

Answers to the questions given under
Competency Based Questions Bank

PROSE

Value Based Questions

1. Margie's grandfather's recollection highlights the stark contrast between past and future educational methods. This serves as a reminder of the importance of preserving tangible forms of knowledge, such as books, which offer a tactile, immersive experience. It encourages us to appreciate both modern advancements and traditional methods, recognising that physical books represent not just knowledge but a connection to history, imagination, and the tactile experience of learning.
2. The story subtly emphasises the value of both innovation and tradition. While the mechanical teacher represents efficiency and customisation in learning, the "real book" symbolises the deeper, slower, and more personal methods of acquiring knowledge. This contrast encourages us to strike a balance between embracing technological advancements and preserving traditional forms of learning that offer richer, more varied experiences. It teaches us that both innovation and tradition can coexist, each offering unique value to education and personal growth.
3. Margie's reaction to the "real" book underscores how technology has reshaped our relationship with knowledge and reading. In a world where information is delivered instantly on screens, the idea of a physical book with static, unchanging text seems almost quaint. This contrast teaches us the importance of balancing technological convenience with the deeper, more reflective engagement that traditional reading fosters, highlighting the role technology plays in shaping how we experience and interact with the world.
4. Bismillah Khan's humility and simplicity, despite his global fame, teach us the value of staying grounded and humble. He remained connected to his roots and lived a simple life, which reminds us that true greatness lies in humility. This encourages us to stay humble and appreciative, regardless of our successes.
5. Evelyn Glennie's approach to music, where she relies on feeling vibrations and using her body as a resonating chamber, showcases the value of innovation and creativity. Her unique methods for experiencing and creating music illustrate how thinking outside the box can lead to extraordinary achievements. This encourages us to be innovative and creative in overcoming obstacles.
6. After her nightmare, Kezia realises that her father is not as terrifying as she thought; he comforts her and shows his loving side. This change highlights the value of not judging others based on initial impressions and being open to seeing their kinder, more caring aspects.
7. Kezia's attempt to make a birthday gift for her father signifies her desire to connect with him and show her love. This action represents the value of making an effort to express affection and appreciation for our loved ones, despite misunderstandings and fears.
8. Despite facing early academic struggles and being perceived as a slow learner, Einstein's perseverance led to monumental success. This underscores the importance of persistence and resilience in overcoming obstacles and achieving greatness.
9. Einstein's passion for music and the arts, alongside his scientific work, illustrates the importance of leading a well-rounded life. This teaches us that engaging in diverse interests and activities can enrich our lives, fostering creativity and balance.
10. The doctor's reflection on his vanity highlights the value of humility. His experience shows that excessive pride can be quickly humbled by life's unpredictable events, reminding us to stay grounded and not let vanity cloud our judgment.
11. The doctor's calm demeanour during the snake incident illustrates the importance of staying calm under pressure. This teaches us that maintaining composure in stressful situations can help us think clearly and potentially find solutions to the problem at hand.
12. Dr Kalam's childhood experiences, particularly his friendships with diverse religious backgrounds and

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his family's respect for different faiths, shaped his understanding of religious tolerance. This taught him the value of harmony and respect for all religions, which he carried throughout his life.

13. Dr Kalam's life story emphasises that dreaming big and working hard are crucial for achieving one's goals. His journey from a humble background to becoming a renowned scientist and President of India teaches us that dreams, combined with dedication and hard work, can lead to extraordinary accomplishments.
14. Santosh Yadav's education and upbringing, which encouraged independent thinking and self-belief, influenced her career choice in mountaineering. This highlights the value of a supportive environment and education in empowering individuals to pursue their passions and make unconventional career choices.
15. Despite numerous challenges, Maria Sharapova's unwavering self-belief teaches us the importance of believing in oneself. Her confidence in her abilities and her determination to succeed exemplify that self-belief is a powerful motivator in achieving success.
16. The author's vivid descriptions of the religious shrines, bustling markets, and local customs in Kathmandu highlight the importance of cultural appreciation. His observations teach us to value and respect the diverse cultural heritage and practices that make each place unique.
17. The author's open-minded interactions with the local people, including shopkeepers and worshippers, reflect the value of embracing new experiences and perspectives. This highlights the importance of being receptive to different ways of life and learning from them.
18. Gerrard's strategic thinking, such as his quick decision to fabricate a story and plan an escape, reflects the value of preparation and planning. This teaches us that being prepared and having a well-thought-out plan can help us navigate unexpected challenges more successfully.
19. The lesson highlights the importance of effective communication, as seen in Gerrard's calm and persuasive dialogue with the intruder. This teaches us that clear and confident communication can defuse tense situations and lead to positive outcomes, even in high-stress scenarios.

Assertion-Reason Type Questions

1. (d), 2. (c), 3. (b), 4. (b), 5. (d), 6. (b), 7. (d), 8. (a), 9. (b), 10. (c), 11. (d), 12. (a), 13. (a), 14. (d), 15. (c), 16. (c), 17. (a), 18. (b), 19. (a).

