rather critically. In the first chapter itself he describes and compares it with the British culture. The American people are more connected to the material progress, the technology, the industry. They believe in the values that this culture produces. These people are pragmatic, rational, material. They don't believe in ghosts, in occult. The only thing they believe in is the power of reason and money. We can see this throughout the book. For example, in the first chapter, when Mr Otis buys the Canterville Chase, he says, "I come from a modern country where we have everything that money can buy."

The British culture is different. These people are connected to other values that are not in the American conscience like tradition-intended both as history and legend and consequently also superstition and popular beliefs. For all this we can consider the British culture as based on ancient and traditional background – in many aspects opposite to the modern American culture. Sir Simon, the ghost stands for all this tradition and his belief in it.

The criticism is, however, made with humour without malice. A good example is the character of Washington. When we analyse his psychology, he looks terribly stupid. He is ridiculous. He is sure that any American inventions are working and that American people are the bosses anywhere in the world which is absolutely false. We can also see humour in the character of Mrs Otis who makes fun of Sir Simon who, is in fact, a sort of icon of English tradition.

14. The sudden disappearance of Virginia from the house alarmed every one. They felt deeply concerned and agitated. It was time for tea. Virginia was nowhere to be seen. Mrs Otis

thought that she might have gone to the garden to get flowers. But when Virginia couldn't be found anywhere even at dinner, Otis family felt worried and they panicked. Hours passed, searching for her but to no avail. Mr Otis went to the gypsy camp, searched the entire district and rode off to the Ascot road. He was followed by the Duke of Cheshire whose concern for Virginia touched Mr Otis. But Virginia couldn't be found in even the villages closeby. Disheartened, they returned home.

The Otis family was very grave and solemn. Even the lively twins were subdued. Mr Otis ordered all to go to bed. He decided that he would contact Scotland Yard in the morning. Just when every body was about to leave the dining room, the clock struck midnight, a secret door opened and Virginia came out of the door to every one's relief and joy!

UP FROM SLAVERY

13. Born into slavery in pre-Civil war, Virginia, Booker realized very early in life that 'slavery' not only affected the Negroes physically, mentally and materially but it also affected the white race morally. He very strongly felt that education was the only way to transcend these man-made barriers. But education had to be linked with industrial training, with learning a trade so that it leads to empowerment. After educating himself, Booker undertook the momentous task of educating the former slave population. His efforts took the shape of Tuskegee School where he successfully managed to put his educational philosophy into practice. Booker tried hard to cement the relationship between the blacks and whites and preached trust and respect for each other as a unique teacher in his school.

Booker made full use of his prowess as a public speaker to address the problem of slavery and racial discrimination. In his inspiring speeches, he never spoke against any race and it was to his credit that through these speeches maximum funds for the Tuskegee school came from the whites. His Atlanta Address went a long way in bridging the gap between blacks and whites.

In helping to make the blacks an important economic and political part of the south, he addressed a specific portion of discrimination and inequality successfully. Booker, to a large extent, achieved what he meant to achieve in his life *i.e.*, dignity, respect and empowerment for the blacks and awareness, compassion and sensitivity for the whites.

14. Booker T. Washington was one of the most politically powerful African Americans at the beginning of the 20th century. He delivered his famous "Exposition Address" at the Cotton States in Atlanta.

His address was an earnest plea to the blacks not to engage in any form of militant protest to secure their civil rights and equality with their white neighbours. On the contrary, Booker urged them to take advantage of the numerous opportunities in the field of agriculture, business and commerce. He emphasised his message to his audience with an anecdote of a ship which had been lost at sea and whose sailors were dying of thirst. They managed to survive after they listened to the advice of the skipper of a friendly vessel who told them to "cast down" their bucket into the sea and draw up the fresh water.

The black are also like the distressed sailors. They were ignorant of their very means of survival which were readily available so close at hand. Booker urged them to be practical and utilize the easily accessible commercial opportunities and better their status.