



Initiative for Moral and Cultural Training Foundation [IMCTF]



Personality Development

(English)

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Initiative for Moral and Cultural Training [IMCTF]

Personality Development

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Personality Development - English

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- i. Conserve Forest and Protect Wildlife
- ii. Preserve Ecology
- iii. Sustain Environment
- iv. Inculcate Family and Human Values
- v. Foster Women's Honour
- vi. Instil Patriotism

In addition, the revised set of the above mentioned six themes' compilation have been completed by the IMCTF.

The west-centric modernity has belittled all the values and virtues in the young minds. IMCTF's endeavour is to retrieve, revive and re-instate these magnificent assets back to Bharat maata's children who can guide the world at cross roads. With this stimuli, various associates of IMCTF came forward voluntarily to contributed their might.

In order to promote reverence to the aforesaid six values through competitions, the IMCTF sought the contribution of the Trustees, Organising Committee members, teachers and various eminent scholars to work for building literature base drawn from our ancient literatures and traditional lifestyle.

The volumes totalling to several hundred pages are the output of tireless efforts by the team of scholars, artists and teachers who have toiled hard to study, identify and select relevant materials from hundreds of ancient scriptures and literary works by various saints and seers.

A large corpus of literature on

1. Devotion –
 - i. Tamizh
 - ii. Hindi
 - iii. Sanskrit

2. Personality Development –
 - i. Tamizh
 - ii. Hindi
 - iii. Sanskrit
 - iv. English

3. Arts and Crafts - English

4. Culture and Fine arts - Tamizh and English

5. Traditional Games [Indian Native Games] – English and Tamil

has been compiled for the use of students in the competitions to be conducted for lakhs of students.

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We express our gratitude to the teachers and the educational institutions who deputed them for helping and accomplishing this herculean task.

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Thematic Personality development

There is a misconception that manners and character are identical. Manners are external behavioural norms. But Character is internalised virtue. Westernisation obliterated the distinction between the two and emphasised the external which masked the internal — with the result the acceptable externals concealed the unacceptable internals. The external appearance became so dominant that it was perverted as the manifestation of the internalised virtues. There is a world of difference between the two

Manners defines how person should dress, move, eat, walk, and talk and behave externally, It is defined by external behaviour of a person — dress manners, table manners, taking manners etc. The difference between character and manner is as wide as the difference between the external appearance of a persons body or body language and the evolved mind within. The difference is as much between a good person and a person who appears a good person.

Many great saints, seers, siddha purushas and other evolved souls will externally look odd and even abnormal. Their externals — dress, movements, eating, walking or talking may not be acceptable to the well-mannered people. But no one can deny that they are tall men and taller than those who have very loveable manners. On the contrary many well mannered look so attractive that many would tend to accept them and even follow their manners. But externals do not depict the internal character of a person. While manners depends on appearance, character depends on values. Samskarams [mental training] alone will ingrain and implant values in a person. It is a process — long and continuous. There is no short cut to it like learning of dressing or table manners. This is not to say that manners or externals are unnecessary. But they are not adequate. One should not stop with acquiring good manners without building value systems. Manners without built in values [character building] is only theatrical. That is why imparting samskarams [moral and cultural training] is needed so that there is no gap between a person's acceptable behaviour externally and internalised values.

But unfortunately by mixing up the two — and mistaking the external appearance for the internal evolution — there huge confusion particularly in the field of education where character building is very essential. Character or value building is actually the personality development which makes a student a good son or daughter, good brother and father, good sister and mother, good friend and neighbour. The pressure to build good manners to make the students behave acceptably outside is so overemphasised, that the real value building has taken back seat in the shaping of a student in the architecture and ecology of today's educational institutions. Good external behaviour is replacing good internal character. This is not a good development. When a student evolves internally, his external manners also become acceptable. But the vice versa is not true as the value building needs good samskarams but the acquiring manners is comparatively easy as even peer pressure is adequate to build manners. This overemphasis on manners has underemphasised value building and moulding character - which is the very essence of personality development.

For imparting and inculcating values in students which makes them transcend as just individuals but as emotionally and sentimentally part of the larger humanity and even the infinite idea of creation the IMCTF has, after extensive study and research, designed six themes or value systems. The themes or values are imparted and implanted by samskarams by use of symbols. For example, the value of forest conservation is imparted through the samskaram of Reverence for plants and wild animals through worship of trees [Vriksha Vandanam] and snakes [Naga Vandanam] by using the trees as symbol of forests and snakes as symbols of wild animals. The six themes, samskarams and symbols are:

S. No.	Theme	Samskaram	Symbols
1	Conserve Forest and Protect Wild life	Reverence for Plants & Wild Animals	Vruksha Vandanam Naaga Vandanam
2	Preserve Ecology	Reverence for all Plant Kingdom and Animal Kingdom	Go Vandanam Gaja Vandanam Tulasi Vandanam
3	Sustain Environment	Reverence for Mother Earth, Rivers and Nature	Bhoomi Vandanam Ganga Vandanam
4	Inculcate Family & Human Values	Reverence for Parents, Teachers and Elders	Maathru-Pitru Vandanam Aacharya Vandanam Aditi Vandanam
5	Foster Women's Honour	Reverence for Girl Children and Motherhood	Kanya Vandanam Suvaasini Vandanam
6	Instill Patriotism	Reverence for Nation and National War Heroes	Bhaarat Maata Vandanam Param Veer Vandanam

These six values are contemporary need, in fact a compulsion. But to develop these values the mind has to melt and evolve. It cannot be acquired by reading books or listening to lectures. Samskarams or mental training which melts the mind is needed to ingrain these values. Mere intellectual appreciation will not penetrate the deeper consciousness, subconscious, of a person which is necessary to influence and shape one's conduct and lifestyle. For that a deeply penetrating training is needed. This is called as samskarams in our traditions.

How this deep consciousness is created? If a person worships tree as divine through the samskarams and symbolism of tree, he subconsciously realises and establishes emotional like and relation with the tree and the forest and makes one see the tree as part of one's own life. Destroying a tree becomes a huge sin in his mind. This puts a restraint on human propensities to see trees and forests as just resources for consumption and conserves forests and wild life

which laws are unable to do. This makes a person intensely feel that growing trees is a sacred puny and destroying a tree is a grave sin. At that level of consciousness, one ceases to see trees as just trees but as divinity in tree form.

Likewise, whether it is cow or Tulasi, snake or elephant, ganga or bhumi, father mother teacher or any elder, kanya girls or women who have attained motherhood, it is mother land or those who have laid down their lives for the mother land, revering and worshipping them all ingrains the values each of them symbolises.

All these traditional values are imperatives for the contemporary world. It connects the modern world with the traditions of the Indian society — while in rest of the world of today there is huge conflict between tradition and modernity. Here tradition and modernity converge. But modern thoughts cannot promote these traditional values. Modern models of communication cannot penetrate the deeper consciousness of a person. These values are embedded in our ancient literature and in our way and style of life which shows the way to navigate through the conflict between modernity and tradition in our country. This volume comprises the pearls of emotional, sentimental and intellectual wisdom contained in multifarious sacred texts of India, particularly Tamizh Nadu. This has been compiled from the texts listed here:

- 1) Thirukurral
- 2) Gitanjali
- 3) My India
- 4) Invocation To Freedom

This compilation will enable the students to acquire the value systems by practising the samskarams which are explained and celebrated in the literature compiled here. There is no doubt for the sincere seeker who wants to acquire higher wisdom and character this volume will be an escalator.

S. Gurumurthy

Chairman, Advisory Committee

Class - I

Oratorical

Topics

1. My Favourite Teacher
2. Respect to the parents
3. My Mother
4. Guru Dakshina
5. Family Values for human Progress

Great sayings by Thiruvalluvar

1. Teachers, God, guests, relatives and oneself – it is important to nurture all these five in addition to the family.
2. If one lives by the right virtues and assists others to do the same, such a family life is better than the penance of saints
3. One who leads a normal and intimate family life, is far ahead of those who seek other priorities.
4. One who earns well but avoids the blame of hoarding wealth, by philanthropy, will lead a complete life with no complaints.
5. If love and virtue pervade the family life, they become the characteristic and fruit of the family life.

Stories

1. Lord Ganesha And Kubera:

Kubera, God of Wealth, was quite proud of the fact that he was the richest God. One day, he held a lavish dinner and invited many popular guests, among them were Lord Shiva and Parvati.

As the Divine couple could not attend the dinner, they sent their son, Ganesha who was a small child.

Ganesha began to devour all the food and soon there was no food available in the venue.

He then began to eat all the vessels, dishes, furniture and other things at Alakapuri, Kubera's city.

Ganesha then proceeded to swallow the host of the dinner and the terrified Kubera ran to Lord Shiva's abode and sought his help.

Lord Shiva handed a cup of roasted cereals to Ganesha and his hunger for food ceased immediately.

Lord Kubera realized his mistake and sought forgiveness for his pride.

Moral : *Do not be proud of what you possess. Instead, concentrate on how you can make use of your possession for good things.*

2. Lord Ganesh And Karthikeya:

One day Ganesha and his younger brother Karthikeya were playing. They received a special fruit from the gods. Being kids, they were not ready to share the fruit.

Their parents, Lord Shiva and Parvati said that the first one who comes around the world thrice, would get this fruit of immortality and supreme knowledge.

Karthikeya climbed on his peacock at once and set off, to win the fruit.

Ganesha was worried about winning the race as he had a stout appearance and his mouse did not have wings.

Later, he took a decision based on his wisdom and asked the permission of his parents to go around them thrice as he felt that his parents were his universe.

Ganesha won the race and the fruit.

Moral:

1. Respect your parents; there can be no one as important as them in your life!

2. Use of wisdom at the right time and right place.
3. Story of surdas

Surdas was an eager student who wanted to learn about Spirituality. He met a Guru who accepted him as his disciple. The Guru found that Surdas was hampered by his quality of getting angry easily, which prevented him from learning. Thus, the Guru decided to make Surdas shed his anger.

The Guru asked Surdas to chant God's name while doing all his activities for one month and then meet him. Surdas followed the Guru's instructions and the day after one month, he went to meet his Guru. On his way to Guru's ashram, a sweeper on the street carelessly put dirt on his clothes. Surdas got angry and scolded the sweeper. He went home, changed clothes and then met his Guru.

To his surprise the Guru told Surdas that he was not yet ready to learn and he had to chant and do his chores for another month. Surdas returned sadly, and continued to chant God's name for another month while doing his chores.

After a month, he eagerly went to his Guruji's ashram and same thing happened again. Surdas again became really angry and blamed the sweeper. After bathing, he met his Guru who asked Surdas to chant God's name for one more month.

One month passed away and this time the same incident happened when Surdas went to meet his Guru. However, this time Surdas addressed him softly saying "Thank you. You are my master. You have helped me to overcome my anger." The sweeper felt bad for his action.

This time as Surdas approached his Guru's hermitage, he could see his Guru standing in front of the hermitage welcoming him. Guru told Surdas that he is now ready to teach him. Surdas could now understand the process he went through.

Moral:

1. A Guru knows what a student is lacking of and knows the ways that would teach him;
2. As a student, you must have faith in Guru's words and follow them with devotion.

4. Respect to Elders

The story of markandeya maharshi, the child born with Alpaayu but made a chiranjeeva by the grace of Lord Shiva, is well known. His father was Mrukanda maharshi. He also had alpaayu. So after his upanayanam his father told him to bow to all elders and get their blessings. He followed his father's words. He bowed to every one whether a pandit or a lay man. Once saptarshis visited to Mrukanda's father. Mrukanda in his usual habit, bowed to them and got the blessings of the great saptarishis. The blessing was "dhirga ayushman bhava". After knowing the truth that is life was short they went to Lord Bramha to solve this puzzle. Mrukanda bowed to Brahma too. And he also gave him the same boon, "dhirga ayushman bhava" and he was blessed with long life.

Moral in the story:

1. Respecting elders and parents is one of the foremost principles of Indian culture. Even Lord Krishna used to prostrate before his elders, however bad they may be...
2. Since the saptarishis always speak the truth, whatever they spoke became true. With the power of truth, even the unavoidable death can be stopped!

Skit

Topics

1. Story of Shraavan Kumar
2. A family that prays together stays together
3. Importane Of Teachers

Class - II

Oratorical

Topics

1. Environment
2. Elephant
3. "Gomatha" - the Divine Mother
4. Tulasi

Poems

1. The Gentle Cow

The Gentle Cow she gives us milk
Her skin is smooth and soft as silk
She walks about the field all day
about what she thinks I cannot say perhaps she thinks it is not right
That every morning and every night
She gives us milk and never get paid for what she gives us twice a day

Reference: <http://hellopoetry.com/words/6423/cow/poems/>

2. The Cow - by Robert Louis Stephenson

The friendly cow all red and white,
I love with all my heart:
She gives me cream with all her might,
To eat with apple-tart.
She wanders lowing here and there,
And yet she cannot stray,

All in the pleasant open air,
The pleasant light of day;
And blown by all the winds that pass
And wet with all the showers,
She walks among the meadow grass
And eats the meadow flowers.

Reference: <http://www.aurochs.org/cows/songs/>

3. An Elephant Goes Like This And That

An elephant goes like this and that:
He's terribly big and he's terribly fat.
He has no fingers, and he has no toes,
But goodness gracious, what a nose!

Reference: <http://www.english-time.eu/for-teachers/poem/269-06.-animals/>

4. The Cow

I dont know why or how,
God decided to make the cow
with its belly oh so white and a brain thats not so bright
Eating grass and sleep sound all day long on the ground
When the hatchet comes to play
That when the cow has to pay For its benelovent costic ways
As it poops and sleeps and graze
I see you running like on chariots of fire,
running gracefully to the pond.
And as you quench your thirst in the muddy water,
your graceful reflection scatters,
as though touched with a magic wand.
Cows are cute,Cows are fun,
Cow babies are a beauty'

Reference: <http://www.angelfire.com/nj/cowsnudderthngs/cowpoetry.html>

Stories

1. Kamadhenu

Kamadhenu is the divine cow who is the mother of all cows. Like her daughter Nandini, she could grant any wish for the true seeker. Kamadhenu provided Vasishtha with his needs for the sacrifices. Kamadhenu (kama-dhenu, 'wish-cow'), was a miraculous cow of plenty who could give her owner whatever he desired.

Kamadhenu is sometimes said to be the daughter of Daksha, and the wife of the rishi Kasyapa. Kamadhenu appeared on earth as one of the precious things that were brought to light in the Churning of the Ocean. The gods presented her to the Saptarishis and she became the property of the sage Vasishtha.

When the eight Vasus visited Vashishta's ashram with their wives, one of the wives took a fancy to Kamadhenu and asked her husband to steal it from Vashishta. He stole it with the help of the others, and was cursed by Vashishta to be born in the world of men. The seven Vasus who assisted in stealing Kamadhenu have their curse softened to be liberated from their human birth as soon as they are born, but the last Vasu, due to his being instrumental in the theft, was cursed to endure a longer life on the earth, though the curse is softened so that he becomes one of the most illustrious men of his times. He was born as Bhishma. The other seven were born as the older siblings of Bhishma, who were drowned by their mother Ganga as soon as they were born, thus fulfilling the softened curse on them.

Reference: <http://www.cowpower.info/kamadhenu-power>

2. King Dileepa and Nandini

There once lived a king whose name was Dileepa. Dileepa was taught by the great Sage Vasishtha and he was quick learner. He mastered the art of warfare, diplomacy and state administration in no time. Dileepa then became the king of Ayodhya. He was a just king and was loved by all. There was peace and prosperity in his kingdom and the people loved him. Dileepa was also courageous and valiant.

King Dileepa looked after his subjects like they were his own children. However the King and his Queen Sudhakshina had one worry. The king was getting old and he had no children. The King was worried that no one would look after the kingdom after he was gone...

So he and his wife went to Sage Vasishta. Sage Vasishta was the royal sage-teacher of the Dileepa's kingdom. He was a Brahmarishi [the person who has attained the highest level of knowledge]. King Dileepa felt that if anyone could solve his problem, it was Sage Vasishta.

King Dileepa knew that he could not take his entire army to see the sage as it would disturb the peace of the ashram. So he and his wife alone went to see the Sage.

The sage was very happy on seeing King Dileepa and his queen. He welcomed the royal couple and gave them fruits and milk. After the king and the queen had eaten, Sage Vasishta asked, 'Dileepa, what a pleasant surprise! You have come after such a long time and that too without your army or your personal guards. You look worried...Is everything all right in your kingdom....?'

Dileepa shook his head and said, 'Nothing is wrong with the kingdom, sir! With people like you to guide me, I seriously do not think anything can go wrong...'

Sage Vasishta smiled at the king for his flattery. 'Then...what is the reason Dileepa?' He asked gently. The king looked at Sudhakshina who nodded her head encouragingly. The king drew a deep breath and continued, 'Sir! It is just that...With my wife's help, I have done my best to take care of my people as a king...But...'

Sage Vasishta nodded his head as Sudhakshina took up and started speaking, 'Sir! What will happen to our kingdom after us sir...!' She said with anguish, 'We do not have any children, who can become the ruler after us...'