Match the Columns

1. 1 – (e), 2 – (d), 3 – (a), 4 – (b), 5 – (c)
2. 1 – (b), 2 – (c), 3 – (a)
3. 1 – (c), 2 – (d), 3 – (a), 4 – (b)
4. 1 – (c), 2 – (d), 3 – (b), 4 – (a)
5. 1 – (b), 2 – (c), 3 – (a), 4 – (d)
6. 1 – (d), 2 – (a), 3 – (b), 4 – (c)
7. 1 – (d), 2 – (c), 3 – (b), 4 – (a)
8. 1 – (c), 2 – (a), 3 – (b), 4 – (d)
9. 1 – (b), 2 – (a), 3 – (c), 4 – (d)

Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS)

1. The story challenges this assumption by highlighting the mechanical and impersonal nature of futuristic education. Margie's dissatisfaction with her mechanical teacher, in contrast to the human connection found in traditional schooling, suggests that technological advancements do not always equate to improvement. The narrative prompts readers to critically evaluate the true benefits and costs of technological progress in various aspects of life.
2. The physical book symbolises a connection to the past and evokes nostalgia for a time when learning and storytelling were more personal and tangible. Margie and Tommy's fascination with the book underscore the value of physical artefacts in preserving cultural and historical memory. The book's presence in the story serves as a reminder of the richness and depth of traditional learning methods, which might be lost in a purely digital future.
3. Evelyn Glennie turned her hearing impairment into a unique advantage by learning to "hear" music through vibrations. Her perseverance in adapting to this method and her creativity in using her body to experience music made her a world-renowned percussionist. This highlights how challenges can inspire innovative solutions and how perseverance can lead to extraordinary achievements.
4. The lesson emphasises that passion is a key driver of success through the stories of Evelyn Glennie and Bismillah Khan. Their unwavering dedication to their respective crafts, despite challenges, underscores that true passion fuels perseverance and leads to remarkable achievements.
5. The story suggests that emotional support, as seen when Kezia's father comforts her during a nightmare, is crucial in overcoming fear and building trust. This teaches us that parental warmth and reassurance can transform fear into security and strengthen family bonds.

6. The story emphasises that empathy is crucial for understanding one another in family relationships. Kezia's father empathised with her fear during the nightmare, and Kezia learned to appreciate the love hidden behind his strictness. Mutual understanding strengthens bonds and resolves misconceptions.
7. Einstein's commitment to peace demonstrated through his advocacy against nuclear weapons and for a world government, reflected his vision for a harmonious and just society. His efforts emphasised the need for global cooperation and ethical responsibility in scientific advancements.
8. Einstein's relentless curiosity and questioning nature led him to explore fundamental questions about the universe. His inquisitiveness drove him to develop groundbreaking theories, such as the theory of relativity, demonstrating the power of curiosity in advancing scientific knowledge.
9. The environment of the doctor's room, with its dim lighting, presence of rats, and oppressive heat, creates an atmosphere of unease and discomfort. This setting heightens the tension and suspense, making the sudden appearance of the snake even more startling and intense.
10. The story illustrates human vulnerability through the doctor's helplessness when confronted by the snake. The unpredictability of life is highlighted by the sudden, unexpected encounter, emphasising that life can change dramatically in an instant, beyond human control.
11. Dr Kalam's parents, through their actions and guidance, instilled values of integrity, discipline, and compassion in him. His father's austerity and his mother's kindness shaped his worldview, emphasising the importance of hard work, humility, and empathy in achieving success and contributing to society.
12. Dr Kalam's upbringing in Rameswaram, amidst a diverse and respectful community, instilled values of religious tolerance, simplicity, and integrity. These formative experiences in a harmonious and supportive environment shaped his character, fostering his commitment to ethical principles and inclusive growth.
13. The lesson emphasises the importance of self-belief through the experiences of Santosh Yadav and Maria Sharapova, who both faced and overcame significant adversities. Their unwavering confidence in their abilities enabled them to persist and succeed, demonstrating that self-belief is a critical factor in overcoming challenges.
14. Maria Sharapova's early training experiences, marked by separation from her mother and enduring harsh conditions, reflect her resilience and unwavering commitment to her goals. Her ability to withstand these challenges and maintain her focus on tennis exemplifies the importance of perseverance and dedication in achieving success.
15. The author's decision to fly directly home instead of taking a longer route reflects his state of exhaustion and homesickness. It indicates a desire for comfort and familiarity, suggesting that his travel experiences have left him emotionally and physically drained, prompting a need for rest and rejuvenation.
16. The flute seller's behaviour, playing meditatively and without aggressively marketing his wares, underscores the cultural significance of music in Kathmandu. His presence in the square and the serene quality of his music highlight the integral role of art and tradition in the city's daily life, suggesting that music is valued for its aesthetic and spiritual contributions.
17. Gerrard's use of sarcasm and humour reveals his quick wit, confidence, and ability to stay composed under pressure. These traits highlight his intellectual agility and his strategic thinking, which ultimately help him manage and control the dangerous situation with the intruder.
18. The theme of deception is central to the narrative, as Gerrard uses it to outsmart the intruder. By pretending to be a criminal and fabricating a story, Gerrard deceives the intruder into believing he is in control, ultimately turning the tables and securing his safety.

POETRY

Value Based Questions

1. The poem highlights the significance of making thoughtful choices through the speaker's careful consideration of the two roads. It teaches us that decisions have lasting impacts on our lives, and it's important to think deeply and choose paths that align with our long-term goals and values.
2. The poem conveys the value of embracing uncertainty by showing that the speaker couldn't foresee where each road would lead. This teaches us that it's okay to make decisions without knowing all the outcomes and that embracing uncertainty can lead to personal growth and discovery.

