

**CLASS – IX  
ENGLISH**

**Read the passage and answer the following questions:**

It was at Gunupur, a sleepy little town in Koraput, that I had gained my first acquaintance with any river. It was the Vamsadhara. It remained shallow and as transparent as glass almost all through the season that I was there. Numerous tiny fish swam with or against its placid current and played hide and seek amidst the pebbles at its bottom.

Gazing at them for hours on end, sitting on the sandy river bank, was a great help to me. I could wash away my anguish and disgust over life. The anguish and disgust were caused by my guardians. They insisted on my taking to as irrational an occupation as learning how to read and write. I had already lived five long years without facing the slightest challenge to my existence on account of my innocence of reading and writing. What was their relevance then ? Would the sweetmeats taste sweeter if I could read ? Would the rainbow or the hills or the river look more charming if I could write?

I had gained a delightful acquaintance a few days earlier. He was Appu. We talked on several vital issues such as how a little imp residing in an old, abandoned well behind Appu's hut popped up from time to time at night with the sole purpose of making faces at Appu, or how a shooting star which had fallen on the hilltop was still smouldering when Appu's father went up and lighted a bidi from the last flame coming from it, and so on and so forth, in the course of which I asked him, 'Have you Learnt the alphabet?'

'Which son of a father in this wide world would dare to make me do that sort of thing?' he challenged, his arms akimbo. The next moment he shouted, 'Run away boy, escape with your dear Life!' and sprinted off like a shooting star.

Surprised, I looked in every direction. There was no sign of any wolf or tiger or demon or ghouel anywhere around. The only living soul, birds and a few animals apart, was a tall, fair and heavily moustached man. Holding something like a sword, he walked through the bushy meadow beyond the sand. He took no notice of me, and entered a solitary one-room house with a tin roof, surrounded by shrubs.

Appu, back in a few minutes, enlightened me about the stranger. Inside that little house detached from the locality, the man engaged in the strange act of butchering goats; once in a while, for a change, he caught hold of a boy and dragged him in and finished him off in a trice. Appu stared and caressed his neck while passing on the last bit of information in a whisper.

One day at noon, Appu and I proceeded towards that dreadful cabin. We practically rolled all the way on the ground so that nobody saw us. The door was ajar. We peeped in, the floor was swampy with a thick plaster of blood. The sight and smell were depressing. Who knew how much blood had flowed from the goats, and how much from the missing boys?

1. How old was the narrator?
  - a) Four
  - b) Five
  - c) Seven
  - d) None of the above
2. The reason for his anguish and disgust was that \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) he had been forced to learn to read and write.
  - b) he could not taste something sweeter.
  - c) He was meritorious.
  - d) None of the above.
3. What do you think 'a little imp' is?
  - a) A wizard with a dirty face.
  - b) A little animal.
  - c) A tiny creature with magical powers.
  - d) None of the above.

4. They rolled all the way on the ground so that \_\_\_\_\_
- they felt better
  - they could see everything
  - nobody could see them
  - None of the above
5. **Find words/phrases that mean the same as:** Calm, undisturbed (para 1)
- Anguish
  - Shallow
  - Placid
  - None of the above
6. **Find words/phrases that mean the same as:** With the hands on the hips and elbows bent outwards
- Strange
  - Akimbo
  - Irrational
  - None of the above
7. Fill in the blank:  
The robbers have been taken \_\_\_\_\_ custody.
- In
  - On
  - To
  - Into
8. Fill in the blank:  
My sister helped me \_\_\_\_\_ my project.
- To complete
  - Completing
  - Completed
  - Complete
9. Fill in the blank:  
The filthy areas are most prone \_\_\_\_\_ contamination and diseases.
- Of
  - About
  - To
  - for
10. Fill in the blank:  
\_\_\_\_\_ one tries hard, she can not succeed.
- If
  - Although
  - Since
  - Unless
11. He promised that he would keep his word. (Turn it into simple sentence)
- He promised that his word would be kept.
  - He promised to keeping his word.
  - He promised to keep his word.
  - None of the above.
12. Change the voice:  
**They are moving the wheel.**
- The wheel is moved by them.
  - The wheel is being moved by them
  - The wheel has been moved by them.
  - None of the above.
13. Change the voice:

**He has been given the senior post.**

- a) He is given the senior post.
- b) They gave him the senior post.
- c) The senior post was given to him.
- d) They have given him the senior post.

14. Change the narration:

Ravi said to his guests, "I welcome all of you."

- a) Ravi told his guests that he welcomes all of them.
- b) Ravi told his guests that he welcomed all of them.
- c) Ravi told his guests that he would welcome all of them.
- d) None of the above.

15. Change the narration:

Suresh said to Asma, "Do not write anything here."

- a) Suresh told Asma that she should not write anything here.
- b) Suresh told Asma that she did not write anything there.
- c) Suresh asked Asma not to write anything there.
- d) Suresh requested Asma that she does not write anything there.

16. Einstein is the greatest scientist of the previous century. (Use great)

- a) No scientist of the previous century is as great as Einstein.
- b) No scientist of the previous century was as great as Einstein.
- c) Einstein is the greatest scientist of the previous century.
- d) None of the above.

17. Give the meaning of the following idiom:

**"It takes two to Tango"**

- a) Actions or communications require at least two people.
- b) Two people are needed to dance.
- c) While doing any actions or communications we need two hands.
- d) None of the above.

18. Who wrote the book 'A Thousand Splendid Suns':

- a) Vikram Seth
- b) Khaled Hosseini
- c) ChetanBhagat
- d) J.K.Rowling

19. Who said " I shall drink life to the lees"?

- a) T.S.Eliot
- b) George Bernard Shaw
- c) Lord Tennyson
- d) William Wordsworth

20. Who wrote the famous play 'Doctor Faustus'?

- a) William Shakespeare
- b) Christopher Marlowe
- c) Robert Greene
- d) Philip Sydney

### Answer Key

<b>1. B</b>	<b>2. A</b>	<b>3. C</b>	<b>4. C</b>	<b>5. C</b>
<b>6. B</b>	<b>7. D</b>	<b>8. D</b>	<b>9. C</b>	<b>10.D</b>
<b>11.C</b>	<b>12.B</b>	<b>13.D</b>	<b>14.B</b>	<b>15.C</b>
<b>16.A</b>	<b>17.A</b>	<b>18.B</b>	<b>19.C</b>	<b>20.B</b>