King Dileepa looked at the sage and said, 'We cannot just leave our people without a ruler sir! We need to have a child and train the child to rule the kingdom well...'

Queen Sudhakshina looked at the King and then at the sage and said, 'We have not knowingly caused any harm to anyone, but then we are still childless. We want to know the reason for this sir...'

Sage Vasishta nodded his eyes and closed his eyes. In his mind's eye, he replayed everything he knew about the King. Then with the help of his Brahman Shakti [The Force around us] he came to know what was

wrong...He opened his eyes as King Dileepa and Queen Sudhakshina looked eagerly at the Sage. The Sage smiled a little sadly, 'It is true King and Queen...You have lived an exemplary good life... But....'

The King and the Queen frowned and looked at each other and looked at the Sage. The Sage said, 'Dileepa, do you remember going to the heavens once to help Indra during a battle..!'

The King frowned and nodded, 'Yes sir..!'

The sage said, 'While you were there, the cow Kamadhenu was there near Indra's palace..!'

The king spoke flabbergasted, 'I never knew that..!'

The Sage nodded, 'Yes! That is the problem...You see Kamadhenu was there and you ignored her...She felt that you deliberately ignored her..!'

The king shook his head anxiously, 'No...!'

The sage nodded his head and held up his hands, 'Peace!' as the King immediately fell silent. 'It is because of Kamadhenu's curse, you are childless..!'

Queen Sudhakshina gasped looking at the king in alarm. She then turned to the Sage, 'Sir! My husband would never do such a thing purposely..!'

Sage Vasishta said patiently, 'I believe you, my Queen...But Kamadhenu was very angry...Hence the curse..!'

Queen Sudhakshina looked at the sage, 'Is there any way the curse will be lifted?'

Sage Vasishta smiled as his eyes twinkled, 'As a matter of fact, yes!' Both the king and queen looked at the sage with surprise as the sage continued, 'Kamadhenu has a daughter – Nandini, she lives here in my ashram..! The king and the queen looked around and did not see any cow as the sage continued, 'She is right now gone to the Kingdom of Varuna....' The king and the queen looked unhappy as the Sage continued, 'She is expected any minute...In fact..! The Sage said with delight, 'Look there she is! Nandini is coming back..!'

The king and the queen looked eagerly as they saw a majestic cow

entering into the ashram. The Sage continued, 'King Dileepa and Queen Sudhakshina,' He said formally, 'Take care of Nandini, like you would look after your own child... I am sure that once you take care of Nandini, she would remove her mother's curse...

The King and the Queen both looked at the Sage and fell on his feet. The sage blessed them.

The royal couple then went to see Nandini, in her cow shed. They fell on the Nandini's feet and the king said looking at the cow with love, 'I will look after you...Nandini...as well as I have looked after my own subjects...'

'Me too...!' said the Queen.

The king and the queen stayed behind in the ashram. They sent word to their ministers that they would be staying in the ashram and asked their ministers to look after the affairs of the kingdom.

In the morning, the king and the queen woke up early. The queen worshiped the cow. The king then set out with the cow as the queen cleaned the cow shed. The king then washed the cow and took her out to graze. Though he was king, Dileepa did not mind grazing a cow. In fact he enjoyed it. The King felt proud that his wife who was the princess of Magadha before she had married him, did not mind cleaning the cow shed.

King Dileepa then followed the cow everywhere. He made sure that Nandini was well fed. King Dileepa slept where the cow slept, ate when the cow ate and took very good care of it.

When the king and Nandini returned to the ashram, the queen once again worshiped the cow and took good care of it till it slept for the night....

Twenty-one days passed like this...On the twenty-second day after Queen Sadhakshina finished her prayers, the king and Nandini set out. However this time, the cow did not go by the usual way. She went inside another forest and did not just stop there. She went deeper and deeper inside the forest. Dileepa was on alert, as he followed the cow.

There was a very beautiful tree, where Nandini stopped. She started

grazing there. King Dileepa was just admiring the beauty of the forest, when he heard a loud roar. The king's eyes widened when he saw a ferocious lion aim for Nandini. The king tried reaching for his bows and arrows and surprises! - he could not even lift his arms. The king looked even more surprised, when the lion spoke to him, 'King! Go back! It is my duty to protect this tree! I will kill this cow, who is hurting this tree...'

The king was numb with astonishment and spoke slowly, 'Who are you? What is happening?'

The lion spoke again, 'This tree is Goddess Parvati's favourite tree... She gets very upset, if any one hurts this tree, so she sent me here to protect this tree...Now this cow has come here and I will kill it...'

The king was still unable to reach for his weapons, spoke slowly, 'Please do not do that...!' The king said desperately, 'It is my job to protect this cow...Nothing should happen to it...Please forgive the cow, if she has caused any damage to the tree..please...'

The lion shook his head, 'No...King, you forget...I am a lion...It is my job to hunt other animals...If I just let every animal which comes to me, go away...How am I supposed to eat...'

The king thought fast and spoke, 'Listen lion, king of the jungle... listen to me...You want some food, I am here.. let the cow go..You can eat me instead..!' The king said earnestly.

The lion almost laughed, 'You will sacrifice yourself for a cow?...!'

The king nodded, 'I am a king...I protect...not just people, I protect everyone, who comes to me for protection...This cow is my responsibility...Please eat me instead, let the cow go...'

The lion looked puzzled at the king and spoke again, 'King Dileepa listen to me...Sage Vasishtha would not be unhappy, if you told him that I had eaten the cow...You can still walk away from all this...'

The king firmly shook his head, 'Please take me and let the cow go...'

The lion looked at the firm king and finally nodded, 'OK...King..I will eat you and let the cow go..!' The lion was about to pounce, when the king closed his eyes. He knew it was over...But he was not too worried...He had done the right thing..He knew Sudhakshina would

understand...She would rule after him...The king's only regret was that their kingdom did not have an heir...But there was nothing he could do about that now...

The king opened his eyes, when he felt a garland on his neck. Surprised he opened his eyes to find that the lion was gone...It had just disappeared. The king turned around alarmed looking for Nandini and saw her calmly looking at him with a smile on her face.

The king breathed normally and sighed...He had to get Nandini home fast.... The king found that he was also able to move. That was when Nandini spoke...

'I am pleased with your devotion...king...Your sense of duty astounds me...You were willing to sacrifice yourself for anybody under your protection...I am pleased with that...'

The king looked baffled as Nandini continued, 'Everything that you saw here, was a maya – an illusion created by me to test you....I am pleased to say, you passed...'

The king looked eagerly at Nandini as she smiled, 'Yes! Go home with your queen, Dileepa. My mother's curse is gone...You will have a son, which the whole world will look up to...'

The king bowed to Nandini. They went to the ashram that evening, where the king told everything to the queen. They worshiped Nandini. The next day with the permission of Sage Vasishtha, they left for their kingdom...

Sudhakshina gave birth to a fine son – Raghu. Raghu was also a fine ruler and great man, just like his father...Raghu had a son by name Aja, Aja's son was Dasaratha. Dasaratha had four sons – Ram, Lakshman, Bharat and Shatrughan – the heroes of the Ramayana. Raghu, the son of Dileepa was such a great man, that the whole dynasty was named after him...Even now, Ram is sometimes called as Raghuvamshi which means from the ancestry of Raghu...

3. Jalandhara and Vrinda (The story of Tulsi)

The story of Tulsi, the medicinal plant, begins with Indra, the Lord of the Heavens.

Lord Indra, was the king of the Devas. But he realized that people no longer looked up to him at the main God. This worried him a lot. He knew that people now looked up at Lord Brahma, Lord Vishnu and Lord Shiva to guide them. Indra knew that he could not hope to confront Lord Brahma and Lord Vishnu. They were after all the Gods of Creation and of Preservation. But Indra could not understand, why people liked Lord Shiva. He was after all the God of destruction.

Indra was thinking. I will go and prove to the world that I am better than the Lord of Destruction, then people will look up to me too... However Indra had misunderstood...Lord Shiva was the Lord of Destruction...he destroyed all evil things in the world...he was the destroyer of the ego...the uncontrollable impulses inside us....

Indra went straight to Kailash and there wanted to meet Lord Shiva. However Lord Shiva using the power of his meditation, figured out that Indra was coming to meet him. Lord Shiva transformed himself to look like his gana and stood outside his door as a doorman. He stood there as Indra came.

'Let me in...doorman,' Indra said contemptuously at the doorman, without realizing who he was. 'I want to talk to Lord Shiva....and settle a matter once and for all...'

The doorman looked at Indra with amused eyes, 'What do you want to settle once and for all, Lord Indra?'

Indra looked loftily at the doorman, 'I want to prove that I am more powerful than Lord Shiva..' Indra said brandishing his Vajra angrily.

The doorman if anything looked even more amused. 'I am supposed to guard Lord Shiva...Why don't you first show your powers before me...If you win...You can meet Lord Shiva...'

Indra was angry. But then you could refuse to fight when somebody openly challenged you..He accepted.

Indra and the doorman fought. The doorman fought brilliantly. Indra watched as the doorman became more and more angry. The doorman finally pushed him back with a great deal of force...Indra was about to get up when he had a sudden flash. No ordinary doorman could

just push him away...This doorman...Indra realized with fear that the doorman could be none other than Lord Shiva himself. The doorman was eyeing him with sharp eyes, as Indra slowly got up on his feet. Indra realized that he had already tired himself and Lord Shiva looked like he had not even started fighting...Indra knew that he could not hope to match with a power like that. He slowly went towards the doorman and fell at his feet. 'Lord Shiva! I am sorry! I did not realize how powerful you are...You have destroyed my pride...'

The doorman looked at Indra angrily for some time. The doorman closed his eyes and Indra saw as the doorman curbed his anger with great difficulty. Indra saw something fly out of the doorman - something fierce, red and burning. Once the thing emerged from the doorman, Lord Shiva appeared before Indra in his normal form. Indra looked at the beautiful face of Lord Shiva and once again bowed to him, 'I am sorry my Lord!'

Lord Shiva smiled at Indra, 'Indra! You had made me very angry...I was actually tempted to open my third eye and burn you to ashes...! Indra shivered as he realized how close to death he had come...

'...But then when you fell at my feet, asking for forgiveness...I could not just hold any grudge against you...! Lord Shiva said as he shook his head. 'But my anger was quiet another thing...'

Indra looked at Shiva and asked wonderingly, 'What was the thing that came out of you, my Lord?'

Lord Shiva looked at Indra wondering whether he would understand, 'That was a personification of my anger...Because I was not willing to use it against you...my anger was dragged away from me...It is now inside the ocean...!'

Lord Indra once again asked Lord Shiva for forgiveness and went back to his palace a wiser man...However that was just the beginning of the problems of Indra...

Lord Shiva being a very powerful person, his anger was very potent, When all his anger was deposited in the ocean waves, the anger immediately transformed into a young baby! The baby wailed and wailed...Lord Brahma the God of creations, heard the cries of the

baby and came there. He picked up the baby in his arms. The baby he found was extraordinarily heavy.

As Lord Brahma picked up the baby, he felt the tiny hands of the baby pluck at his beard. The force with which the baby tugged at his beard was great, that Lord Brahma nearly cried out! Wiping the tears from his face, Lord Brahma looked at the child and said, 'You are very strong...You have brought 'jala' [water] in my eyes, by your strength... For this I name you Jalandhara [One who brings water].

As Jalandhara grew up, he became more and more proud of his strength. He realized that he could defeat anyone with his strength. The Gods hoped that Jalandhara would join them and they could make use of his strength. However Jalandhara had other ideas. He wanted to become the leader of the Asuras.

When he came of a marriageable age, Jalandhara went to a very powerful asura by name Kalanemi. Kalanemi was Ravana's [the nemesis of Rama – the hero of Ramayana] uncle. Kalanemi had a beautiful daughter by name Vrinda. Vrinda was extremely intelligent and she was a very great devotee of Lord Vishnu.

Impressed with Jalandhara's strength, Vrinda agreed to marry him. So Vrinda and Jalandhara were married a few days later.

Because of her devotion to Lord Vishnu, Vrinda had enormous amount of yogic powers. Vrinda loved her husband with all her heart and because of her, Jalandhara became powerful and invincible.

Shukracharya, the Guru of the Asuras, realized how powerful Jalandhara had become after his marriage to Vrinda. He decided to crown Jalandhara, the king of the Asuras. The Asuras also willingly followed the powerful Jalandhara. Soon Jalandhara ruled over the whole earth. All the kings on earth were defeated by the powerful Jalandhara.

Soon Jalandhara set eyes on Indra's heaven. Up in the heavens, Indra and the other Devas, were totally unaware of Jalandhara's plans. With an element of surprise, Jalandhara attacked the Devas. The Devas unable to protect themselves, were routed.

The Devas did not know what to do. Even Indra's Vajra, which was the most powerful weapon they had...they could not even hurt

Jalandhara. All the Devas went to Lord Brahma. Lord Brahma looked at Devas and spoke to them. He told them all about the birth of Jalandhara and finished by telling them, 'Jalandhara was born out of the anger of Lord Shiva, so he can be defeated only by Lord Shiva..!'

Indra said, 'If we go and ask Lord Shiva and talk to Jalandhara...do you think it will work..!'

Lord Brahma looked doubtful but he nodded his head, 'We will have to ask him, but Jalandhara has become so arrogant, I doubt whether Lord Shiva can make him see sense..!'

Agreeing to the requests of the Devas, Lord Shiva went to talk to Jalandhara. However Jalandhara was so arrogant that he openly insulted Lord Shiva!

Jalandhara yelled at Lord Shiva, 'You call yourself an ascetic...How dare you? If you are an ascetic, why do you need a wife...Send Goddess Parvathi away...You don't need a wife and claim to be yogi at the same time..!'

With great difficulty Lord Shiva curbed his anger and tried to talk sense to Jalandhara. However Jalandhara became more and more haughty and turned down Lord Shiva's offer for peace.

Lord Shiva went back to Kailash and told the Devas all that had happened between him and Jalandhara. Lord Shiva finished by saying, 'I am afraid, we need to destroy Jalandhara...he had become too arrogant...I will lead you to battle.'

The Devas cheered. If Lord Shiva himself lead them to battle, they were assured of victory.

However the next day, Lord Shiva found that Jalandhara was very powerful. He had both physical strength and he also had the power of illusion....Lord Shiva found Jalandhara to be a very strong...

Jalandhara used all his powers and created a powerful illusion to trap Lord Shiva, his gana and the Devas. Not expecting the attack, Lord Shiva and the others were stunned as they were struck inside the illusion.

Seeing Lord Shiva and the others struck inside the illusion, Jalandhara went to Kailash, where he saw Goddess Parvathi....Jalandhara smiled slyly as he used his powers and changed his form like Lord Shiva.

Jalandhara went to meet Goddess Parvathi looking like Lord Shiva, 'Parvathi! I have come back victorious...I have defeated Jalandhara...'

Goddess Parvathi looked at Lord Shiva and frowned at him. She felt something was wrong....She closed her eyes and used her powers to sense who was before her...

When Parvathi opened her eyes...she was angry...!Jalandhara! You dare come here in my husband's form...!' She walked up and picked up her sword and pointed it at him.

Jalandhara knew that Goddess Parvathi was a very strong warrior, as good as her husband. He was already weak from his powers of illusion and his fight with Lord Shiva. He knew he could not fight Goddess Parvathi now...He ran from there...

Goddess Parvathi was sitting there furious, when Lord Vishnu came there. 'Parvathi! What is wrong...?'

Goddess Parvathi told Lord Vishnu everything. 'How can Jalandhara be so powerful...?'

Lord Vishnu said, 'Jalandhara was already powerful...He has now married Vrindha...She is my greatest devotee...Every time Jalandhara goes to war, she prays to me. She gets a lots of powers by her prayers. It is because of her that Jalandhara is becoming invincible...'

Goddess Parvathi looked at Lord Vishnu. Lord Vishnu looked at Goddess Parvathi, with troubled eyes. He knew what he had to do...But could he do such a thing to his own devotee....Lord Vishnu unhappily walked out of there and went back to Vaikunta. He knew he had no choice but to do what he had to do....

The next morning, as Vrinda knew that her husband would begin his battle with Lord Shiva, she started her prayers for his welfare. As she was deep in her meditation, she saw someone enter her room. She opened her eyes and was startled to find her husband before her. She blinked as Jalandhara came before her and told her with pride, 'I have done it....I have defeated Lord Shiva...Now there is no one as

strong as me....' He said with pride as Vrinda thanked Lord Vishnu. She stopped her prayers to prepare for the celebrations for her husband's victory.

It was at that minute at the battlefield between Lord Shiva and the real Jalandhara that Lord Shiva stabbed Jalandhara straight in the chest with his trishul. Without her wife's prayer to protect him, the weapon pierced into his body, killing Jalandhara then and there.

Back in Jalandhara's palace, Vrinda felt something wrong as she looked at her husband...She had felt something bad happen to her husband...But her husband was standing before her...How was that possible....

She looked at the Jalandhara before her and said, 'Who are you? You are not my husband....Where is he?' Vrinda looked around her palace with tears, 'I stopped my prayers...My husband...What happened to him...?'