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3. The poem 'Wind' conveys that, just as a strong house can withstand the wind's force, people who support each other can better endure life's challenges. It underscores the importance of solidarity and mutual support, suggesting that we should come together and help each other strengthen our resolve and fortitude. This message highlights the value of community and teamwork in overcoming difficulties.
4. The poem 'Wind' reflects the idea that adversity can lead to personal growth and resilience by showing that the wind's destructive power can strengthen what it attacks if they are well-prepared. The poem teaches that enduring hardships and overcoming obstacles can make us stronger and more resilient. This idea emphasises the value of embracing challenges as opportunities for growth and self-improvement.
5. The poet uses the imagery of rain to convey a sense of connection with his loved ones by describing how the sound of rain brings back memories of his mother and his childhood home. This conveys the value of maintaining strong emotional bonds with family and loved ones, as these connections can provide comfort and a sense of belonging, even when physically separated.
6. The poet's depiction of rain as a soothing and comforting presence relates to the broader value of finding solace in nature. This can be applied to real life by recognising the therapeutic effects of nature on our mental and emotional health. Spending time in natural settings, listening to the sounds of rain, or simply observing the beauty of the natural world can help reduce stress and promote a sense of well-being. It encourages us to seek comfort and peace in nature, especially during challenging times.
7. The poet describes the Lake Isle of Innisfree as a peaceful and idyllic place where he can build a small cabin, grow beans, and listen to the sounds of nature. The value associated with his longing for this place is the importance of finding tranquillity and peace in nature. It teaches us the real-life lesson of seeking solace and rejuvenation in natural, serene environments, away from the chaos of modern life.
8. The poet's vision of the Lake Isle of Innisfree, with its natural beauty and tranquillity, contrasts sharply with the noise and busyness of his current urban environment. This highlights the value of taking time to reconnect with nature and finding moments of peace amidst the hustle and bustle of everyday life. It teaches us the importance of creating balance and seeking out peaceful retreats.
9. The story of Saint Peter and the greedy woman conveys the moral lesson of generosity and selflessness. The woman's refusal to share even a small cake with Saint Peter, despite her abundance, highlights the consequences of greed. In real life, this lesson teaches us the value of sharing and helping others, especially those in need. Practising generosity can lead to a more compassionate and connected community.
10. The legend in the poem serves as a reminder that our actions can have significant impacts on others, whether positive or negative. The woman's greed not only affects herself but also serves as a cautionary tale for others. The practical lesson is that our behaviour can influence and affect those around us, and acting with kindness and generosity can create a ripple effect of positivity. This teaches us to be mindful of our actions and their potential consequences on the community and individuals.
11. The poem addresses the idea of shared human experiences by illustrating that all people, regardless of their nationality or ethnicity, experience the same joys, sorrows, and challenges. Lines like "Remember, they have eyes like ours that wake / Or sleep, and strength that can be won / By love" emphasise our commonalities. This teaches us the lesson of empathy and the need to connect with others on a human level, recognising that we all share similar experiences and emotions.
12. The poem suggests that dividing people based on superficial differences like nationality, race, or religion leads to conflict and suffering. It highlights the artificiality of these divisions and the harm they cause. We can learn the importance of looking beyond these superficial differences and focusing on our shared humanity. This can help us build more inclusive and harmonious societies.
13. The poem emphasises the importance of nature and its resilience by describing how deeply rooted and robust a tree is. Despite efforts to cut it down, the tree can still grow back unless it is uprooted completely. This resilience reflects the strength and persistence of nature. The real-life value here is the recognition of nature's endurance and the importance of respecting and preserving it, understanding that our actions have long-lasting impacts on the environment.
14. The poet conveys that human actions, such as cutting down trees, have significant and often destructive consequences on nature. By detailing the process of killing a tree, the poem underscores the violence and

harm inflicted on the natural world. The real-life lesson is to be mindful of our actions and their environmental impact, promoting sustainable practices to protect and conserve nature.

15. The poem conveys the inevitability of death through the poet's realisation that his beloved is now part of the eternal cycle of nature. Lines like "She seemed a thing that could not feel / The touch of earthly years" reflect the poet's acceptance of her death. The real-life value derived from this theme is the understanding that death is a natural part of life, and it encourages us to appreciate and cherish the time we have with our loved ones.
16. The phrase "a slumber did my spirit seal" signifies a state of emotional numbness or detachment that the poet experiences after the death of his beloved. It reflects a profound sense of calm and acceptance. From this, we can learn the value of finding inner peace and emotional stability in the face of loss, allowing us to navigate difficult times with a sense of tranquillity.

Assertion-Reason Type Questions

1. (b), 2. (d), 3. (c), 4. (a), 5. (a), 6. (d), 7. (a), 8. (c), 9. (a), 10. (d), 11. (d), 12. (c), 13. (c), 14. (b), 15. (a), 16. (c).

Match the Columns

1. 1 – (c), 2 – (d), 3 – (a), 4 – (b)
2. 1 – (c), 2 – (d), 3 – (b), 4 – (a)
3. 1 – (c), 2 – (d), 3 – (a), 4 – (b)
4. 1 – (c), 2 – (d), 3 – (a), 4 – (b)
5. 1 – (d), 2 – (c), 3 – (a), 4 – (b)
6. 1 – (b), 2 – (c), 3 – (d), 4 – (a)
7. 1 – (c), 2 – (d), 3 – (a), 4 – (b)
8. 1 – (b), 2 – (c), 3 – (d), 4 – (a)

Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS)

1. 'The Road Not Taken' reflects Robert Frost's philosophy on life and decision-making through its exploration of choice and consequence. Frost suggests that life is a series of decisions, each leading us down a different path. The poem reflects the belief that while we may deliberate over our choices, the true impact of these decisions can only be understood in hindsight. Frost's acknowledgement of the traveller's choice "making all the difference" conveys that each choice is significant, even if its significance is not immediately apparent. The poem embodies a sense of individualism and non-conformity, celebrating the courage to take the less conventional path while recognising the inevitable uncertainties and regrets that come with it.

2. The central theme of 'The Road Not Taken' is the concept of choices and their consequences in life. The poem uses the metaphor of a traveller at a fork in the woods to represent the choices we all must make. Frost describes the two roads as diverging in a yellow wood, symbolising a critical decision point. The traveller's choice of the less-travelled road signifies the path less conventional or popular, reflecting individuality and non-conformity. Frost conveys that choices define our lives, and once made, they often preclude other possibilities. The setting of the road in the woods, the description of both paths and the traveller's introspective tone all reinforce the weight and impact of life's choices.
3. The contrast between weak and strong structures in the poem "Wind" serves to highlight the consequences of being unprepared versus being resilient. Weak structures like "frail crumbling houses" are easily destroyed by the wind, symbolising how vulnerability can lead to downfall in the face of challenges. In contrast, strong structures that are well-built and secure withstand the wind's force. This contrast reinforces the poem's message that strength and preparedness are crucial in overcoming adversity. It underscores the importance of fortifying oneself both physically and mentally to withstand life's trials.
4. The poet conveys the idea that human effort can influence the impact of natural forces through the advice to build strong and secure structures. The lines "Let's build strong homes, / Let's join the doors firmly, / Practise to firm the body. / Make the heart steadfast" suggest that through preparation and fortification, people can mitigate the destructive effects of the wind. This indicates that human effort and resilience can shape the outcome of encounters with natural forces. The poet implies that while we cannot control the wind, we can control how we respond to it, thereby influencing its impact on our lives.
5. The poem explores the theme of nostalgia through the poet's reflections on his childhood and the fond memories of his mother. The sound of rain evokes these memories, creating a sense of longing for the past. The poet describes how the rain triggers recollections and dreamy fancies, weaving a tapestry of past experiences and emotions that highlight the deep connection between present sensations and past memories.
6. The poet uses contrast to highlight the emotional impact of the rain by modulating the "melancholy darkness" with the "bliss" of listening to the rain on the roof. This contrast between sadness and comfort emphasises the

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soothing effect of the rain, transforming a potentially gloomy night into an opportunity for reflection and peace. Additionally, the contrast between the present moment and the recollected memories of the past underscores the deep emotional connection the poet has with the rain, enhancing the overall mood and themes of the poem.

7. The contrast between the poet's current urban life and his vision of Innisfree highlights the theme of longing for peace and simplicity. The bustling "roadway" and "pavements grey" of the city symbolise chaos and confinement, whereas Innisfree represents serenity, freedom, and harmony with nature. This stark contrast underscores the poet's deep yearning to escape the noise and complexity of urban life in favour of the tranquillity and simplicity found at Innisfree. It emphasises the poem's central message about the importance of finding personal sanctuary and the restorative power of nature.
8. The phrase "peace comes dropping slow" signifies the gradual and gentle attainment of peace that the poet envisions at Innisfree. It reveals that the poet perceives peace not as an immediate state but as a slow and steady process that unfolds over time. This perception underscores the poet's understanding that true tranquillity and inner calmness are achieved through immersion in nature and a simple, reflective life. It suggests that peace is a natural, almost imperceptible presence that emerges from the quiet and rhythmic elements of the natural world.
9. The narrative structure of the poem, which unfolds as a story told to convey a lesson, is highly effective in delivering its moral message. The gradual build-up of the plot, culminating in the woman's transformation, engages the reader and creates a sense of anticipation. This storytelling approach makes the moral lesson more impactful and memorable, as it is embedded within a compelling narrative. Additionally, the use of a familiar folktale format helps to universalise the lesson, making it accessible and relevant to a wide audience.
10. The poet's assertion that the story might not be true but still offers a valuable lesson emphasises the didactic purpose of the poem. This perspective encourages the reader to focus on the moral and ethical teachings rather than the literal truth of the tale. It underscores that legends and stories, whether factual or fictional, can provide important insights and lessons about human behaviour and values, thereby enhancing the reader's understanding and appreciation of the poem's message.
11. The poet addresses the consequences of war by illustrating its devastating impact on people and the environment. Lines such as "Our hells of fire and dust outrage the innocence of air that is everywhere our own" depict how war pollutes and destroys the natural world. Additionally, the poem mentions how war causes starvation and suffering, disrupting peaceful lives. This dual focus on human and environmental destruction conveys the broader, all-encompassing damage caused by conflict and emphasises the importance of peace.
12. The poet's call to remember our shared humanity whenever we are told to hate others is significant because it challenges the divisive rhetoric often used to justify conflict and discrimination. By urging readers to recall that hating others means betraying and condemning ourselves, the poet emphasises that hatred and violence ultimately harm everyone. This call to mindfulness and empathy promotes the values of compassion and unity, encouraging readers to resist divisive influences and embrace a more inclusive perspective.
13. The poet uses the process of killing a tree as a metaphor to illustrate the deeper and often irreversible impact of human actions on the environment. By detailing the extensive and brutal steps required to completely kill a tree, the poem highlights the persistence and resilience of nature. This metaphor reflects the idea that human actions, while powerful, cause significant and long-lasting damage to the natural world, emphasising the need for a more respectful and sustainable approach to environmental interactions.
14. The imagery in the poem, such as "the bleeding bark," "out of the anchoring earth," and "browning, hardening, twisting, withering," vividly conveys the brutality of destroying a tree. These images evoke a sense of violence and pain, personifying the tree and making its destruction feel more like an act of cruelty. This powerful imagery helps readers empathise with the tree and understand the severity of the act, reinforcing the poem's message about the harshness and finality of human intervention in nature.
15. At the beginning of the poem, the poet experiences a sense of emotional numbness and detachment, as indicated by the phrase "A slumber did my spirit seal." This suggests a state of denial or disbelief. However, by the end of the poem, the poet accepts the reality of his beloved's death, acknowledging that she has no motion, force, or sensory abilities and is now part of the earth's natural cycle. This transition from numbness to acceptance reflects a deeper understanding and reconciliation with the concept of death.

16. The poet uses the imagery of nature to convey the theme of mortality by describing the beloved as becoming one with the natural elements after her death. Phrases like "Rolled round in earth's diurnal course / With rocks and stones and trees" suggest that she is now an inseparable part of the natural cycle. This imagery reflects the idea that death is a return to the earth and a continuation of the natural process, highlighting the inevitability and universality of mortality.