Jalandhara vanished from there and in his place stood Lord Vishnu... But Lord Vishnu was looking at Vrinda with unhappy eyes and sad face...

Vrinda looked at Lord Vishnu and glared at him and whispered, 'What have you done? How is my husband....?'

Lord Vishnu spoke quietly, 'Jalandhara is dead, Vrinda' Vrinda let out a wail as Lord Vishnu continued, 'Your husband was becoming invincible because of your prayers, Vrinda...As long as you were praying for him, nothing could defeat him...'

Vrinda shouted at Lord Vishnu, 'I believed you and you let me down...I loved my husband and you cheated me...You stood like a stone, while my husband was dying in the battle...for this I curse you...' Vrinda said in an angry voice, 'I curse you that you will be trapped in a stone...'

Lord Vishnu nodded his head in a melancholy manner. 'I accept your curse, Vrinda...But remember, it was also your duty to stop your husband, when he did anything wrong...Your husband was behaving arrogantly and hurting others...He went to the extent of going to asking Lord Shiva to give up Goddess Parvathi...'

Vrinda looked at Lord Vishnu with wide fearful eyes as Lord Vishnu continued, '...Still nothing happened to him, because your prayers protected him...'

Vrinda looked heartbroken as she fell down. Vrinda breathed her last...Lord Vishnu was beside her looking at the dead face of his greatest devotee...

Lord Shiva and the Devas came and found Lord Vishnu sitting heartbroken beside a dead Vrinda. Lord Shiva came and told Lord Vishnu, 'Please do not grieve for her. She will be reborn as Tulsi...one of the greatest medicinal plants in the world...None of your prayers shall ever be complete without worshiping you with Tulsi leaves...'

Due to the curse, it is believed that the spirit of Lord Vishnu was captured in the stones near the river Gomti called as 'Saligram'. These stones are considered as sacred because they are representations of Lord Vishnu. It is also believed that Vrinda cursed Lord Vishnu to be separated from his wife and it was because of this curse that Rama [Vishnu's avatar] was separated from Sita when she was kidnapped by Ravana, the King of Lanka.

4. The Red Moon

There was once a little grey planet that was very sad. The people living there hadn't looked after it, despite them having all the inventions and space ships you could ever need. They had contaminated the whole countryside so much with rubbish and pollution that there were no plants or animals left.

One day, a little boy was walking on the planet, when he passed a cave and noticed a small red flower inside. The flower was very sick - almost dying - so the boy carefully dug up the flower, with roots, soil and everything. Then, he started looking for a place where he could look after it. He searched all over the planet, but everywhere was so contaminated that there was no place the flower could possibly live in. Then he looked up at the sky and noticed the moon. It seemed to the boy that maybe the plant could survive there.

So the little boy put on his astronaut suit, and climbed into a space ship. He put the little red flower in the back, and off they went to the moon.

Far away from all that pollution - and with the boy visiting it every day to tend it – the flower started to grow. The flower was so well cared for, that it had soon germinated, giving birth to others, and these other flowers spread onto other flowers. Before long, the whole moon was completely covered with flowers.

That's why, whenever the little boy's flowers open up, for a few minutes the moon takes on a soft red sheen, like a warning light. Maybe it's telling us that if you don't look after your planet, a day will come when flowers will only be able to grow on the moon.

Reference: <http://freestoriesforkids.com/children/stories-and-tales/red-moon>

Skit

Topics

1. Ecological imbalance – Man the Culprit
2. Environment
3. The Cow
4. Gajendra Moksha
5. Ganesha Tulasi

Class - III

Oratorical

Topics

1. Trees
2. "Promote go Green"
3. Afforestation
4. Protect Wildlife
5. Rehabilitate Tigers

Poems

1. Save Trees

- Aayushi Mishra

Our best friends are trees,
As they give us shade for free
In the shade we all can play flutes,
And eat lots of yummy fruits.
They give fodder for cattle,
Enough for them, so they cannot battle.
Birds rest on their boughs,
And under the shades rest the cows.
The fresh air goes to men,
Very necessary gas, called oxygen.
They give wood for woodcutter to sell,
And the flower give us a pleasant smell.
But in spite of of so many things given by trees,
We still cut trees.
Don't cut trees!
Save trees!
Plant trees!

Reference: <https://commentsbyaayushi.wordpress.com/2012/09/08/save-trees-poem-by-me/>

2. Trees

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

Reference: <http://www.poemhunter.com/poems/tree/page-1/16350/>

3. Trees In The Garden

Ah in the thunder air
how still the trees are!

And the lime-tree, lovely and tall, every leaf silent
hardly loses even a last breath of perfume.

And the ghostly, creamy coloured little tree of leaves
white, ivory white among the rambling greens
how evanescent, variegated elder, she hesitates on the green grass
as if, in another moment, she would disappear
with all her grace of foam!

And the larch that is only a column, it goes up too tall to see:
and the balsam-pines that are blue with the grey-blue blueness of
things from the sea,
and the young copper beech, its leaves red-rosy at the ends
how still they are together, they stand so still
in the thunder air, all strangers to one another
as the green grass glows upwards, strangers in the silent garden.

Reference: <http://www.poemhunter.com/poems/tree/page-1/18291442/>

4. The Trees

"Trees are sacred beings.
He who knows how to speak to them
and listen to them learns the truth.
They do not preach doctrines,
they do not give formulas.
They speak without focusing
on the details of
the original law of life."

Reference: http://www.conservationdevelopment.net/Projekte/ADayOfAdventure/en/20_Sample_Stories.pdf

5. Save The Forest

S-hed me oh trees with your leaves as I rest
A-rc your branch with the birds on its nest
V-anish the light that scourge my face
E-vergreen is all over the place
T-hink of me always as I grow old
H-ear my grandchildren as they reserve you as a gold
E-vermore, your beauty will never be a foretold
F-orestall thy thief that filch your bounty

O-ppugn the lifter by your torn and claw
R-estraint the loggers that break the law
E-ndanger creatures may always dwell
S-carcity and famine will never swell
T-oday, tomorrow and forever

Reference: <http://www.lotofpoems.com/save-the-forest/>

Stories

1. The Boy and a Tree

A long time ago, there was a huge apple tree. A little boy loved to come and play around it everyday. He climbed to the treetop, ate the apples, took a nap under the shadow.. he loved the tree and the tree loved to play with him. Time went by.. the little boy had grown up and he no longer played around the tree every day.

One day, the boy came back to the tree and he looked sad. 'Come and play with me' the tree asked the boy. 'I am no longer a kid, I do not play around trees any more' the boy replied. 'I want toys. I need money to buy them.' 'Sorry, but I do not have money.. but you can pick all my apples and sell them. So, you will have money.' The boy was so excited. He grabbed all the apples on the tree and left happily. The boy never came back after he picked the apples. The tree was sad.

One day, the boy who now turned into a man returned and the tree was excited 'Come and play with me' the tree said. 'I do not have time to play. I have to work for my family. We need a house for shelter. Can you help me?' 'Sorry, but I do not have any house. But you can chop off my branches to build your house.' So the man cut all the branches of the tree and left happily. The tree was glad to see him happy but the man never came back since then. The tree was again lonely and sad.

One hot summer day, the man returned and the tree was delighted. 'Come and play with me!' the tree said. 'I am getting old. I want to go sailing to relax myself. Can you give me a boat?' said the man. 'Use

my trunk to build your boat. You can sail far away and be happy.' So the man cut the tree trunk to make a boat. He went sailing and never showed up for a long time.

Finally, the man returned after many years. 'Sorry, my boy. But I do not have anything for you anymore. No more apples for you' the tree said. 'No problem, I do not have any teeth to bite' the man replied. 'No more trunk for you to climb on' the tree said. 'I am too old for that now' the man said. 'I really cannot give you anything.. the only thing left is my dying roots' the tree said with tears. 'I do not need much now, just a place to rest. I am tired after all these years' the man replied. 'Good! Old tree roots are the best place to lean on and rest, Come, come sit down with me and rest.' The man sat down and the tree was glad and smiled with tears..

Moral: The tree is like our parents. When we were young, we loved to play with our Mum and Dad.. When we grow up, we leave them.. only come to them when we need something or when we are in trouble. No matter what, parents will always be there and give everything they could just to make you happy. You may think the boy is cruel to the tree, but that is how all of us treat our parents. We take them for granted we don't appreciate all they do for us until it's too late.

Reference: <http://www.moralstories.org/the-giving-tree/>

2. The Travellers and The Plane Tree

Two men were walking along one summer day. Soon it became too hot to go any further and, seeing a large plane tree nearby, they threw themselves on the ground to rest in its shade. Gazing up into the branches one man said to the other,

"What a useless tree this is. It does not have fruit or nuts that we can eat and we cannot even use its wood for anything."

"Don't be so ungrateful," rustled the tree in reply. "I am being extremely useful to you at this very moment, shielding you from the hot sun. And you call me a good-for-nothing!"

Moral: All of God's creations have a good purpose. We should never belittle God's blessings.

3. Lord Ganesha And Goddess Parvati:

This Lord Ganesha story for kids would teach them that they have to take care of animals in a gentle way.

One day child Ganesha was playing with a cat and was tormenting the animal by pulling his tail and throwing him on the ground.

He left the cat and went to Mount Kailash to meet his mother Goddess Parvati.

He was shocked to see her wounded.

When he asked her about it, his mother replied that it was his action that caused the wound. As she was playing with him as a cat.

She also said that it is unfair to treat animals cruelly and Ganesha was sorry for injuring the cat.

Moral: Animals have every right to live in this world, just as humans do. So do not cause any injury or ill treat any animal.

Skit

Topics

1. Any Jataka Tale / scenes from the lives of any Indian Rainbow Warrior / Green Activist
2. Save Trees
3. Protect Wildlife
4. Conserve Forest

Class - IV

Oratorical

Topics

1. Pollution
2. Environment
3. Ganga pollution
4. Himalayas
5. Water, the Elixir of Life

Poems

1. On The Nature Of Love -- Rabindranath Tagore

The night is black and the forest has no end;
a million people thread it in a million ways.
We have trysts to keep in the darkness, but where
or with whom -- of that we are unaware.
But we have this faith -- that a lifetime's bliss
will appear any minute, with a smile upon its lips.
Scents, touches, sounds, snatches of songs
brush us, pass us, give us delightful shocks.
Then peradventure there's a flash of lightning:
whomever I see that instant I fall in love with.
I call that person and cry: 'This life is blest!
For your sake such miles have I traversed!'
All those others who came close and moved off
in the darkness -- I don't know if they exist or not.

2. Nature's art

Beautiful is the smile
That catches every glimpse
No wonder its Nature's art
Sign of the Happy Heart

Sweet are the Fruits that trees bear
Green is the Grass, the land may wear
No wonder its Nature's art
Sign of the Happy Earth

Walking the paths of life apace
Trying to make your own space
Fulfilling the dreams that are innate
Heart is where inner feelings originate

Strong, deep roots hold high trees
Grow free and bounty, as One sees
Seasons change and nothing is strange
Everything change and age

What seems truly beautiful
Needs to be beautiful within

What flourishes and nourishes everything
Needs to be flourished and nourished

Reference: <http://www.poetryinnature.com/nature/poetry.asp?poem=5685>

3. Water

- Aayushi Mishra

It is a precious thing,
Worth uncountable pounds of gold,
It is very huge and
It is very old.
OH! Yes it is water, the precious thing,
We use it for many purposes,
Whether it is drinking it,
Or whether it is washing the car with hoses.
We use it carelessly,
We have started wasting it,
By us, the lamp of hot sun
And drought is lit.
It is a precious thing,
But we use it
As if it is useless
And it is only needed to keep us fit.
Oh! This is wrong friends,
It is really very wrong,
For when all of it will be polluted,
You will sadly hum this song-
"Oh! Water why wasted you?
Oh! Water why didn't I save you?
Please Oh! Holy saint!
Make water pure and clean again."

Reference: <https://commentsbyaayushi.wordpress.com/2012/12/11/water-poem/>

4. The Earth

The grasslands stretch as far as the eye can see,
As flat as anything can be,
Unending fields of corn and wheat,
Yielding huge harvests that none can beat,
Feeding millions of homes and hearth,
Prairies are the wheat basket of the earth!

Long ago, bisons and grizzlies roamed these lands,
Red Indians fought in war bands,
Cowboys roped in cattle from far and wide,
With time, things changed with the tide.
It is all part of history,
To many it seems a mystery,
Of times when the prairies were unspoilt and pure,
But nature here was tamed by man for sure.

The prairies are still a beautiful sight,
Glowing gold and auburn in the morning light,
Flowers bloom and sway in the wind of the morning,
As winter frost gives way to a glorious spring.

Reference: <http://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/the-prairies#ixzz3oLdM6kHM>

5. Seashore - Gitanjali : Rabindranath Tagore

On the seashore of endless worlds children meet.
The infinite sky is motionless overhead
and the restless water is boisterous.
On the seashore of endless worlds
the children meet with shouts and dances.
They build their houses with sand
and they play with empty shells.
With withered leaves they weave their boats
and smilingly float them on the vast deep.
Children have their play on the seashore of worlds.
They know not how to swim, they know not how to cast nets.
Pearl fishers dive for pearls, merchants sail in their ships,
while children gather pebbles and scatter them again.
They seek not for hidden treasures, they know not how to cast nets.
The sea surges up with laughter
and pale gleams the smile of the sea beach.
Death-dealing waves sing meaningless ballads to the children,
even like a mother while rocking her baby's cradle.
The sea plays with children,
and pale gleams the smile of the sea beach.
On the seashore of endless worlds children meet.
Tempest roams in the pathless sky,
ships get wrecked in the trackless water,
death is abroad and children play.
On the seashore of endless worlds is the
great meeting of children.

Reference: <http://www.schoolofwisdom.com/history/teachers/rabindranath-tagore/gitanjali/>

Stories

1. Story Of Mudavan Muzhukku

A lame man who wanted to have dip in the Holy River Cauvery during Thula month took a strenuous journey - but he could not make it to Mayilaaduthurai before the end of the month - he was one day late (i.e. the Tula month ended the day before). Nadha Sharma and his wife Anavidyambikai came to this place for the Cauvery bath-Thula Snanam. Before they arrive at the place, the 30 days time (Thulamasa -October-November) expired. They sadly stayed at the night worshipping Lord Shiva. Lord appeared in their dream and advised them to have the bath before sunrise the next day and assured that they would have full benefit of theThula Snanam bath. Based on this, the practice of this bath continues even now on the first day of Karthikai month. As Lord Shiva froze the bath time for His devotee couple, this bath is called Mudavan Muzhukku. Mudakku in Tamil means freezing, Muzhukku bath

2. Lord Ganesha And River Kaveri:

This story of Lord Ganesha is a favorite one among kids. Once upon a time, Sage Agastya sought the blessings of Lord Brahma and Shiva.

The sage wished to create flowing river in a suitable location to offer water to the southern lands. The Gods, listening to his prayers, had his kamandalu filled with sacred water.

The Sage then reached the Coorg Mountains. On his way, he spotted a small boy and requested him to take good care of his pot containing water as he needed to for the nature's call.

The small boy was none other than Ganesha and he placed the small pot on the ground as he felt that location was perfect for a river and it is also worshipped (On Adi 18th Day)

Then a crow landed on this pot and Sage Agastya shooed off the bird. The crow flew off tipping the pot to the ground and spilled off some water.

This water formed River Kaveri and is considered as a sacred river.

Moral: Every action happens for a good cause. So do not be worried even if something bad happens in your life, eventually there will be a good ending.

Skit

Topics

1. Conserve Water
2. Ecological imbalance
3. Preserve Environment
4. Save the green Earth

Class - V

Oratorical

Topics

1. Respect Women
2. Women's Education.
3. Women's Philosopher
4. Women's Righteousness
5. Women symbolism goddesses of Prosperity Valour knowledge
6. Vivekananda on "Women's Reverence"

Poems

1. Thoughts Of You

Memories of another time still come
To me and fill my mind, with thoughts
Of you when you were young. I lie awake
'Till the morning sun comes creeping
Through my window shade, as I dwell upon
Mistakes I've made. What I would give to
Go back in time and feel your little
Hand in mine. To cherish each fast and
Fleeting day. To hold you close and kiss
Away, each pain that life will have in
Store and try to give you so much more.

You are part and will always be, imbedded in the soul of me. While I'm
Here, I want to say, that I've loved you
Each and every day and when my time on
Earth is gone.

The privilege was mine to have been your Mom.

Source: <http://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/memories-of-being-your-mom-thoughts-of-you#ixzz3oQbYkHZw>

2. A Poem For Mom

You are the sunlight in my day,
You are the moon I see far away.
You are the tree I lean upon,
You are the one that makes troubles be gone.
You are the one who taught me life,
How not to fight, and what is right.
You are the words inside my song,
You are my love, my life, my mom.
You are the one who cares for me,
You are the eyes that help me see.
You are the one who knows me best,
When it's time to have fun and time to rest.
You are the one who has helped me to dream,
You hear my heart and you hear my screams.
Afraid of life but looking for love,
I'm blessed for God sent you from above.
You are my friend, my heart, and my soul
You are the greatest friend I know.
You are the words inside my song,
You are my love, my life, my Mom.