SUPPLEMENTARY READER

Value Based Questions

- The story emphasises the importance of parental love and attention by illustrating the child's overwhelming sense of security and joy when he is with his parents. When the child gets lost in the fair, his initial excitement for toys and sweets turns into despair as he realises his parents are not around. The real-life value here is understanding that parental love and presence are crucial for a child's sense of safety and happiness.
 - The story conveys that material desires are fleeting and insignificant compared to the love and security provided by family. The child's longing for toys, sweets, and other attractions at the fair quickly diminishes when he realises he is separated from his parents. This teaches us the real-life value that emotional bonds and relationships are far more important and enduring than material possessions.
 - The story highlights the vulnerability of children through the child's experience of getting lost in the fair. His fear and helplessness emphasise how dependent children are on adults for guidance and safety. This teaches the real-life value of ensuring the protection and well-being of children, as they are vulnerable and require constant care and supervision.
 - The stranger's role is significant as he represents compassion and kindness. He tries to comfort the lost child and offers him various things to distract him from his distress. This teaches the real-life value of empathy and the importance of helping others in distress, especially children who may feel scared and helpless in unfamiliar situations.
 - The narrator's grandfather's attitude towards Toto demonstrates compassion and patience through his willingness to care for and manage Toto despite his mischievous behaviour. Grandfather's efforts to provide a proper enclosure, feed him well, and deal with the chaos Toto creates reflect his compassionate nature.
- The real-life value is the importance of being patient and understanding when dealing with animals or any challenging situations, showing kindness and empathy even when it is difficult.
- The story illustrates the challenges of keeping a wild animal as a pet through Toto's numerous escapades and the difficulty the narrator's grandfather faces in managing him. Toto's destructive behaviour, escape attempts, and need for constant supervision highlight the impracticality of domesticating wild animals. The real-life value is the understanding that wild animals are best left in their natural habitats, and keeping them as pets can be challenging and unethical.
 - Toto's interaction with other animals, such as Nana the donkey, shows that animals, like humans, have social dynamics and relationships. His mischievous behaviour towards Nana initially creates tension, but they eventually learn to coexist. The real-life lesson is the importance of fostering harmony and understanding among different beings. It teaches us to be patient and considerate in our interactions with others, whether humans or animals, to create a peaceful environment.
 - The story of Toto highlights the importance of understanding and respecting animal behaviour through the various mischievous acts performed by Toto. His actions, such as tearing clothes, breaking dishes, and escaping from his enclosure, reflect his instincts and curiosity. The real-life value here is the recognition that animals have their own behaviour patterns and needs. It teaches us to respect their nature and provide appropriate care and environment to ensure their well-being.
 - Iswaran's dedication to Mahendra teaches us about the importance of loyalty and service. He is committed to his duties and goes above and beyond to take care of Mahendra, from cooking meals to providing entertainment with his stories. The real-life value is recognising the significance of being loyal and dedicated in our relationships and responsibilities, which fosters trust and reliability.
 - The lesson emphasises the importance of effective communication through Iswaran's storytelling by showing how his expressive and engaging manner captivates listeners. His ability to convey emotions, build suspense, and create vivid imagery demonstrates that good communication can make a lasting impact. The real-life value is understanding that effective communication skills are essential for connecting with others and sharing ideas meaningfully.

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11. The relationship between Iswaran and Mahendra illustrates mutual respect and companionship through their interactions. Mahendra appreciates Iswaran's talents and dependability, while Iswaran shows unwavering loyalty and care for Mahendra. The real-life value is understanding that mutual respect and companionship are essential for building strong and supportive relationships.
12. Iswaran's character teaches us the importance of finding joy and fulfilment in our work through his enthusiasm and passion for storytelling and his duties. He takes pride in his work and finds happiness in entertaining Mahendra and managing household tasks. The real-life value is recognising that approaching our responsibilities with a positive attitude and passion can lead to a more fulfilling and enjoyable life.
13. The cleverness of the guru and his disciple demonstrates the value of intelligence and wit in overcoming difficult situations. By using their intelligence, they outwit the foolish king and save themselves. The real-life value is that thinking creatively and strategically can help us navigate challenges and find solutions even in dire circumstances.
14. The foolishness of the king and his minister teaches us the importance of wise and informed leadership. Making decisions without understanding their consequences can lead to chaos and suffering. The real-life value is that leaders must be knowledgeable, thoughtful, and considerate of the impact of their decisions on others.
15. The story highlights adaptability and quick thinking through the actions of the guru and his disciple. When faced with the threat of execution, they quickly devise a plan to turn the situation in their favour. The real-life lesson is the importance of being adaptable and thinking on your feet to overcome unexpected challenges and threats.
16. The disciple's decision to stay in the kingdom despite his guru's warning teaches us the consequences of ignoring wise counsel and being swayed by temporary comforts. His decision almost leads to his execution. The real-life value is the importance of listening to experienced and wise advice, especially when making decisions that impact our safety and well-being.
17. The little swallow's decision to stay with the Happy Prince, despite his original plans, illustrates the value of loyalty and companionship. It highlights how true friendship involves standing by someone during difficult times and prioritising their well-being over personal desires. This loyalty ultimately leads to the swallow's own self-fulfilment.
18. The Happy Prince's actions teach us the importance of empathy and compassion. By feeling the suffering of the poor and taking steps to alleviate it, the Prince shows that understanding and sharing in others' pain is crucial for fostering a compassionate society. His actions encourage us to be more sensitive to the struggles of others and to act to help them.
19. The story teaches that small acts of kindness can have a significant impact on the community. The Happy Prince's efforts to help individuals in need, such as the seamstress, the playwright, and the matchgirl, show how even seemingly small gestures can bring immense relief and joy, creating a ripple effect of positivity and compassion throughout the community.
20. The Happy Prince's willingness to give away his jewels and gold leaf teaches us that true generosity involves self-sacrifice and a sincere desire to help those in need. It shows that genuine kindness goes beyond superficial gestures and includes giving up something valuable to bring comfort and relief to others.
21. Prashant's initiative demonstrates that true leadership involves taking proactive steps during crises, showing compassion, and rallying others to work towards a common goal. His actions teach us that effective leaders are those who empathise with others, take decisive action, and inspire teamwork to overcome challenges.
22. The community's collective effort teaches us the importance of solidarity and cooperation in times of crisis. By coming together to support one another, the people of Ersama demonstrate that unity and mutual aid are vital for recovery and rebuilding, emphasising the strength found in community bonds.
23. Prashant's story teaches valuable lessons about perseverance and hope by demonstrating that even in the face of severe hardship, maintaining a positive outlook and persistent efforts can lead to recovery and renewal. His determination to help rebuild the community and his optimistic attitude inspires us to stay hopeful and resilient in challenging times.
24. The story highlights empathy's significance in disaster management by showcasing Prashant's and the volunteers' concern for the cyclone victims' well-being. Their empathetic actions, such as providing food, shelter, and emotional support, underline the need for compassion and understanding in effectively addressing the needs of those affected by disasters.

- 25.** Sue's care for Johnsy shows us the true essence of friendship and empathy. She stands by Johnsy during her illness, provides emotional and physical support, and seeks help selflessly. This demonstrates the power of compassion and the importance of being there for loved ones in difficult times.
- 26.** Behrman's sacrifice symbolises selflessness and the value of art. His act of painting the last leaf in the harsh cold, despite the risks to his health, underscores the lengths people can go to bring hope to others and how art can be a medium of life-saving inspiration.
- 27.** Behrman's painted leaf teaches us about art's profound influence on human emotions. The leaf gives Johnsy hope and the will to live, demonstrating that art can provide comfort, inspiration, and emotional strength. It underscores how creative expression can impact lives, offering solace and motivation.
- 28.** The interaction between Sue and the doctor reveals the importance of compassionate care, as the doctor acknowledges the psychological aspects of Johnsy's condition and the need for hope. His understanding approach, coupled with Sue's compassionate support, demonstrates that empathy and holistic care are crucial in treating patients effectively.
- 29.** The story illustrates the value of community support as neighbours, friends, and even strangers come together to help the narrator and his family after their house burns down. This collective effort demonstrates that in times of crisis, community solidarity and kindness can provide emotional and practical assistance, fostering a sense of belonging and hope.
- 30.** The narrator's experience teaches us the importance of resilience and the ability to adapt to sudden changes. It shows that while material possessions can be lost, the support and love of family and community can help one rebuild and recover from life's unexpected challenges.
- 31.** The narrator's reflection teaches that a home is more than just a physical structure; it is defined by the love, support, and sense of security provided by family and community. This value-based lesson emphasises that emotional connections and shared experiences are what truly create a home, rather than material possessions.
- 32.** The story highlights the importance of gratitude as the narrator and his family express deep appreciation for the help and generosity of their community. This gratitude fosters a positive outlook, strengthens social bonds, and reminds the narrator of the good in people, even amidst adversity, emphasising that being thankful can enhance resilience.
- 33.** Sergei's decision to help Lushkoff reveals that compassion can transform lives. By showing kindness and giving Lushkoff a chance to work, Sergei helps him regain his dignity and change his life. This emphasises the value of empathy and the positive impact that compassionate actions can have on others.
- 34.** Sergei's approach to addressing Lushkoff's dishonesty teaches the importance of addressing problems with understanding and constructive solutions. Instead of punishing Lushkoff, Sergei offers him work and a chance to change. This highlights that addressing issues with empathy and practical support can lead to positive outcomes.

Assertion-Reason Type Questions

1. (a), 2. (b), 3. (c), 4. (d), 5. (b), 6. (b), 7. (d), 8. (a), 9. (a), 10. (a), 11. (b), 12. (c), 13. (a), 14. (c), 15. (a), 16. (c), 17. (a), 18. (c), 19. (d), 20. (b), 21. (a), 22. (c), 23. (b), 24. (c), 25. (a), 26. (b), 27. (c), 28. (a), 29. (a), 30. (b), 31. (c), 32. (c), 33. (a), 34. (d), 35. (c), 36. (a), 37. (a), 38. (b).

Match the Columns

1. 1 – (c), 2 – (b), 3 – (a), 4 – (d)
2. 1 – (a), 2 – (c), 3 – (b), 4 – (d)
3. 1 – (b), 2 – (a), 3 – (d), 4 – (c)
4. 1 – (b), 2 – (a), 3 – (d), 4 – (c)
5. 1 – (d), 2 – (c), 3 – (b), 4 – (a)
6. 1 – (c), 2 – (d), 3 – (b), 4 – (a)
7. 1 – (a), 2 – (c), 3 – (b), 4 – (d)
8. 1 – (b), 2 – (a), 3 – (d), 4 – (c)
9. 1 – (b), 2 – (c), 3 – (a)

Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS)

1. The stranger's role in the story embodies empathy and the universal human capacity for kindness. When the child is lost and distraught, the stranger steps in to comfort him, offering various attractions in an attempt to console him. This act of selflessness and care contrasts with the earlier indifference of the crowd, underscoring the importance of compassion in a bustling, often impersonal world. The stranger's actions highlight that even amidst life's chaos, small acts of humanity can provide solace and hope to those in need.
2. The shift in the child's focus from material desires to an emotional need for his parents reveals that human priorities are deeply influenced by their emotions and relationships. Initially, the child is drawn to the allure of sweets, toys, and other attractions at the fair. However, when he gets separated from his parents, all his

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desires vanish, and his only wish is to be reunited with them. This illustrates that love and security provided by family are far more significant than material possessions. It also reflects the transient nature of material desires compared to the enduring emotional bonds of relationships.