Reference:<http://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/a-poem-for-mom#ixzz3oQcG2UtP>

3. Mother's Sacrifice

A mother's love you may never explain
Like the beauty of the setting sun
It matters not how little she has
Often leaves herself undone

For many a hungry face I know
Not for a day or two,
This was my mother's daily sacrifice
We have silently learnt to endure

There is no better mom, I have ever known
Who sacrificed both great and small
A mother's denial, is an honest sacrifice,
For it teaches love best of all.

Reference: <http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/a-mother-s-sacrifice/>

4. Mother

For all the things you have done
Every morning rose the sun.
Off to work you would go.
At home love to us you show.

For all the sacrifices you have made
Keeping us warm when you were in the shade.
So many things I have put you through
So many things I wish I could undo.

To you I owe my life
for you have sacrificed
all your dreams and hopes
to help me fly and be my support rope.

Without you I wouldn't know what to do
But this I know is absolutely true
Mother, Mom, Ma I love you

Source: <http://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/for-all-you-have-done#ixzz3oQdRBSiG>

5. Women's Sacrifice

The pain, the hurt, the loneliness.
The suffering and the disappointment.
All that females sacrifice,
all that they bear.
No one and anything compares
to the devotion she portrays.
With every breath and every strength
and every bit of her being-
does her blood and her heart
beat for her love.

Reference: <http://www.everypoet.net/poetry/blogs/raaz/sacrifice>

Stories

1. Mirabai's Love For Shri Krishna

Approximately 500 years ago, the kingdom of Rajasthan was the land of warriors, sages, sadhus, and kings. It was at this time; Princess Mirabai was born (1478). Her mother passed away when she was very young and her father, Ratan Singh, was very busy with the kingdom. Growing up at her grandfather's palace, Mirabai was deeply devoted to Krishna Bhagwan. After Mirabai's grandfather passed away, her uncle became the new king. He arranged her marriage with Prince Bhoj Raj, the eldest son of Rana Sanga of the Rajput kingdom of Mewar. This was the most prominent and powerful Rajput kingdom in the early 16th century. But Mirabai was not interested in the status, rich silks, and jewels that her new family had to offer. She was interested instead, in performing bhakti of Shri Krishna, whom she referred to as 'Girdhar'.

Mirabai's new family viewed her intense devotion to God as a problem. She refused to worship her husband's family goddess because she only knew of one God – Shri Krishna Bhagwan. To offer her devotion to Shri Krishna Bhagwan, she would sneak out of the palace and go to the village mandir. Her father-in-law was not happy with this and tried to kill her with a poisonous drink. Not knowing it was poisonous, she drank the entire glass. But her love and devotion to Shri Krishna was such that he saved her from the effects of the poison. When her father-in-law passed away, Mirabai was coronated as the queen. Even as the queen, she continued to visit the village mandir. It was at this mandir that Mirabai met her guru, Raidas, who further inspired Mirabai's devotion. Raidas was deeply moved by her devotion. He gave her an ektaro as a gift, which she played when she sang her kirtans. Due to this, she was subjected to even more hardship and punishment. After her husband died, Mirabai was locked up in her room. The difficulties became unbearable and began to come in the way of her devotion. She then decided to leave the palace for good and set off on a pilgrimage to Mathura, Vrundavan and Dwarka.

Mirabai was a born poet. She expressed her deep devotion to Shri Krishna. With her ektaro in hand, she sang hundreds of kirtans that she composed each full of piety, love, and dedication. Even today many people still sing her kirtans. Although she was a queen, she traded all her riches to worship Shri Krishna Bhagwan.

2. Kannagi

(Kannaki) a legendary Tamil woman is the central character of the South Indian epic Silapathikaram. Legend has it that Kannagi took revenge on the King of Madurai, for a mistaken death penalty imposed on her husband Kovalan, by cursing the city with disaster.

Kovalan, the son of a wealthy merchant in Kaveripattinam, married Kannagi, a young woman of legendary beauty. They lived together happily in the city of Kaveripattinam, until Kovalan met the dancer Madhavi and fell in love with her. In his infatuation he forgot Kannagi and gradually spent all his wealth on the dancer. At last, penniless, Kovalan realised his mistake, and returned back to Kannagi. Their only asset was a precious pair of anklets (Chilambu - hence the name of the epic), filled with gems, which she gave to him willingly. With these as their capital they went to the city of Madurai, where Kovalan hoped to recoup his fortunes by trade.

The city of Madurai was ruled by the Pandya King Nedunj Cheliyan - 1. Kovalan's objective was to sell the anklets in this kingdom so that he and his wife would be able to start their lives over. Unfortunately, around the time he set out to sell the anklets, one anklet (out of a pair) was stolen from the queen, by a greedy court member. This anklet looked very similar to Kannagi's. The only difference was that Kannagi's were filled with rubies and the queen's filled with pearls, but this was not a visible fact. When Kovalan went to the market, he was accused of having stolen the anklet. He was immediately beheaded by the King's guards, without trial. When Kannagi was informed of this, she became furious, and set out to prove her husband's innocence to the King.

After setting fire to Madurai City, Kannagi on her way to Kodungalloor in Kerala, gave "Darsan" to the natives at Attukal in Thiruvananthapuram. They constructed a Temple at Attukal. It is

also believed that Devi finally reached Kodungalloor and settled at Kodungalloor Devi Temple south of Guruvayoor. The events related to Kannagi have high influence in the traditions and culture of Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

Perceptions of Kannagi

Kannagi (Kannaki Amman) is eulogized as the epitome of chastity and is still worshipped as its goddess. She is praised for her extreme devotion to her husband in spite of his adulterous behaviour. She is worshipped as Goddess Pathini in Sri Lanka by the Sinhalese Buddhists, Kannaki Amman by the Sri Lanka Tamils Hindus' and as Kodungallur Bhagavathy (Kodungallur Devi / Kodungallur Amma) and Attukal Bhagavathy (Attukal Devi / Attukal Amma) in South Indian state Kerala.

It must be noted that Kannagi is also viewed as a brave woman who could demand justice directly from the King and even dared to call him "Unenlightened King". The point here is that while she was behaving in a non-interfering manner with her domestic problems, she was no meek woman that would brook injustice in the rule of the law.

3. The Story of Sati Savitri

Savitri was the beautiful daughter of a wise and powerful king. The fame of Savitri's beauty spread far and wide, but she refused to marry, saying that she would herself go out in the world and find a husband for herself. So the king chose the best warriors to protect her, and the princess wandered throughout the country searching for a prince of her choice.

One day she reached a dense forest, where dwelt a king who had lost his kingdom and fallen into his bad days. Old and blind he lived in a small hut with his wife and son. The son, who was a handsome young prince, was the sole comfort of his parents. He chopped wood and sold it in the countryside, and bought food for his parents, and they lived in love and happiness. Savitri was strongly drawn towards them, and she knew her search had come to an end. Savitri fell in love with the young prince, who was called Satyavan, and was known for his legendary generosity.

Hearing that Savitri has chosen a penniless prince, her father was heavily downcast. But Savitri was hell-bent on marrying Satyavan.

The king consented, but a saint informed him that a fatal curse laid upon the young prince: He is doomed to die within a year. The king told her daughter about the curse and asked her to choose someone else. But Savitri refused, and stood firm in her determination to marry the same prince. The king finally agreed with a heavy heart.

The wedding of Savitri and Satyavan took place with a lot of fanfare, and the couple went back to the forest hut. For a whole year they lived happily. On the last day of the year, Savitri rose early and when Satyavan picked up his axe to go into the forest to chop wood she requested him to take her along, and the two went into the jungle.

Under a tall tree, he made a seat of soft green leaves and plucked flowers for her to weave into a garland while he chopped wood. Towards noon Satyavan felt a little tired, and after a while he came and lay down resting his head in Savitri's lap. Suddenly the whole forest grew dark, and soon Savitri saw a tall figure standing before her. It was Yama, the God of Death. "I have come to take your husband," said Yama, and looked down at Satyavan, as his soul left his body

When Yama was about to leave, Savitri ran after him, and pleaded Yama to take her too along with him to the land of the dead or give back the life of Satyavan. Yama replied, "Your time has not yet come, child. Go back to your home." But Yama was ready to grant her any boon, except Satyavan's life. Savitri asked, "Let me have wonderful sons." "So be it", replied Yama. Then Savitri said, "But how can I have sons without my husband, Satyavan? Therefore I beg of you to give back his life." Yama had to give in! Satyavan's body came back to life. He slowly woke up from the stupor and the two gladly walked back to their hut.

So strong was the single-minded love and determination of Savitri that she chose a noble young man for her husband, knowing that he had only a year to live, married him with all confidence. Even the God of Death had to relent, and bowed to her love and devotion

Skit

Topics

1. Women's Sacrificiation
2. Women's courage
3. The achievements of women
4. Women's education

Class - VI

Oratorical

Topics

1. " I Love my motherland"
2. National War heroesa
3. India – A Developing Nation
4. Protect, Preserve, Nation's Pride
5. My Dream Country

Poems

1. Blessings

- Swami Vivekananda

The Mother's heart, the hero's will,
The softest flowers' sweetest feel;

The charm and force that ever sway
The altar-fire's flaming play;

The strength that leads, in love obeys;
Far-reaching dreams, and patient ways,

Eternal faith in Self, in all,
The light Divine in great, in small;

All these and more than I could see,
Today may 'Mother' grant to thee!

Reference:https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?id=197356133695375&story_fbid=183593051777885

2. India Is My Country

India is my country
we all are its boundary
we have to protect it from terrorist robbery
India is my country
we live here with peace
we don't want piece
which will separate us from each
India is my country
we have the temple of gold
we have body such a bold
we will defeat our enemy who will come in our peaceful road.

Reference: www.desicommments.com/poems/poems/patriotic-poems/

3. Mother India

When the sun comes ,nature smiles
when the moon comes, darkness cries
But at happy and sorrow ,at misery and grievence you are their
mother following like the shadow all the way looking after me till the
grave
the beauty of my mother land is none compared to anyother land
the purity of your love is more precious than sacred amruta
the kindness of your heart cannot be expressed as the universe is vast
GOD should hate ,having created you so great
the diamond that shines becomes lazy before your eyes
But today the glory of my mother ,becoming prey for other
everyone have their way,vampires have their sway
none to see your welfare,everywhere became warfare
BUT.....MOTHER..... my eyes ,search for you
my mind thinks of you
and my heart ,beats for you forever.....
forever.....
jai hind

Reference: <http://www.desicommments.com/poems/poems/patriotic-poems/page/2/>

4. To India

- Sarojini Naidu

O YOUNG through all thy immemorial years!
Rise, Mother, rise, regenerate from thy gloom,
And, like a bride high-mated with the spheres,
Beget new glories from thine ageless womb!

The nations that in fettered darkness weep
Crave thee to lead them where great mornings break
Mother, O Mother, wherefore dost thou sleep?
Arise and answer for thy children's sake!

Thy Future calls thee with a manifold sound
To crescent honours, splendours, victories vast;
Waken, O slumbering Mother and be crowned,
Who once wert empress of the sovereign Past.

Reference: <http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/to-india/>

5. Mind Without Fear

- Rabindranath Tagore

Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;
Where knowledge is free;
Where the world has not been broken up
into fragments by narrow domestic walls;
Where words come out from the depth of truth;
Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;
Where the clear stream of reason
has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;
Where the mind is led forward by thee into ever-widening thought
and action -
Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake.

Reference: http://www.kidsgen.com/rhymes_and_poems/tagore_poems.htm#X3edxqb5eHJEdzcj.99

6. My India - Swami Yogananda, paramhansa

Better than Heaven or Arcadia

I love thee, O my India!

And thy love I shall give

To every brother nation that lives.

God made the Earth;

Man made confining countries

And their fancy-frozen boundaries.

But with unfound boundless love

I behold the borderland of my India

Expanding into the World.

Hail, mother of religions, lotus, scenic beauty,
and sages!

Thy wide doors are open,

Welcoming God's true sons through all ages.

Where Ganges, woods, Himalayan caves, and
men dream God -

I am hallowed; my body touched that sod

Reference:http://www.kidsgen.com/events/indian_independence_day/poems.htm#GeehgFUfYpCXv40o.99

Stories

1. Story of a great Indian Patriotic Legend

There was a boy of age 12 in the year 1918 during the freedom struggle. His name was Chandrashekhar Tiwari.

Once the boy was sitting in the class. After some time he heard the slogans from outside. He took the permission from his teacher and went outside to see what was happening. He saw a sage leading some group. Then he came to know that it was a freedom movement. Suddenly there was a change in the situation. He saw some British officer attacked the crowd and hit the sage. This young patriotic boy who was observing all this was angry to see all this did not keep quiet.

He took a stone in his hand and hit the British officer. The policemen attacked the boy to catch. But he escaped from the place.

The next morning the police went to Chandrashekhar's school and arrested the young boy. He was submitted to court. The judge asked the boy to tell his name. The brave boy told his name as "Azad" which means freedom. The judge was shocked. He asked the boy to tell his father's name. The boy replied saying "Swadheenata". Then the judge with anger asked his last question, "Tell your address". The boy laughed and replied that he likes to be in jail and that was his permanent address. Then the judge gave him the punishment to beat the boy with the wet rope made up of leather by a fat healthy person 12 times. The boy told that it was a shame for his act to get only 12 so asked the judge to increase the punishment. But the judge refused and the boy was taken to the place where he should be beaten.

There the boy was made naked and the man started beating. It was so hard that the boy's skin was tore. But the boy did not have tears but cried loudly "Vande Mataram". For every beat his voice increased.

After the 12 beats the jailor returned the boy's dress. But the boy could not wear because the body was bleeding. The flesh had come out. He was given 12 paise to put bandage. The boy told to give the money to queen Victoria and tell her that it was given by a young Indian patriot with a strong passion for his nation's Pride.

The boy was none other than the great legend "Chandrashekhar Azad".

2. The King and The Spider

Vikram was a brave king. Once, he had to fight against a large army with just a few soldiers, he was defeated. He had to run for his life.

Vikram took shelter in a forest cave. He was very depressed. His courage had left him. He was blankly gazing at the ceiling of the cave. An interesting scene captured his attention.

A small spider was trying to weave a web across the cave ceiling. As the spider crawled up, a thread of the web broke and the spider fell down. But the spider did not give up. He tried to climb again and again. Finally, the spider successfully climbed up and completed the web.

Vikram began to think, "If a small spider can face failure so bravely, why should I give up? I will try with all might till I win". This thought gave strength to the defeated king.

Vikram got out of the jungle and collected his brave soldiers. He fought against the large army. He was defeated again. But now, he would not give up his fight.

Vikram again and again fought against the large army and finally, after many attempts defeated the large army and regained his kingdom. He had learnt a lesson from the spider.

MORAL: Perseverance paves way to success.

Skit

Topics

1. Bio – sketch of any Param Vir Chakra Awardee on his / her notable deeds.
2. Is patriotism relevant in a globalised world?
3. National War heroes
4. Param Veer chakras
5. What does it mean to be a patriotic Indian?

Param Vir Chakra Recipients

1. Nirmal Jit Singh Sekhon (December 14, 1971)
2. Sanjay Kumar (July 5, 1999)
3. Karam Singh (October 13, 1948)
4. Abdul Hamid (September 10, 1965)
5. Yogendra Singh Yadav (July 4, 1999)
6. Jadu Nath Singh (February 6, 1948)
7. Piru Singh Shekhawat (July 17, 1948)
8. Albert Ekka (December 3, 1971)
9. Hoshiar Singh (December 17, 1971)
10. Arun Khetarpal (December 16, 1971)

11. Ramaswamy Parameshwaran (November 25, 1987)
12. Somnath Sharma (November 3, 1947)
13. Ardeshir Burzorji Tarapore (October 15, 1965)
14. Manoj Kumar Pandey (July 3, 1999)
15. Bana Singh (May 23, 1987)
16. Joginder Singh (October 23, 1962)
17. Rama Raghoba Rane (April 8, 1948)

National symbols of India

1. National flag - A horizontal rectangular tricolor with equally sized deep saffron at the top, white in the middle and India green at the bottom. In the center is a navy blue wheel with twenty-four spokes, known as the Ashoka Chakra.
2. National emblem - An adaptation of Lion Capital of Asoka at Sarnath
3. National calendar - Saka calendar
4. National anthem - Jana Gana Mana by Rabindranath Tagore
5. National song - Vande Mataram by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
6. National flower - lotus
7. National fruit - Mango
8. National river - Ganga
9. National tree - banyan
10. National animal - Bengal tiger
11. National aquatic animal - River dolphin
12. National bird - peacock
13. National currency - Indian Rupee

Class - VII

Oratorical

Topics

1. Inculcating moral values in children at the right time
2. My Favourite Teacher
3. Indian Culture and Heritage
4. Teacher a Shilpi
5. Unfathomable Love of Parents
6. Guru Dakshina
7. The role of a teacher in a child's life

Poems

Avvaiyar

1. True virtue is to lead a harmonious family life;
it is even better if it is beyond others' blame.

Thirukurral

2. One who lives worldly life the way it ought to be lived
will be treated on par with the Gods inhabiting the heavens.
3. With smiling face he entertains each virtuous guest,
'Fortune' with gladsome mind shall in his dwelling rest. Lakshmi with
joyous mind shall dwell in the house of that man who, with cheerful
countenance, entertains the good as guests.
4. All household cares and course of daily life have this in view.
Guests to receive with courtesy and kindly acts to do. The whole
design of living in the domestic state and laying up (property) is (to
be able) to exercise the benevolence of hospitality.