3. The author employs various symbols to depict the child's emotional journey. The fair symbolises life's temptations and distractions, while the objects the child desires—like toys, sweets, and flowers—represent transient joys. The act of losing his parents symbolises a deeper sense of insecurity and fear that overtakes superficial pleasures. The caring stranger who consoles the child symbolises compassion and humanity, emphasising the importance of kindness in a world filled with distractions. Through these symbols, the story explores themes of innocence, dependence, and the universal need for love and belonging.
4. The story contrasts the child's innocent and immediate desires with the adult's understanding of deeper emotional needs. Initially, the child is captivated by the sights, sounds, and attractions of the fair, focusing solely on his wants. However, once separated from his parents, he realises that these material desires are insignificant compared to his need for love and security. Adults, understanding the value of relationships, prioritise emotional bonds over materialistic pleasures. The story subtly critiques the fleeting nature of superficial wants and emphasises the enduring significance of family and human connections.
5. The grandfather's patience and persistence in dealing with Toto's capers reflect the responsibilities that come with caring for animals. Despite Toto's mischievous behaviour, the grandfather remains tolerant and tries to accommodate him. This teaches the importance of understanding and compassion when dealing with animals, emphasising that patience and adaptability are crucial for nurturing and managing living beings, especially those with wild instincts.
6. Toto's character is a symbol of curiosity and the innate desire for freedom. His playful and inquisitive nature leads him to explore and interact with his surroundings in unconventional ways, such as tearing things apart or escaping from confinement. These actions reflect his wild instincts and highlight the conflict between his natural behaviour and the constraints of domestication. The story underscores that curiosity and the longing for freedom are integral to a creature's identity, especially for wild animals like Toto.
7. 'The Adventures of Toto' illustrates that, despite the challenges and mischief caused by animals like Toto, there is a unique and rewarding bond between humans and animals. The grandfather's fondness for Toto and the narrator's amusement at his capers reveal the joy and companionship animals bring to human lives. The story suggests that this bond is based on understanding, patience, and an appreciation for the individuality of animals, even when they disrupt human routines.
8. Toto's unique personality and mischievous actions showcase his individuality. Unlike other pets, he displays a strong-willed and independent nature, refusing to conform to the expectations of his human caretakers. His cleverness, resourcefulness, and unpredictable behaviour highlight that each animal has its own distinct traits and quirks. The story celebrates Toto's individuality, even as it portrays the challenges of dealing with such a spirited creature.
9. Iswaran's ghost story leaves a deep impression on Mahendra, making him anxious and fearful despite his rational outlook. It reveals that human psychology is susceptible to suggestion, especially when fear and imagination are involved. Mahendra's experience highlights how deeply stories can influence emotions, even when there is no logical basis for them. The episode also explores the power of belief and how it can override reason.
10. Iswaran's storytelling is not just about narrating events but creating a vivid experience for the listener. His use of gestures, voice modulation, and dramatisation reflects the essence of storytelling as a performance art. His tales evoke emotions ranging from humour to suspense, showcasing his mastery over the medium. Iswaran's ability to captivate Mahendra demonstrates the power of storytelling in connecting people and enriching their lives.
11. The story emphasises the importance of oral traditions in preserving cultural narratives and entertaining communities. Iswaran's tales, though exaggerated, carry moral lessons and showcase the cultural practice of using stories for teaching and bonding. His storytelling strengthens his relationship with Mahendra, highlighting how oral narratives foster human connections. The story suggests that storytelling is a timeless art that transcends generations, keeping cultural values alive.
12. Iswaran's storytelling is a reflection of his vibrant imagination and lively personality. His ability to dramatise ordinary events showcases his creativity and love for entertaining others. His stories provide Mahendra with entertainment and a respite from his monotonous routine as a supervisor. Iswaran's

exaggerated tales often mix reality with fantasy, revealing his flair for drama and ability to captivate his audience. His stories, though sometimes unbelievable, strengthen his bond with Mahendra and highlight his significance in Mahendra's life.

13. The actions of the king and the minister in the Kingdom of Fools reflect poor leadership qualities. Their decision to reverse the natural order by making people work at night and sleep during the day is absurd and demonstrates their lack of wisdom. This illogical decree leads to an abnormal society where animals are forced to adapt to unnatural routines. The fear of death compels the subjects to obey, indicating a reign based on fear rather than respect. The king and the minister's foolishness creates instability and unpredictability, ultimately endangering the lives of the citizens. Their leadership style highlights the dangers of autocratic rule devoid of reason and foresight.
14. The guru's wisdom is a pivotal element in the story, displaying the value of experience and foresight. Recognising the absurdity of the kingdom's rules, the guru immediately senses the potential danger and decides to leave. His foresight is validated when the disciple, who stays behind, eventually faces a death sentence. The guru's return and clever plan to save the disciple underscore the importance of wisdom over brute strength. By manipulating the king's foolishness, the guru turns the situation in their favour, ultimately securing their safety. So, it highlights that experience and prudent judgment are essential in navigating and overcoming irrational and perilous circumstances.
15. The lesson addresses the theme of power and its misuse through the actions of the king and the minister. Their whimsical decree to reverse the natural order of day and night exemplifies an abuse of power, as it imposes irrational demands on their subjects. The trial of the merchant further highlights the capricious nature of their rule, as guilt is assigned and reassigned without regard to justice or evidence. The guru's ability to manipulate the king's foolishness and save the disciple exposes the fragility and absurdity of their power. The story suggests that power, when exercised without wisdom and justice, becomes a tool of oppression and chaos rather than governance and order.
16. The story criticises the judicial system in the Kingdom of Fools by depicting it as arbitrary and whimsical. The king and minister's decisions are guided by absurd logic rather than fairness or legal principles. When the wall falls on the thief, the blame shifts unpredictably from the merchant to the bricklayer, the dancing girl, the goldsmith, and back to the merchant, highlighting the lack of consistent and rational adjudication. This chaotic approach to justice undermines societal order and trust in leadership, suggesting that a just society requires a legal system based on reason, fairness, and accountability. The story implicitly advocates for a judicial system that protects the innocent and punishes the guilty appropriately, maintaining social harmony and order.
17. The theme of wisdom versus foolishness is central to the lesson, with the characters embodying these contrasting qualities. The king and the minister represent foolishness, making irrational decisions that disrupt the natural order and endanger their subjects. Their actions are driven by whim rather than logic, leading to chaos and absurdity. In contrast, the guru symbolises wisdom. His foresight and understanding of human nature allow him to navigate and outsmart the foolish rulers. The disciple's initial foolishness in prioritising cheap food over safety highlights the consequences of short-sighted decisions. However, through the guru's intervention, he learns the value of wisdom. The characters' experiences demonstrate that wisdom leads to stability and safety, while foolishness results in chaos and danger.
18. After his death, the Happy Prince realises true happiness comes from alleviating others' suffering. While alive, he was sheltered from sorrow. Still, as a statue, he sees the city's misery and finds fulfilment in selflessly helping the poor and needy, revealing a profound shift from superficial joy to deep compassion.
19. The swallow transforms from a self-focused traveller to a selfless helper. Initially intent on joining his friends in Egypt, he is moved by the Prince's compassion and stays to assist. This transformation illustrates the power of empathy and altruism, showing how caring for others can lead to personal growth and fulfilment.
20. The story suggests that empathy is crucial in leadership. Once oblivious to suffering, the Happy Prince becomes an empathetic leader after his death, using his position to help the needy. His actions demonstrate that compassionate leaders can create positive change and that empathy is essential for understanding and addressing the needs of others.
21. The actions of the Happy Prince and the swallow bring temporary relief and happiness to the city's poor and suffering inhabitants. By providing essentials like food and warmth, they alleviate immediate hardships. Their selfless deeds highlight the transformative power of compassion and charity, inspiring the idea that small acts can significantly impact a community.