5. The men of household virtue, firm in way of good, sustain the other orders three that rule professed maintain. He will be called a (true) householder, who is a firm support to the virtuous of the three orders in their good path.

Stories

1. The Wooden Bowl

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The family ate together at the table. But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth.

The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. "We must do something about father," said the son. "I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor." So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl! When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometime he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food.

The four-year-old watched it all in silence.

One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, "What are you making?" Just as sweetly, the boy responded, "Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up." The four-year-old smiled and went back to work .

The words so struck the parents that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done.

That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk

spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.

Moral: You reap what you sow. Regardless of your relationship with your parents, you'll miss them when they're gone from your life. Always Respect, Care for and Love them.

Reference: <http://www.moralstories.org/the-wooden-bowl/>

2. Love towards parents

Once upon a time there lived a boy named Shraavan Kumar. He had parents who were blind. He had to do all the work for them, since they could not see. Shraavan took great care and did everything for his mother and father with earnestness and love. He fulfilled every wish of his parents. One day his parents expressed their desire to go on a pilgrimage. Shraavan wanted to take them carried them an a sling device like a balance, to carry them on his shoulders. His parents were pleased that their only son was fulfilling their wish. During the journey, Shraavan managed to get them some roots and fruits from the forest. They ate them and never accepted corn or cereal offered by anyone else. They were on a pilgrimage and wanted to eat simple food offered only by their son.

While on pilgrimage they arrived in a forest near Ayodhya. His parents were thirsty and requested Shraavan to get water to quench their thirst. Shraavan Kumar took a vessel to fetch water from the river Sarayu. He left his parents and went to the banks of the river.

Dashrath was the king of Ayodhya and he was fond of hunting. He had come to the forest alone to hunt. He had a unique skill of shooting a mark with his arrow from where he heard the sound. As soon as Shraavan Kumar dipped the vessel to fill water, Dashrath thought it was the sound of a deer drinking water. He received the arrow precisely, aiming at the place from where the sound came. The arrow pierced into Shraavan. He gave out a cry and fell on the ground.

On hearing the moaning sound, King Dashrath came to the place to see who it was. He saw an innocent boy crying in pain. The vessel was lying on the ground. His body was all splashed with blood and mud. When King Dashrath saw this young boy, he became very sad and started cursing himself.

When Shraavan saw the king, he told him, O, King! Please don't worry. I came to take water for my parents. They are thirsty. I am in severe

pain. Please pull out this arrow and take some water to my parents and tell them the sad news. The king sadly removed the arrow and went to Shraavan's parents with water. He silently gave them water to drink, which they refused to accept unless the carrier revealed his identity. The parents had in fact grown suspicious of some foul play. Their intuition had warned them that the carrier was not their real son. He conveyed the message about the death of their son. Shraavan's old and blind parents were shocked and were in utter grief. They cried out loud and told the king to take them to their dead son. King Dashrath carried them on his shoulders to the place where Shraavan Kumar was dead. Just then, Shraavan Kumar spoke to his parents, Through my services to you I have attained a place in the heaven. Do not worry about me. I shall wait for you both and provide my service to both of you when you come to me.

Shraavan's mother and father both took a dip in the Sarayu River. Soon after, they died by their son Shraavan's side because of unbearable shock. But before dying they cursed Dashrath, Just as we are dying because of our son's loss, you would also die one day for the same reason, O' King. Their curse came true and King Dashrath died when Lord Ram was sent out in exile for fourteen years to the forest.

Reference: <http://www.balagokulam.org/kids/stories/shravankumar.php>

3. Ambarish And Durvasa

King Ambarish was an atmanivedi - a humble servant of the Lord. Both he and his queen were performing great austerities. For twelve months they had fasted on every ekadashi, not even drinking water. Their fast would end on Kartik sud 12. On the morning of the twelfth, Sage Durvasa and one hundred of his disciples arrived at King Ambarish's palace. Ambarish was overjoyed. He fell at their feet and welcomed them. He said, "Today my ekadashi fast ends, and on this day you have also graced my palace. Indeed, I am very fortunate! Please dine here today." Durvasa replied, "We'll first go to the river for a bath and then return."

Durvasa and his disciples went to the river. There is a saying, "Buffaloes, Brahmins and spinnach, have only to see water to be delighted!" And so Durvasa and his disciples bathed for a long time. But the sacred time for ending the fast was near. The king's Brahmins

advised him, "The muhurt is passing. It is best you eat and so end the fast." Ambarish said, "I shall eat when Durvasa returns." The Brahmins replied, "But it is getting late. Only a few moments are left now. If you eat afterwards you will not receive the fruits of your fast." Ambarish was troubled. But Brahmins are very clever.

They found an easy answer. They said, "Eat a sanctified tulsi leaf. In this way it can be said you have ended your fast, and yet it can also be said that you haven't eaten a meal!" On the Brahmins' advice Ambarish placed a tulsi leaf in his mouth. Just then Durvasa and his disciples arrived. They discovered that Ambarish had completed his fast in their absence. Durvasa never needs to search for anger.

It's always with him as his constant companion. He shouted, "Ambarish, you are known as a great devotee, yet you have no idea of how to treat your guests! Why did you eat alone without us!" Ambarish touched Durvasa's feet in apology. He said, "Only to safeguard the muhurt have I placed a leaf of tulsi in my mouth. The banquet is ready. Come, let us dine together."

But would Durvasa listen? No! He was the very incarnation of anger. Cursing Ambarish he cried, "You shall have to suffer the fruits of insulting me." Saying this he plucked a hair from his head and transformed it into a demoness. He commanded her to beat Ambarish. Now, Ambarish was truly a great devotee of the Lord. He stood with hands joined in humility. The Lord placed his special weapon the Sudarshan Chakra - in Ambarish's protection. The Sudarshan Chakra began to spin. Its bright light burnt the demoness to ashes. It then moved towards Durvasa to burn him as well. Durvasa saw this. He became frightened and shouting "traahi tobaa", clenched his fists and began to run for his dear life. The Chakra chased him everywhere.

Screaming "Paahi maam! Paahi maam!" Durvasa went to Lord Shiva and asked that he should be saved from the Sudarshan Chakra. Shiva replied, "I cannot turn the Chakra back. It belongs to Lord Vishnu. Go to him." For a whole year Durvasa ran. He finally went to Lord Vishnu crying. "Paahi maam! Paahi maam! Save me! Save me!" He begged, "Lord, I cannot suffer the light from your Sudarshan Chakra anymore. I'm burning. Please call the Chakra off." God said, "Durvasa, once my

Chakra has been thrown at a person it never returns without killing him. I have no solution." Durvasa began to weep.

God said to him, "No good will be done by weeping. But yes, there is one way of saving yourself." "Lord! Quick tell me." "But will you be able to do it?" "Lord, if my life can be saved anything and everything will be done!" said Durvasa, in a humble voice. God explained to Durvasa, "You have insulted my devotee, Ambarish. Humbly go to him and fall at his feet. If he forgives you then the Chakra will return to Me." In a time of great need we may even address a donkey as 'father!' To live, Durvasa had no other option. And so after a year of battering, Durvasa went to Ambarish. From the moment Durvasa had run away, with the Chakra chasing him King Ambarish had remained standing at the place he had been insulted. He had not eaten or drunk anything. "Paahi maam! Paahi maam!" cried Durvasa. He fell at King Ambarish's feet. Ambarish pulled his feet away and raised Durvasa. He said, "King of Sages, your falling at my feet is not right." Durvasa replied, "Ambarish, you are a true devotee of the Lord. I have insulted you. Please forgive me. Save me from the Sudarshan Chakra." King Ambarish prayed to the Sudarshan Chakra and said, "If the love and respect I have for Durvasa at this moment are the same as they were when he first came to my palace, then, Oh Sudarshan Chakra! Please return to the Lord." The Sudarshan Chakra returned to Lord Vishnu at once.

Durvasa was tremendously relieved. Then both he and Ambarish together went to the banquet hall. The Lord cannot tolerate an insult thrown upon a great devotee of His. So never take fault with any devotee. Being humble before such a devotee pleases the Lord.

Reference: <http://www.swaminarayan.org/yogijimaharaj/talesofwisdom/36.htm>

4. The story of the great Shibi chakravarti

Shibi chakravati was the son of Ushinara maharaja. Shibi was a maha-daata and his daanam gunam was praised by many in the 14 bhuvanas. Devendra and Agnideva once wanted to test the greatness of Shibi's daana gunam. Agnideva took the form of a Kapotam (pigeon). Devendra took that of a Grudhra (vulture).

The Kapotam, which was chased by the Grudhra, came to Shibi chakravarti's sabha and pleaded "Sharanam, Sharanam O maharaja!".

Seeing this, a Raja-purohita said “Maharaja! With praana-bhayam this Kapotam came to your sharanam. Every jeevi has praana-preeti. Also there is no greater uttama-karma than Praana-rakshana. However we know that giving aashrayam to a Kapotam is a mrutyu-suuchakam. Hence prayashchittam will be necessary”.

Kapotam replied “Maharaja! Afraid of the Grudhra I have asked you sharanam. Actually I am a mahamuni, now in this rupam. Vedas say that a raja must protect the diina and asamartha”. The Grudhra, which reached the sabha by then, said “Maharaja! Every jeevi takes many forms. This jeevi came to your sharanam in the Kapota rupam. Dont forget that Kapotam is aahaaram for a Grudhra. Please leave this Kapotam, which is my aahaaram, and save my life”.

Shibi chakravarti thought “In a Desham ruled by a king who does not give abhayam to a sharanaarathi who has praana-bhayam, there will be no rains, no crops and it will be the nilayam for Kshaama-devata. Also the people will have to face many difficulties and finally such king will reach narakam.

However, the Grudhra is with hunger and has put in a lot of effort chasing its aahaaram. Taking away food from its mouth is also a paapa-karyam. Now what should I do?”.

Shibi: O Grudhra! I will give you a better, tastier aahaaram than this. Please leave this Kapotam.

Grudhra: Maharaja! No other thing can be tastier than this maamsam. It was decided by Brahmadeva that they are aahaaram for us.

Shibi: O Grudhra! I cannot leave this Kapotam that is in my sharanam and do Dharma-haani. I am also ready to leave my life to save that of the Kapotam. All lokas also know this. You ask me whatever you want except this.

Grudhra: Maharaja! If you are really such a dayaamaya, give me the maamsam from your right thigh which is equal in weight to that of the Kapotam.

Immediately Shibi chakravarti got a balance and kept the Kapotam on one side and started to cut his thigh and weigh it. Howmuch ever he cut it was not enough. He tried cutting maamsam from his right thigh, then he himself sat on the balance. Grudhra said “enough. I am going” and went away. Seeing this Shibi chakravarti asked “O

Kapotama! Who are you? What is your story?"

"Maharaja! I am Agnihotra. This Grudhra is Devendra, We came to test your Sharanaagata-rakshana, Daana-shakti. You qualified it. Your keerti will spread to Bhuvana-bhuvanaantaras. Your son will also keep your name" said the Kapotam and flew away.

Because Shibi did his shariira Daanam to save the life of a sharanaagati, we now also remember him. Whenever people talk about maha-daatas, his name will surely be taken.

Morals : The Daana-gunam and Dharma-rakshana of Shibi must be learnt by all of us. The knowledge of the Dharma-shastras helped Shibi decide what to do in the difficult situation.

Drama

Topics

1. Rama & Lakshmana,
2. Ravana & Vibheeshana
3. Sugreeva & Vaali
4. Mathru Devo Bhava Pitru Devo Bhava Acharya Devo Bhava

Group Discussion

Topics

1. Mathru Devo Bhava, Pitru Devo Bhava ,Acharya Devo Bhava
2. How does the life of your generation differ from that of your grandparents
3. Family Influences on the Development of a Child's Behaviour
4. Are traditional family values really important for child development?
5. Respect for teachers is essential for society
6. How the Gurukul System of Education can make a difference?

Essay Writing

Topics

1. Role of Family in Inculcating Values
2. Importance of Knowledge in Life
3. Indian Culture and Heritage
4. The role of a teacher in a child's life

Poetry Writing

Theme:

Inculcate Family and Human Values – Respect to Teachers Parents and Guests

The participants has to write a poem related to the theme

Story Writing

Theme:

Inculcate Family and Human Values – Respect to Teachers Parents and Guests

The participants has to write a story related to the theme

Class - VIII

Oratorical

Topics

1. Preserve "Cow"
2. "Gomatha" Divine Mother
3. Elephant
4. Medicinal Value of Tulasi

Poems

1. Poetry in Action (like a dance drama) A narrator reads out a poem appropriate to the theme. Others mime)

2. Elephant

Nizim Ezekiel

Elephant the sheer size of you;
Your body loose and round .
Able to protect your territory,
Able to stand your ground.

Your ears spanned out ;
Like a frogs foot.
Webbed and rounded too,
Your veins long and spread out like a flowers root.

Elephant the sheer size of you;
Your body loose and round.
Able to protect your territory,
Able to stand your ground.

Small and beaded;
Is each eye.
Bright and blinking slowly,
With them you watch the world go by.

Elephant the sheer size of you;
Your body loose and round.
Able to protect your territory,
Able to stand your ground.

Your legs like two pieces of upholstery;
Stiff and upright.
Used alot by day,
Rested at night.

Elephant the sheer size of you;
Your body loose and round.
Able to protect your territory,
Able to stand your ground.

Reference: <http://www.sandaigprimary.co.uk/Pivot/pivot/entry.php?id=263&w=elephants#body>

3. The elephant

The tusks are as
sharp as a sword and
as thick as a table leg.

Stamp stamp stamp
comes the elephant
down the street.

The trunk as bendy
as a slinky and as big
as a black board.

The tail is as wavy
as the sea and as
thin as a light strip.

Stamp stamp stamp
comes the elephant
down.

His ears are as warm
as a coal fire very
hot.

Stamp stamp stamp
comes the elephant
down the street.

Reference: <http://www.sandaigprimary.co.uk/Pivot/pivot/entry.php?id=252&w=elephants#body>

Stories

1. King Dileepa and Nandini

There once lived a king whose name was Dileepa. Dileepa was taught by the great Sage Vasishtha and he was quick learner. He mastered the art of warfare, diplomacy and state administration in no time. Dileepa then became the king of Ayodhya. He was a just king and was loved by all. There was peace and prosperity in his kingdom and the people loved him. Dileepa was also courageous and valiant.

King Dileepa looked after his subjects like they were his own children. However the King and his Queen Sudhakshina had one worry. The king was getting old and he had no children. The King was worried that no one would look after the kingdom after he was gone...

So he and his wife went to Sage Vasishtha. Sage Vasishtha was the royal sage-teacher of the Dileepa's kingdom. He was a Brahmarishi [the person who has attained the highest level of knowledge]. King

Dileepa felt that if anyone could solve his problem, it was Sage Vasishtha.

King Dileepa knew that he could not take his entire army to see the sage as it would disturb the peace of the ashram. So he and his wife alone went to see the Sage.

The sage was very happy on seeing King Dileepa and his queen. He welcomed the royal couple and gave them fruits and milk. After the king and the queen had eaten, Sage Vasishtha asked, 'Dileepa, what a pleasant surprise! You have come after such a long time and that too without your army or your personal guards. You look worried...Is everything all right in your kingdom....?'

Dileepa shook his head and said, 'Nothing is wrong with the kingdom, sir! With people like you to guide me, I seriously do not think anything can go wrong...'

Sage Vasishtha smiled at the king for his flattery. 'Then...what is the reason Dileepa?' He asked gently. The king looked at Sudhakshina who nodded her head encouragingly. The king drew a deep breath and continued, 'Sir! It is just that...With my wife's help, I have done my best to take care of my people as a king...But...'

Sage Vasishtha nodded his head as Sudhakshina took up and started speaking, 'Sir! What will happen to our kingdom after us sir...!' She said with anguish, 'We do not have any children, who can become the ruler after us...'

King Dileepa looked at the sage and said, 'We cannot just leave our people without a ruler sir! We need to have a child and train the child to rule the kingdom well...'

Queen Sudhakshina looked at the King and then at the sage and said, 'We have not knowingly caused any harm to anyone, but then we are still childless. We want to know the reason for this sir...'

Sage Vasishtha nodded his eyes and closed his eyes. In his mind's eye, he replayed everything he knew about the King. Then with the help of his Brahman Shakti [The Force around us] he came to know what was wrong...He opened his eyes as King Dileepa and Queen Sudhakshina looked eagerly at the Sage. The Sage smiled a little sadly, 'It is true King and Queen...You have lived an exemplary good life... But...'