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22. Prashant's leadership showcases effective qualities such as decisiveness, empathy, and resourcefulness. By organising relief efforts, motivating volunteers, and addressing critical needs, he demonstrates the ability to inspire and manage a community during a crisis, emphasising the importance of taking initiative and being compassionate in leadership roles.
23. The story reflects the resilience of the human spirit through the determination and collective efforts of Prashant and the villagers. Despite immense loss and suffering, they unite to rebuild their lives, showing strength, adaptability, and unwavering hope. Their perseverance highlights the human capacity to overcome adversity and support one another.
24. Empathy plays a central role in Prashant's response, as he deeply understands the pain and needs of the cyclone victims. His empathetic actions, such as comforting the bereaved, organising food and shelter, and caring for orphans, reflect his ability to connect with others' emotions, driving his efforts to alleviate their suffering.
25. The story conveys the theme of adaptability through Prashant's and the villagers' responses to the cyclone's devastation. By quickly adjusting to new realities, finding innovative solutions, and remaining flexible in their approach, they effectively manage the crisis, demonstrating that adaptability is essential for survival and recovery in unpredictable situations.
26. Sue's role is pivotal in Johnsy's recovery. Her constant support, optimism, and pragmatic approach to distracting Johnsy from her morbid thoughts keep Johnsy engaged and connected. Sue's actions demonstrate the impact of unwavering friendship and emotional support on a person's mental and physical healing process.
27. Behrman's painting of the last leaf symbolises selfless sacrifice and the power of art to inspire hope. By risking his life to paint the leaf, he instils hope in Johnsy, unknowingly fulfilling his dream of creating a masterpiece. The leaf serves as a lifeline for Johnsy, illustrating how hope can emerge from acts of kindness.
28. Hope plays a crucial role in Johnsy's battle against pneumonia. Initially devoid of hope, Johnsy's will to live diminishes. However, the persistence of the last leaf reignites her hope, leading to her recovery. This underscores that mental strength and a positive outlook are vital components in overcoming physical ailments.
29. Johnsy's character, though initially despairing, eventually embodies resilience and determination. Influenced by the symbolic last leaf, she finds the strength to fight her illness. Her transformation from giving up to embracing hope teaches that resilience and a strong will are essential for overcoming life's challenges.
30. The narrator's experience of starting over at a new school reflects resilience and adaptability as he faces social isolation and the challenge of rebuilding his life. Despite initial struggles, he learns to navigate the new environment, form new relationships, and gradually adjust, demonstrating the importance of perseverance and flexibility in overcoming adversity.
31. Community support plays a crucial role in the narrator's recovery process after the fire. Neighbours, friends, and strangers come together to provide emotional and practical assistance, reinforcing the idea that collective efforts can help individuals overcome personal tragedies. This support fosters a sense of belonging and hope, illustrating the power of empathy and kindness.
32. The narrator's relationship with his cat symbolises hope and continuity. The cat's return after the fire brings immense joy and a sense of normalcy to the narrator's life. This bond represents the enduring nature of emotional connections and the comfort they provide, highlighting that love and companionship can help rebuild lives after a loss.
33. The narrator's experience highlights the value of gratitude as he appreciates the help and generosity of his community. This gratitude strengthens his sense of connection and fosters a positive outlook, even amidst adversity. Recognising and valuing the support received from others emphasises that gratitude can enhance resilience and promote healing.
34. Honesty plays a crucial role in Lushkoff's journey to self-improvement. His admission of dishonesty to Sergei marks the beginning of his transformation. This moment of truth allows him to receive genuine help and support, leading to his eventual redemption. It highlights that acknowledging one's faults is the first step towards positive change.
35. The story teaches that second chances are essential for personal growth and redemption. Sergei's decision to offer Lushkoff work instead of punishing him allows Lushkoff to transform his life. This demonstrates that providing opportunities and support can help individuals overcome their past mistakes and make meaningful changes.