The King and the Queen frowned and looked at each other and looked at the Sage. The Sage said, 'Dileepa, do you remember going to the heavens once to help Indra during a battle..!'

The King frowned and nodded, 'Yes sir..!'

The sage said, 'While you were there, the cow Kamadhenu was there near Indra's palace..!'

The king spoke flabbergasted, 'I never knew that..!'

The Sage nodded, 'Yes! That is the problem...You see Kamadhenu was there and you ignored her...She felt that you deliberately ignored her..!'

The king shook his head anxiously, 'No...!'

The sage nodded his head and held up his hands, 'Peace!' as the King immediately fell silent. 'It is because of Kamadhenu's curse, you are childless..!'

Queen Sudhakshina gasped looking at the king in alarm. She then turned to the Sage, 'Sir! My husband would never do such a thing purposely..!'

Sage Vasishtha said patiently, 'I believe you, my Queen...But Kamadhenu was very angry...Hence the curse..!'

Queen Sudhakshina looked at the sage, 'Is there any way the curse will be lifted?'

Sage Vasishtha smiled as his eyes twinkled, 'As a matter of fact, yes!' Both the king and queen looked at the sage with surprise as the sage continued, 'Kamadhenu has a daughter – Nandini, she lives here in my ashram..! The king and the queen looked around and did not see any cow as the sage continued, 'She is right now gone to the Kingdom of Varuna...! The king and the queen looked unhappy as the Sage continued, 'She is expected any minute...In fact..! The Sage said with delight, 'Look there she is! Nandini is coming back..!'

The king and the queen looked eagerly as they saw a majestic cow entering into the ashram. The Sage continued, 'King Dileepa and Queen Sudhakshina,' He said formally, 'Take care of Nandini, like you would look after your own child... I am sure that once you take care of Nandini, she would remove her mother's curse..'

The King and the Queen both looked at the Sage and fell on his feet. The sage blessed them.

The royal couple then went to see Nandini, in her cow shed. They fell on the Nandini's feet and the king said looking at the cow with love, 'I will look after you...Nandini...as well as I have looked after my own subjects...'

'Me too...' said the Queen.

The king and the queen stayed behind in the ashram. They sent word to their ministers that they would be staying in the ashram and asked their ministers to look after the affairs of the kingdom.

In the morning, the king and the queen woke up early. The queen worshiped the cow. The king then set out with the cow as the queen cleaned the cow shed. The king then washed the cow and took her out to graze. Though he was king, Dileepa did not mind grazing a cow. In fact he enjoyed it. The King felt proud that his wife who was the princess of Magadha before she had married him, did not mind cleaning the cow shed.

King Dileepa then followed the cow everywhere. He made sure that Nandini was well fed. King Dileepa slept where the cow slept, ate when the cow ate and took very good care of it.

When the king and Nandini returned to the ashram, the queen once again worshiped the cow and took good care of it till it slept for the night....

Twenty-one days passed like this...On the twenty-second day after Queen Sadhakshina finished her prayers, the king and Nandini set out. However this time, the cow did not go by the usual way. She went inside another forest and did not just stop there. She went deeper and deeper inside the forest. Dileepa was on alert, as he followed the cow.

There was a very beautiful tree, where Nandini stopped. She started grazing there. King Dileepa was just admiring the beauty of the forest, when he heard a loud roar. The king's eyes widened when he saw a ferocious lion aim for Nandini. The king tried reaching for his bows and arrows and surprises! - he could not even lift his arms. The king looked even more surprised, when the lion spoke to him, 'King! Go back! It is my duty to protect this tree! I will kill this cow, who is hurting this tree...'

The king was numb with astonishment and spoke slowly, 'Who are you? What is happening?'

The lion spoke again, 'This tree is Goddess Parvati's favourite tree... She gets very upset, if any one hurts this tree, so she sent me here to protect this tree...Now this cow has come here and I will kill it...'

The king was still unable to reach for his weapons, spoke slowly, 'Please do not do that...!' The king said desperately, 'It is my job to protect this cow...Nothing should happen to it...Please forgive the cow, if she has caused any damage to the tree..please..!'

The lion shook his head, 'No...King, you forget...I am a lion...It is my job to hunt other animals...If I just let every animal which comes to me, go away...How am I supposed to eat...!'

The king thought fast and spoke, 'Listen lion, king of the jungle... listen to me...You want some food, I am here.. let the cow go..You can eat me instead...!' The king said earnestly.

The lion almost laughed, 'You will sacrifice yourself for a cow?...!'

The king nodded, 'I am a king...I protect...not just people, I protect everyone, who comes to me for protection...This cow is my responsibility...Please eat me instead, let the cow go...!'

The lion looked puzzled at the king and spoke again, 'King Dileepa listen to me...Sage Vasishta would not be unhappy, if you told him that I had eaten the cow...You can still walk away from all this...!'

The king firmly shook his head, 'Please take me and let the cow go...!'

The lion looked at the firm king and finally nodded, 'OK...King..I will eat you and let the cow go...!' The lion was about to pounce, when the king closed his eyes. He knew it was over...But he was not too worried...He had done the right thing..He knew Sudhakshina would understand...She would rule after him...The king's only regret was that their kingdom did not have an heir...But the there was nothing he could do about that now...

The king opened his eyes, when he felt a garland on his neck. Surprised he opened his eyes to find that the lion was gone...It had just disappeared. The king turned around alarmed looking for Nandini and saw her calmly looking at him with a smile on her face.

The king breathed normally and sighed...He had to get Nandini home fast... The king found that he was also able to move. That was when Nandini spoke...

'I am pleased with your devotion...king...Your sense of duty astounds me...You were willing to sacrifice yourself for anybody under your protection...I am pleased with that..'

The king looked baffled as Nandini continued, 'Everything that you saw here, was a maya – an illusion created by me to test you....I am pleased to say, you passed..'

The king looked eagerly at Nandini as she smiled, 'Yes! Go home with your queen, Dileepa. My mother's curse is gone...You will have a son, which the whole world will look up to..'

The king bowed to Nandini. They went to the ashram that evening, where the king told everything to the queen. They worshiped Nandini. The next day with the permission of Sage Vasishtha, they left for their kingdom...

Sudhakshina gave birth to a fine son – Raghu. Raghu was also a fine ruler and great man, just like his father...Raghu had a son by name Aja, Aja's son was Dasaratha. Dasaratha had four sons – Ram, Lakshman, Bharat and Shatrughan – the heros of the Ramayana. Raghu, the son of Dileepa was such a great man, that the whole dynasty was named after him...Even now, Ram is sometimes called as Raghuvamshi which means from the ancestry of Raghu...

2. Jalandhara and Vrinda (The story of Tulsi)

The story of Tulsi, the medicinal plant, begins with Indra, the Lord of the Heavens.

Lord Indra, was the king of the Devas. But he realized that people no longer looked up to him at the main God. This worried him a lot. He knew that people now looked up at Lord Brahma, Lord Vishnu and Lord Shiva to guide them. Indra knew that he could not hope to confront Lord Brahma and Lord Vishnu. They were after all the Gods of Creation and of Preservation. But Indra could not understand, why people liked Lord Shiva. He was after all the God of destruction.

Indra was thinking. I will go and prove to the world that I am better than the Lord of Destruction, then people will look up to me too... However Indra had misunderstood...Lord Shiva was the Lord of Destruction...he destroyed all evil things in the world...he was the destroyer of the ego...the uncontrollable impulses inside us....

Indra went straight to Kailash and there wanted to meet Lord Shiva. However Lord Shiva using the power of his meditation, figured out that Indra was coming to meet him. Lord Shiva transformed himself to look like his gana and stood outside his door as a doorman. He stood there as Indra came.

'Let me in...doorman,' Indra said contemptuously at the doorman, without realizing who he was. 'I want to talk to Lord Shiva....and settle a matter once and for all...'

The doorman looked at Indra with amused eyes, 'What do you want to settle once and for all, Lord Indra?'

Indra looked loftily at the doorman, 'I want to prove that I am more powerful than Lord Shiva..! Indra said brandishing his Vajra angrily.

The doorman if anything looked even more amused. 'I am supposed to guard Lord Shiva...Why don't you first show your powers before me...If you win...You can meet Lord Shiva...'

Indra was angry. But then you could refuse to fight when somebody openly challenged you..He accepted.

Indra and the doorman fought. The doorman fought brilliantly. Indra watched as the doorman became more and more angry. The doorman finally pushed him back with a great deal of force...Indra was about to get up when he had a sudden flash. No ordinary doorman could just push him away...This doorman...Indra realized with fear that the doorman could be none other than Lord Shiva himself. The doorman was eyeing him with sharp eyes, as Indra slowly got up on his feet. Indra realized that he had already tired himself and Lord Shiva looked like he had not even started fighting...Indra knew that he could not hope to match with a power like that. He slowly went towards the doorman and fell at his feet. 'Lord Shiva! I am sorry! I did not realize how powerful you are...You have destroyed my pride...'

The doorman looked at Indra angrily for some time. The doorman closed his eyes and Indra saw as the doorman curbed his anger with great difficulty. Indra saw something fly out of the doorman - something fierce, red and burning. Once the thing emerged from the doorman, Lord Shiva appeared before Indra in his normal form. Indra looked at the beautiful face of Lord Shiva and once again bowed to him, 'I am sorry my Lord!'

Lord Shiva smiled at Indra, 'Indra! You had made me very angry...I was actually tempted to open my third eye and burn you to ashes...! Indra shivered as he realized how close to death he had come...

'...But then when you fell at my feet, asking for forgiveness...I could not just hold any grudge against you...! Lord Shiva said as he shook his head. 'But my anger was quiet another thing..'

Indra looked at Shiva and asked wonderingly, 'What was the thing that came out of you, my Lord?'

Lord Shiva looked at Indra wondering whether he would understand, 'That was a personification of my anger...Because I was not willing to use it against you...my anger was dragged away from me...It is now inside the ocean...'

Lord Indra once again asked Lord Shiva for forgiveness and went back to his palace a wiser man...However that was just the beginning of the problems of Indra...

Lord Shiva being a very powerful person, his anger was very potent, When all his anger was deposited in the ocean waves, the anger immediately transformed into a young baby! The baby wailed and wailed...Lord Brahma the God of creations, heard the cries of the baby and came there. He picked up the baby in his arms. The baby he found was extraordinarily heavy.

As Lord Brahma picked up the baby, he felt the tiny hands of the baby pluck at his beard. The force with which the baby tugged at his beard was great, that Lord Brahma nearly cried out! Wiping the tears from his face, Lord Brahma looked at the child and said, 'You are very strong...You have brought 'jala' [water] in my eyes, by your strength... For this I name you Jalandhara [One who brings water].

As Jalandhara grew up, he became more and more proud of his strength. He realized that he could defeat anyone with his strength. The Gods hoped that Jalandhara would join them and they could make use of his strength. However Jalandhara had other ideas. He wanted to become the leader of the Asuras.

When he came of a marriageable age, Jalandhara went to a very powerful asura by name Kalanemi. Kalanemi was Ravana's [the nemesis of Rama – the hero of Ramayana] uncle. Kalanemi had a beautiful daughter by name Vrinda. Vrinda was extremely intelligent and she was a very great devotee of Lord Vishnu.

Impressed with Jalandhara's strength, Vrinda agreed to marry him. So Vrinda and Jalandhara were married a few days later.

Because of her devotion to Lord Vishnu, Vrinda had enormous amount of yogic powers. Vrinda loved her husband with all her heart and because of her, Jalandhara became powerful and invincible.

Shukracharya, the Guru of the Asuras, realized how powerful Jalandhara had become after his marriage to Vrinda. He decided to crown Jalandhara, the king of the Asuras. The Asuras also willingly followed the powerful Jalandhara. Soon Jalandhara ruled over the whole earth. All the kings on earth were defeated by the powerful Jalandhara.

Soon Jalandhara set eyes on Indra's heaven. Up in the heavens, Indra and the other Devas, were totally unaware of Jalandhara's plans. With an element of surprise, Jalandhara attacked the Devas. The Devas unable to protect themselves, were routed.

The Devas did not know what to do. Even Indra's Vajra, which was the most powerful weapon they had...they could not even hurt Jalandhara. All the Devas went to Lord Brahma. Lord Brahma looked at Devas and spoke to them. He told them all about the birth of Jalandhara and finished by telling them, 'Jalandhara was born out of the anger of Lord Shiva, so he can be defeated only by Lord Shiva...'

Indra said, 'If we go and ask Lord Shiva and talk to Jalandhara...do you think it will work...'

Lord Brahma looked doubtful but he nodded his head, 'We will have to ask him, but Jalandhara has become so arrogant, I doubt whether Lord Shiva can make him see sense..'

Agreeing to the requests of the Devas, Lord Shiva went to talk to Jalandhara. However Jalandhara was so arrogant that he openly insulted Lord Shiva!

Jalandhara yelled as Lord Shiva, 'You call yourself an ascetic...How dare you? If you are an ascetic, why do you need a wife...Send Goddess Parvathi away...You don't need a wife and claim to be yogi at the same time..'

With great difficulty Lord Shiva curbed his anger and tried to talk sense to Jalandhara. However Jalandhara became more and more haughty and turned down Lord Shiva's offer for peace.

Lord Shiva went back to Kailash and told the Devas all that had happened between him and Jalandhara. Lord Shiva finished by saying, 'I am afraid, we need to destroy Jalandhara...he had become too arrogant...I will lead you to battle.'

The Devas cheered. If Lord Shiva himself lead them to battle, they were assured of victory.

However the next day, Lord Shiva found that Jalandhara was very powerful. He had both physical strength and he also had the power of illusion....Lord Shiva found Jalandhara to be a very strong...

Jalandhara used all his powers and created a powerful illusion to trap Lord Shiva, his gana and the Devas. Not expecting the attack, Lord Shiva and the others were stunned as they were struck inside the illusion.

Seeing Lord Shiva and the others struck inside the illusion, Jalandhara went to Kailash, where he saw Goddess Parvathi....Jalandhara smiled slyly as he used his powers and changed his form like Lord Shiva.

Jalandhara went to meet Goddess Parvathi looking like Lord Shiva, 'Parvathi! I have come back victorious...I have defeated Jalandhara...'

Goddess Parvathi looked at Lord Shiva and frowned at him. She felt something was wrong....She closed her eyes and used her powers to sense who was before her...

When Parvathi opened her eyes...she was angry...'Jalandhara! You dare come here in my husband's form...!' She walked up and picked up her sword and pointed it at him.

Jalandhara knew that Goddess Parvathi was a very strong warrior, as good as her husband. He was already weak from his powers of illusion and his fight with Lord Shiva. He knew he could not fight Goddess Parvathi now...He ran from there...

Goddess Parvathi was sitting there furious, when Lord Vishnu came there. 'Parvathi! What is wrong...?'

Goddess Parvathi told Lord Vishnu everything. 'How can Jalandhara be so powerful...?'

Lord Vishnu said, 'Jalandhara was already powerful...He has now married Vrindha...She is my greatest devotee...Every time Jalandhara goes to war, she prays to me. She gets a lots of powers by her prayers. It is because of her that Jalandhara is becoming invincible...'

Goddess Parvathi looked at Lord Vishnu. Lord Vishnu looked at Goddess Parvathi, with troubled eyes. He knew what he had to do...But could he do such a thing to his own devotee....Lord Vishnu unhappily walked out of there and went back to Vaikunta. He knew he had no choice but to do what he had to do....

The next morning, as Vrinda knew that her husband would begin his battle with Lord Shiva, she started her prayers for his welfare. As she was deep in her meditation, she saw someone enter her room. She opened her eyes and was startled to find her husband before her. She blinked as Jalandhara came before her and told her with pride, 'I have done it....I have defeated Lord Shiva...Now there is no one as strong as me....' He said with pride as Vrinda thanked Lord Vishnu. She stopped her prayers to prepare for the celebrations for her husband's victory.

It was at that minute at the battlefield between Lord Shiva and the real Jalandhara that Lord Shiva stabbed Jalandhara straight in the chest with his trishul. Without her wife's prayer to protect him, the weapon pierced into his body, killing Jalandhara then and there.

Back in Jalandhara's palace, Vrinda felt something wrong as she looked at her husband...She had felt something bad happen to her husband...But her husband was standing before her...How was that possible....

She looked at the Jalandhara before her and said, 'Who are you? You are not my husband....Where is he?' Vrinda looked around her palace with tears, 'I stopped my prayers...My husband...What happened to him...?'

Jalandhara vanished from there and in his place stood Lord Vishnu... But Lord Vishnu was looking at Vrinda with unhappy eyes and sad face...

Vrinda looked at Lord Vishnu and glared at him and whispered, 'What have you done? How is my husband....?'

Lord Vishnu spoke quietly, 'Jalandhara is dead, Vrinda' Vrinda let out a wail as Lord Vishnu continued, 'Your husband was becoming invincible because of your prayers, Vrinda...As long as you were praying for him, nothing could defeat him...'

Vrinda shouted at Lord Vishnu, 'I believed you and you let me down...I

loved my husband and you cheated me...You stood like a stone, while my husband was dying in the battle...for this I curse you...! Vrinda said in an angry voice, 'I curse you that you will be trapped in a stone..!'

Lord Vishnu nodded his head in a melancholy manner. 'I accept your curse, Vrinda...But remember, it was also your duty to stop your husband, when he did anything wrong...Your husband was behaving arrogantly and hurting others...He went to the extent of going to asking Lord Shiva to give up Goddess Parvathi..!'

Vrinda looked at Lord Vishnu with wide fearful eyes as Lord Vishnu continued, '...Still nothing happened to him, because your prayers protected him...!'

Vrinda looked heartbroken as she fell down. Vrinda breathed her last...Lord Vishnu was beside her looking at the dead face of his greatest devotee...

Lord Shiva and the Devas came and found Lord Vishnu sitting heartbroken beside a dead Vrinda. Lord Shiva came and told Lord Vishnu, 'Please do not grieve for her. She will be reborn as Tulsi...one of the greatest medicinal plants in the world...None of your prayers shall ever be complete without worshiping you with Tulsi leaves..!'

Due to the curse, it is believed that the spirit of Lord Vishnu was captured in the stones near the river Gomti called as 'Saligram'. These stones are considered as sacred because they are representations of Lord Vishnu. It is also believed that Vrinda cursed Lord Vishnu to be separated from his wife and it was because of this curse that Rama [Vishnu's avatar] was separated from Sita when she was kidnapped by Ravana, the King of Lanka.

3. Tulasi devi becomes a plant

Pastimes involving pure devotees are only for the benefit of conditioned souls in the material world. This pastime, given in the Padma purana and in the Brahma-vaivarta purana involving Tulasi devi reveals this clearly.

Once Tulasi devi descended as the daughter of King Kushadvaja. She was married to Jalhandara. It is said that Samudra deva the demigod

controlling the nether regions had Lakshmi devi as a daughter (since she appeared from him at time of the churning of the ocean) and Jalandara (one who is born from water).

Jalandara was married to Tulasi devi and drew strength from her purity and chastity. So firm was her chastity that even Lord Shiva could not defeat Jalandara in battle and all the demigods went to Lord Vishnu for help.

At this time, Lord Vishnu went to Tulasi devi assuming the form of her husband, Jalandara. When Tulasi devi greeted Him, thinking Him to be her husband, her chastity was momentarily broken. Taking advantage of this the demigods killed Jalandara.

When Tulasi devi understood what happened, Lord Vishnu revealed His original form. An enraged Tulasi devi cursed Lord Vishnu for His stone hearted behavior to become a stone. Honoring His pure devotee, Lord Vishnu accepted this curse and promised to appear as the Saligrama shila in the Gandaki river (now in Nepal). He also gave Tulai devi the benediction that she will eternally reside with Him as His consort in Vaikuntha. He said that for the benefit of every one she will assume the form of a plant which will be most auspicious for anyone performing devotional service.

Thus devotees never offer anything to Krishna without a Tulasi leaf. He always adorns Himself with a Tulasi garland. The goddess of fortune, Laksmi, is sometimes envious of the Tulasi leaves which are placed at the lotus feet of the Lord, for they remain fixed there and do not move, whereas Laksmiji, although stationed by the chest of the Lord, sometimes has to please other devotees who pray for her favor. Laksmiji sometimes has to go to satisfy her numerous devotees, but tulasi leaves never forsake their position, and the Lord therefore appreciates the service of the tulasi more than the service of Laksmi.

Reference: <http://www.salagram.net/Tulasi.htm>

4 . Ganesha and Tulsi

One day, Lord Ganesha sat on penance on bank of river Ganga and Tulsi came there. She fell in love with him and asked him to marry to her. Lord Ganesha replied, "Marriage is great source of trouble and so I cannot do it. I have vowed to remain celibate."

Tulsi took it as insult and cursed him, "You must get married against your wish."

On hearing, Ganesha became furious and cursed her, "You will be possessed by demon and then converted to plant."

Tulsi grew repentant and prayed Lord to take his curse back.

Lord Ganesha soften by her prayer and told, "Tulsi plant will be considered as supreme in plants. All gods love you especially you will be consider favorite to Krishana but you will be always unacceptable by me."

Then onward, Ganesha is offered by all Kinds of flowers and some types of Grass even but never Tulsi leaves.

After that, Tulsi as Vrinda married to demon king Jalandar. Jalandar became so powerful due to devotion to Vishnu such that even Lord Shiva could not defeat him. To trick Jalandar, Vishnu took form of Jalandar and destroyed Vrinda's chastity so Jalandar could be killed by Lord Shiva.

Vrinda became angry after knowing this and cursed Lord Vishnu, "you become black and You must be separated from your wife."

Due to curse Lord Vishnu turned to Black Stone, this form of lord is known as Shaligram. To come out from this curse, lord Vishnu transferred his soul to plant Tulsi and got married to her.

Reference: <https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-story-of-tulsi>.

Drama

Topics

1. Sri Ganesha and Tulasi
2. Kamadhenu cow
3. Gajendra Moksha
4. Bagawati Tulasi

Group Discussion

Topics

1. How to Protect the Ecosystem
2. How to Preserve Endangered Species and Ecosystems
3. Involving Youth In The Preservation Of The Ecosystem

Essay Writing

Topics

1. Medicinal uses of cow products
2. Save Elephant
3. Medicinal Plants

Poetry Writing

Theme: Preserve Ecology

The participants has to write a poem related to the theme

Story Writing

Theme: Preserve Ecology

The participants has to write a story related to the theme

Class - IX

Oratorical

Topics

1. Trees
2. Conserving forest
3. Protecting wildlife
4. Rehabilitating Tigers
5. "Deforestation" a Crime

Poems

1. A Tree Is Like Our Mother

A tree is like our mother,
whenever we play bestow its love and blessings on us.

It never let us fall,
as it treats as its own soul
It gives everything it can give
It provides us oxygen to live
fruits, vegetables to eat

Then why are we treating a tree in such a rude way
Why are we cutting trees like a hungry devil
It not only destroys our mother Earth but also,
Decreases our animals and humans life....

A tree that looks at god whole day
and join its leafy hand to pray that"save my life!"
we can save many lives by planting a single seed.
"PLANT TODAY TO LIVE TOMORROW"

Reference: <http://www.poetryinnature.com/nature/poetry.asp?poem=5760>

2. This is a fable you must hear

Of a cub who has no fear
He himself tells this story a part of his life
It appears his short life turned into a blunt knife
"I am the cub of king of the forest
I used to play with my dad and when tired had rest
We used to play hide n seek and sometimes fight
And I used to rest in his shadow during bright day light
But one day you human came
That day is still as a photo frame
Carrying 3 feet long pipe like thing
Having a hole in front like a ring
Suddenly something came out of it with a thud
And my father fell down in the river of his own blood
As you came I fled to my den
And you carried my father down the forest lane
I think you must have taken to get him well
And one day you will come to me and tell
That I could play with my dad again
As soon would come the rain
You must be living with your family now and then
But when will I be able to meet my father again
It's been 6 months you have taken him away from me
I hope you will come back soon and leave him free"

But alas! The cub is unaware
Of the inhuman acts without any feeling or tear
As his father's skin hangs on the wall
Of a rich man's huge hall
With its cost very high
Leaving the cub alone sad and every time with a sigh
But he still trusts every summer and rain
That he will rest in his dad's shadow once again
Once again.....

*This is a poem written just to promote awareness of the illicit killing of tigers without any thought of humanity and to make people understand that they have an equal right to live.

Reference: <http://yourstoryclub.com/poetry-and-poem/poem-save-tiger-heart-touching-fable/>

3. The Tree

Fair tree! for thy delightful shade
'This just that some return be made;
Sure some return is due from me
To thy cool shadows, and to thee.
When thou to birds dost shelter give,
Thou music dost from them receive;
If travellers beneath thee stay
Till storms have worn themselves away,
That time in praising thee they spend
And thy protecting power commend.
The shepherd here, from scorching freed,
Tunes to thy dancing leaves his reed;
Whilst his lov'd nymph, in thanks, bestows
Her flow'ry chaplets on thy boughs.

Shall I then only silent be,
And no return be made by me?
No; let this wish upon thee wait,
And still to flourish be thy fate.
To future ages mayst thou stand
Untouch'd by the rash workman's hand,
Till that large stock of sap is spent,
Which gives thy summer's ornament;
Till the fierce winds, that vainly strive
To shock thy greatness whilst alive,
Shall on thy lifeless hour attend,
Prevent the axe, and grace thy end;
Their scatter'd strength together call
And to the clouds proclaim thy fall;
Who then their ev'ning dews may spare
When thou no longer art their care,
But shalt, like ancient heroes, burn,
And some bright hearth be made thy urn.

Reference: <http://www.poemhunter.com/poems/tree/page-1/31221/>

4. Forest and Tree

"Four hundred year old trees,
who draw aliveness from the earth
like smoke from the heart of God,
we come, not knowing
you will hush our little want
to be big;

we come, not knowing
that all the work is so much
busyness of mind; all
the worry, so much
busyness of heart.

As the sun warms anything near,
being warms everything still
and the great still things
that outlast us

make us crack
like leaves of laurel
releasing a fragrance
that has always been.

Reference: <http://www.gardendigest.com/trees4.htm>

Stories

1. Time for Nature!

Once upon a time, there was a beautiful forest. There lived two trees, named Chintu and Pintu, who were brothers. Chintu and Pintu had many friends like the rabbit and his brothers, the group of monkeys, the family of birds, the Bunky bear and the wise old wolf.

One day, all the friends were chatting. Suddenly Pintu saw a WOODCUTTER coming towards the forest. Pintu said "Hey look a WOODCUTTER is coming towards the forest! Run! Run!" Chintu said to the animals. But no one ran. They said "You give us food, shelter, you give us fresh air to breathe. How can we leave you in danger and go?" Chintu and Pintu thanked them. "OK you all hide behind us" said the two brother trees. So the monkeys and the birds hid inside the leaves of the tree and the other animals hid behind the tree.

Woodcutter was very confused because there were many trees to cut. Suddenly he saw Chintu and Pintu, the huge trees. He said "Be ready to be cut you trees." The wise old wolf had already told his plan to animals. When the woodcutter came near the trees, the group of monkeys jumped on him and started imitating him, then the family of birds started pecking him, then the rabbit and his brothers started jumping around him and the Bunkey bear started roaring.

When all animals were busy at their work, the wise old wolf ran to the lion king. The wise old wolf told the king what he had to do. So they ran to where all the animals were. The king roared and the woodcutter ran for his life. Chintu and Pintu said "thank you".

Later the woodcutter thought "I never thought that trees give animals so many things like food, shelter etc..." and decided not to cut trees.

Friends this a message not to cut but plant more trees because there is less forest on our land and it is becoming less and less only. So please save forest.

Moral of the Story: Save Tree, Save Forest, Think for the Nature.

Reference: <http://yourstoryclub.com/short-stories-for-kids/time-for-nature/>

2. The Trees and the Lions

Far away from a kingdom there was a huge jungle. In that jungle, there were thousands of trees. Among them two were very good friends. They stood side by side. The same jungle was the home of many lions. Those lions used to kill other animals living in that jungle and eat them. The carcasses of the animals used to stink and a foul smell would hang in the air. The whole atmosphere was bad to live in.

One day, the two trees, who were friends, were talking. The first tree said, "These lions are polluting our jungle. We have to save our jungle from them. They must be driven out of this jungle."

"Yes," agreed the other tree.

A wise old tree, who was listening to the friends said, "They might be polluting the air. But these wild creatures are keeping us safe from woodcutters. No woodcutter will dare to come into the forest which has lions."

But, this advice did not go into the minds of the trees. The two friends decided to frighten the animals away. That evening, the two trees started shaking violently. "We will frighten the lions away. They will be so terrified that they will leave this jungle and never come back into this jungle," said the two friends and laughed aloud.

The whole forest echoed with their laughter. "Do not do that," shouted the wise tree.

But the two friends did not listen. They began moving in the wind and making eerie noises. All the other wild animals in the forest were scared, seeing the two trees and the sounds they were creating. "There is something happening in the forest. Let us run away," they said. All the animals fled the jungle.

The two friends were happy. "Huh! Now we can enjoy some fresh air," they said.

But their joy was short-lived. One day a woodcutter came to the forest and started felling the trees. "Now there is no fear of the ferocious lions," he muttered to himself. Soon there were other wood cutters. Seeing this, the wise tree said, "Now all of us will be doomed." The two friends cried out, "How foolish we have been. We should have listened to this wise tree."

A little later the two tree friends were brought down by the wood cutter's axe. The Trees and the lions are must.

Day by day, more and more trees were destroyed by many woodcutters.

Reference: <http://www.english-for-students.com/The-Trees-and-The-Lions.html>

3. The Trees Sacrifice

On the banks of a rocky river grew a majestic espave and a big leafy fig tree. One day they were surprised when they saw two engineers approach. These fellows, without permission, studied and measured the size and dimensions of the espave, with what seemed more like fatal probes than caresses. The executioners filled their books with large numbers and, with malevolent avarice they saw how their income would grow from the sale of the wood.

When the criminals departed, the espave, faced with the possibility of death,

looked at the fig for solidarity and hope.

– “Oh my good neighbour fig, no one tries to assassinate you nor carry you off in

pieces to the shops of the consumer society... I envy you my friend. Why don't

you tell me your secret so that I can avoid this fate?”

– “Oh my esteemed neighbour,” answered the fig, “only the devil can save you. He

is perhaps more sympathetic than these humans who approached your wide

trunk.”

– “Why do you speak to me of him at this hour of my agony? Don't you see how

I sweat sap and blood, my palate grows dry and my leaves turn pale when they

hear the roar of the axe and the saw.”

– “When I speak to you of my friend the devil, it is because with him I have had

good experiences when he visits me while I am blossoming on Good Friday. It is

the moment when the humans appear to collect my flowers with evil intentions.

The devil, as owner of this mystery, subjects the humans to an interrogation

before sealing an alliance. Some serve as nourishment to the buzzards, others

leave depraved with their souls belonging to Satan. They never return; that is why

you see me here obese and full of life. Perhaps my secret is that I sympathize with

the demon in search of souls. It is a value that you lack, because you are not in

unison with the animals of the forest.”

– “You are mistaken, neighbour fig, my fruit serve to nourish many birds and mammals, my foliage refreshes the river bank and builds its volume.”

– “But you are still lacking sufficient sympathy,” answered the fig. “You must give

shelter to the woodpecker, the squirrel, the bees and the toads in the plants at your

feet. That way, when the assassin woodcutters approach again, they will see you

damaged and so full of holes as to be useless to them.”

In this way the espave was convinced that the fig tree’s strategy really was logical. Gathering together some of the other forest inhabitants, he spoke of a master

plan to save himself from being cut down, and all his friends were united behind

him in a single purpose. And so the woodpecker drilled lots of holes in the

espave’s trunk, the squirrels gave birth to their babies in its deep foliage and the

frogs opened up their paths among the roots of the giant tree. Thus, the espave let

go of his egotism and sacrificed himself for his friends. When the loggers arrived,

they found that the magnificent tree was decayed and full of holes. The tree was

filled with all sorts of bugs and creatures. Even the devil, full of his tricks, lent a

hand. He caused the owl, sleeping in a deep hole in the tree, to fly out suddenly

startling the capitalist loggers who fled in a panic never to return.

The message is “Tree is the Saviour of all creatures”

Reference: http://www.conservation-development.net/Projekte/ADayOfAdventure/en/20_Sample_Stories.pdf

Drama

Topics

1. Afforestation the need of the hour.
2. Why to preserve wildlife?
3. Why to conserve forest?
4. How to save tigers?
5. Deforestation leads to destroy of lives.

Group Discussion

Topics

1. Why should forest be saved?
2. What are the steps taken to conserve forest?
3. What is meant by wildlife conservation?

Essay Writing

Topics

1. Afforestation
2. Conserving forest
3. Protecting wildlife
4. Rehabilitating Tigers
5. "Deforestation" a Crime

Poetry Writing

Theme : conserve forest and Protect Wild life

The participants has to write a poem related to the theme

Story Writing

Theme : conserve forest and Protect Wild life

The participants has to write a story related to the theme

Class - X

Oratorical

Topics

1. Sustain Environment
2. Ganga pollution
3. Mount Himalayas
4. Water
5. Global Warming
6. Pollution -a great threat

Poems

1. Nature

I open my eyes when the birds chirp
I feel the breeze that cause the trees to flatter
I swear it makes me feel so better
protect the earth
protect the nature

as the world only seems beautiful when its natural
i see the flowers grow around
i feel so blessed when i look around
pearls falling from the sky in the form of rain
helps me get relief from all my pain
let me see the rainbow
let me see it form
as the bright colours are so warm
protect the earth
protect the nature

as the world only seems beautiful when its natural
when the cool breeze hits my face
i know that winter is round the corner
excited for the blessing of snow
i wait as the wind blows
the whole world seems like heaven
i started making snowmen around seven
love amongst animals
is far more greater than humans
the bounties of God are too much
countless and matchless
the lush green world around me
is enough to please me
snow,hail and rain
how these occur?
its out of my brain
a smile i see over everyone's face
as the birds chirp
with beauty and grace
i see the sea
i wonder how it was made
i see the sky and the clouds that pass by
that's magnificent truly
protect the earth
protect the nature
as the world only seems beautiful when its natural

Reference: <http://yourstoryclub.com/poetry-and-poem/a-poetry-nature/>

2. Make It Green

Lives are crying because it's not clean,
Earth is dying because it's not green...

Earth is our dear Mother, don't pollute it,
She gives us food and shelter, just salute it...

With Global Warming, it's in danger,
Let's save it by becoming a strong ranger...

With dying trees and animals, it's in sorrow,
Make green today and green tomorrow...

With melting snow, one day it will sink,
How can we save it, just think...

Trees are precious, preserve them,
Water is a treasure, reserve it...

Grow more trees, make Mother Earth green,
Reduce pollution and make her a Queen...

Reference: <http://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/make-it-green#ixzz3oLfXMj2r>

3. Mother Earth

Mother earth, our mother earth
She is the one who gives us birth.
The tree, soils, mountains and hills
All are one by one getting killed.

Mother earth, our mother earth
She was once full of happiness.
Rivers, lakes, seas and wells
In this place many creatures dwell.

Mother earth, our mother earth
No one understands its worth.
People work with a lot of zeal.
Only to make money for their meals.

Mother earth, our mother earth
In the forests, we hear sweet birds chirp.
Trees are cut one by one.
But people on earth are planting none.

Mother earth, our mother earth
Oh! Stop filling it with with dirt.
We are destroying it no one other.
Save our mother earth.

Reference: <http://www.english-for-students.com/Mother-Earth.html>

4. Earth Day

I am the Earth
And the Earth is me.
Each blade of grass,
Each honey tree,
Each bit of mud,
And stick and stone
Is blood and muscle,
Skin and bone.

And just as I
Need every bit
Of me to make
My body fit,
So Earth needs
Grass and stone and tree
And things that grow here
Naturally.

That's why we
Celebrate this day.
That's why across
The world we say:
As long as life,
As dear, as free,
I am the Earth
And the Earth is me.

Reference: http://www.tooter4kids.com/classroom/earth_day_poems.htm

5. Our Earth

The Earth is ours to enjoy
For every little girl and boy.
But we must always be aware.
That all its beauty we must share
With all the children yet to come,
Who want to laugh and play and run
Around the trees and in the fields.

So we must keep our planet free
From messy trash and debris
With air that's clean and fresh and clear
For all to breathe from year to year.
We must never ever abuse
Our sweet Earth that's ours to use.

Reference: http://www.tooter4kids.com/classroom/earth_day_poems.htm

Stories

1. A Day With Mother Earth

"Uncle please take your money," I said giving him 50 Rupees note, he returned me 30 Rupees along with my parceled sandurich.
"Thank you," I gestured him with smile and headed towards station. I was so hungry that I couldn't control myself and started eating sandwich while walking on road.

Wow! What a spicy sandurich.

I threw the paper plate and newspaper that was used to parcel the sandurich on the road.

"Please save me," I heard a voice of girl "please please.. I am in problem". I turned around but I found no one, I searched her in two three buildings too but I failed. I then again marched towards station but with a fear.

"Help.. Help," again that girl shouted.

I was shaking in fear. I was biting my nails in nervousness and I started running as fast as possible. With every step I took, the volume of her voice increased even more. I couldn't control myself and started searching her everywhere I could.

There she was, sitting near the corner of the road. Her head was bent down on the knees, her dress was made up of wrappers, newspapers and shits of animals and humans and she was sobbing.

"Can I help you?" I asked her.

She lifted her head up.

Yukkkkk

She was a disaster. Her face had footprint of sandals and shoes as if someone has stamped on her face. Not only footprints but flies surrounded her entire body. She looked like a Dustbin. No, dustbin was much better than her. She was scary! I vomited looking at her.

"Who are you? Look at your condition!"

I was now afraid of her. I think she is a witch who is going to take me with her. No I think she is mentally ill. No, I think.. I can't even think of her.

"I am mother Earth," she replied.

"What?" I asked surprisingly. "I am Deepika Padukone".

"I am not joking child".

"Mother Earth is so beautiful, go and fool someone else. Before fooling, you should have googled for the image of mother earth. Haven't you seen how beautiful our mother earth is! Are you participating in any fancy dress competition? If yes then please don't tell them you are mother earth, they all will laugh at you. Tell them you are dustbin, yes! This name is perfect for you."

She kept quiet for few minutes. "Beautiful! Come out of your text book and google. I will show you how beautiful I (mother earth) am, and yeah dustbin is a proper name you gave me and you know what you people are responsible for making me look like dustbin."

"I don't believe you."

"Spend one day with me and you will surely believe me."

"Fine only one day not more than that."

"Where are you going?" she asked.

"I am going to take a train to my home."

"Fine, let's walk together."

We both offered a serious look to each other and started walking.

"What is this?" she asked pointing towards the ground.

"Land."

"Have your so called teacher 'google' have taught you that earth is made up of land and water?"

"Yes."

"Great, Inspite of the dustbin kept on the opposite side people still throw wrappers, waste thing on road that is land," She continued, "Have you ever realized this inhuman act of you people is harming me? Have you realized what all disease I am suffering from? Why don't you people throw waste in dustbin? If you wanted to throw garbage on road why you invented dustbin? For a showpiece right." My eyes were gazed on the land as I was shameful being a part of this act.

Gargee! She is right. You fool you had also thrown the paper plate and newspaper on the road few minutes before. Idiot.

And if I am not wrong, even you are a part of this act," she said.

"I am sorry," I said as I had no proper words to say.

"Can I help you? These were your words right? How can you help me when you are the creator of my problem?"

I found myself guilty. I kept quite. I felt bad as I never realized how I am hurting mother earth. We reached station. I took her to washroom, she cleaned herself. She was atleast looking better than before and then we took train.

"Can we stand?" she said.

"Yes."

"So what do you do?"

"I am a student, and I am really very very sorry. I didn't know how much I have hurt you. I am not good. I now realize your beauty has faded away because of human like us."

"I am happy you realized your mistake. I hope you won't repeat again," she said.

"I promise."

All people in train passed her a dirty look, they moved aside.

"Shee.. Havent you bath for years?" someone in the public shouted.

Mother Earth smile,"They are hating me just for one percent of me, what if I show them my real condition?"

"Shut up! You moron, Do you even know who she is? And stop commenting on other, look at yourself are you Miss india? Mind your own businnes," I shouted at that girl.

"Chill, there is no use of shouting them, they won't understand," mother earth said.

My mouth was wide open in shock when I saw her removing a Samsung tablet from the dirty purse that was hung on her shoulder.

"You have samsung tablet! Omg I always wanted one!"

"You will have one day," she said "See this picture; this is a famous city Mumbai. I once clicked this picture in Malad, can you see a single tree in this area?"

"No."

"Deforestation is one of the main causes of Greenhouse effect. Global warming is caused by an elevation in the greenhouse gases that halo our planet. Mean humans are cutting trees for land, paper, etc and because of this Global warming I am about to die."

"She was showing me various images that she had clicked, we finally reached to my destination.

On the way to my home, there is a small river that makes my city more beautiful.

"Can you see her? Women wash utensils and clothes, men bath here. Not only here but wherever I go I see all this. Small children while

bathing pee in it. Animals who drink this water gets ill, they getting affected by it but still you humans are so mean that you won't stop doing all this. I am getting unpurified day by day.

We were walking on the road, I then saw a child shitting on the road.

"Now, did you get the reason why I am surrounded by flies?" she said.

I could not control myself and I went to that boy.

"Hello, why is public toilet provided to us? Why your are dirtying the road? Do you how much you ar affecting our environment?"

"Sorry," he took his bucket and walked towards the public washroom.

I was filled with joy when I made one kid realize his mistake.

"Thank you," mother earth said patting my back.

"I am sorry," I hugged her "I promise I wont repeat my mistakes again and I will make as many people aware about all this. I will see to it that we humans make you beautiful again."

"Bless you," she said.

I touched her feet and took blessings of her.

"It's your, how can you gift me," she gave me her tablet.

"It's a reward for you, I was impressed when you realized your mistake and you stopped that boy. You wanted this right!"

"I have no words to thank you," I said.

I clicked our picture together and promised her to make her beautiful again.

It was a fancy dress competition in my society, I too had participated in it.

"Shocked to see me? Are you afraid? When I look in mirror even I get afraid of myself. Can you guess me? No, you can't because I look so horrible right? From school till office, you have always learnt about beautiful mother earth that is me. But have you ever thought that am I really beautiful? If yes, then tell me how? Look at your own society, everywhere you will find wrappers, and waste! You keep your home neat and clean why don't you take initiative to clean up your own society? Let me tell you guys I am in trouble but not more than you. I will suffer less but you will suffer more. I am just here as a warning alarm, I am not here to beg in front of you but to give you a chance to improve your attitude towards me. Save me and Save yourself."

I ended my dialogue. I saw entire public giving me a standing ovation. I was happy not because I begged 1st prize but because the next day I saw dustbin in entire wing of the society.

Reference: <http://yourstoryclub.com/short-stories-for-kids/moral-short-story-day-with-mother-earth/>

2. Sri Sridhara Ayyarval

Once Sridhara Ayyarval was preparing to conduct a Sradham for his ancestor. The meal was cooked already and the brahmins were given oil for bath. Sridhar Ayyarval was also returning from Cauvery after his oil bath and saw a person “about to die” because of starvation on the way. In a dire situation, he brought that person to his house and offered the food that was prepared for the Sradham to the dying person. He thought it is a play of the Lord Himself to test him (Normally, on a Sradha day, even the kolams with rice flour will not be put since the pithrus may come in the form ants and eat the rice flour and go away thinking that’s all was prepared for them. Even the remains of vegetable waste will not be put away for the same reason till the Sradham is over).

He then did the cleaning process as per vedic rules, cooked the Sradha meals again and invited the Brahmins. The brahmins who were already very jealous of Sridhar Ayyaval refused to participate in his Sradham and excluded him from the caste (Jathi prashtam). Sridhara Ayyaval, then completed the Sradham by placing the Koorchams in place of the Brahmins (it’s a process allowed when we are not able to get the Brahmins) and completed the Sradham.

When the next year Sradham approached, Sridhara Ayyaval was unable to convince the Brahmins in spite of several requests. Then he asked for some remedy (‘prayachitham’) for his act and the Brahmins suggested to take a bath in Ganga to cleanse himself off from the sin. Since there were only a few days left for the Sradham and also his health didn’t permit, taking a dip at Ganga was an impossible task for him. So he suggested that he will bring the river Ganga to the well at his house itself. The Brahmins yelled at him and expected that he will just take a dip in the well water and say that he Ganga was present in the well. But Sridhara Ayyaval affirmed that he will bring the Ganga to the well to the acceptance and full view of everyone but no one

believed. Then Ayyaval went to the well in his house and sang the hymns of "Gangashtakam". There was no surprise when the Ganaga responded when the avathar of Gangatharan himself called her. The Ganga flowed out from the well as a pravaham to the araharam street and the whole village. Sridhara ayyaval told the Brahmins very calmly, "I have already taken the Ganga snan, why not you also? it will take time and money to go to Ganga but now is the chance to take it at your door steps, come on..". The Brahmins, understanding their mistake and the generated pralayam, apologized to Sri Ayyaval and requested him to stop the Ganga from flowing out immediately. Knowing the pitiful state of the Brahmins, Ayyaval sang a hymn and requested the Ganga to stay in the well permanently for the benefit of the people. This incident took place on the New moon day of the Kartigai month.

Reference: <https://shanthiraju.wordpress.com/2012/07/02/sri-ayyaval/>

Drama

Topics

1. Clean Ganga – A Myth or reality?
2. Save the green earth
3. Ganga Pollution
4. Ecological imbalance
5. Water

Group Discussion

Topics

1. What is Environmental Sustainability?
2. What is the definition of sustainability?

Essay Writing

Topics

1. Sustain Environment
2. Ganga pollution
3. Mount Himalayas
4. Global Warming
5. Pollution -a great threat

Poetry Writing

Theme: Sustain Environment

The participants has to write a poem related to the theme

Story Writing

Theme: Sustain Environment

The participants has to write a story related to the theme

Class - XI

Oratorical

Topics

1. Why don't we have stories about women sacrificing themselves for families?
2. Women's Education
3. Women's Philosopher
4. Women's Righteousness
5. Role of Women in Modern India

Poems

1. All You Are To Me

Thank you, Mom...
for the love, strength, and care
for in this world that is quite rare
for being my guardian and my guide
on those sad days when I cried

I'm proud of you because...
you never gave up hope when the times were hard
you kept going forward through it all, yard by yard
you have never let others change who you are
you have always shown me that you're my favourite star
you move through the unknown with strength
no matter how far the length

I would have never been here today...
without your motherly advice

without your ultimate sacrifice
without the support I needed
I never would have succeeded
without your unbounded love
I could never stay above

I just wanted you to know....
I will always stand by your side
I will give back and be your guide
I will fight for you in the hard times
even if all I have are a few times
I will never lose my faith in you
my love for you is always true

I will always be there
on those days you are hurt and sad
and you feel everything is going bad
I will hold you in my arms and say
I'm glad to be with you here today
when you feel you are alone
I will be your chaperone

So thank you, Mom,
I love you so much!
never forget, the support and love I have for you will never diminish,
you are one of the strongest people I know,
so don't let anyone else's evil decisions or careless actions
change who you are today.
you are better than all of them and stronger in every way.

Source: <http://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/thank-you-mom-5#ixzz3oQahTZl0>

2. Motherhood

Baby dolls and dinosaurs-
one that cries, one that roars
The pitter patter of little feet-
a bike race in which they want you to compete
Fruity Pebbles, pancakes, no wait! a pop-tart-
those daily moments that steal your heart
One throws tantrums, the other just pouts-
ahh, the joys of motherhood- what life is all about
Another birthday - two pay checks in all-
but, it is so worth it with smiling memories on the wall
From late night tears to early morning grumps-
through all the bruises, scrapes and bumps
The kisses and hugs, the encouraging words-
from nursery rhymes to the bees and the birds
The laughter, the memories, those looks in their eyes-
never trade it for anything - never compromise
The toys left out, the clothes on the floor-
these are the moments we mothers live for
For we are the ones who are there through it all-
to always make it better and pick them up when they fall
From kissing their boo-boos and making sure they're fed-
passing down stories while tucking them into bed
Through the weight gain, cravings, labor and more-
to that one special moment we spend 9 months waiting for
Eighteen years is what they say, but our work is never done-
a lifetime of tears, laughter, sadness and fun
Nothing in the world can even come close-
to the one special bond God made matter the most
A relationship only two certain people can share-
a mother and her child, nothing will ever compare...

Reference: <http://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/motherhood-2#ixzz3oQb8m6lo>

3. Mother's Sacrifice

A drop in the present to hide the past,
And change the future to make it last.
A marathon and not a sprint,
Trying to start a fire without a flint.

To do everything all alone,
Without a word without a moan.
Your secret is they never knew,
All the things you went through.

Eventually you had to stop,
It made them realise what they've got.
In agony now and still no noise,
Trying to hide weakness for your little boys.

But come the end what have you done?
Everything, for your sons.

Reference: <http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/a-mothers-sacrifice/>

4. The Rights of Women

Yes, injured Woman! rise, assert thy right!
Woman! too long degraded, scorned, opprest;
O born to rule in partial Law's despite,
Resume thy native empire over the breast!

Go forth arrayed in panoply divine;
That angel pureness which admits no stain;
Go, bid proud Man his boasted rule resign,
And kiss the golden sceptre of thy reign.

Go, gird thyself with grace; collect thy store
Of bright artillery glancing from a far;
Soft melting tones thy thundering cannon's roar,
Blushes and fears thy magazine of war.

Thy rights are empire: urge no meaner claim,—
Felt, not defined, and if debated, lost;
Like sacred mysteries, which withheld from fame,
Shunning discussion, are revered the most.

Try all that wit and art suggest to bend
Of thy imperial foe the stubborn knee;
Make treacherous Man thy subject, not thy friend;
Thou mayst command, but never canst be free.

Awe the licentious, and restrain the rude;
Soften the sullen, clear the cloudy brow:
Be, more than princes' gifts, thy favours sued;—
She hazards all, who will the least allow.

But hope not, courted idol of mankind,
On this proud eminence secure to stay;
Subduing and subdued, thou soon shalt find
Thy coldness soften, and thy pride give way.

Then, then, abandon each ambitious thought,
Conquest or rule thy heart shall feebly move,
In Nature's school, by her soft maxims taught,
That separate rights are lost in mutual love.

Reference: <http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/172871>

5. Rights of Women :

You cannot rob us of the rights we cherish,
Nor turn our thoughts away
From the bright picture of a Woman's Mission
Our hearts portray.
We claim to dwell, in quiet and seclusion,
Beneath the household roof,
From the great world's harsh strife, and jarring voices,
To stand aloof;
Not in a dreamy and inane abstraction
To sleep our life away,
But, gathering up the brightness of home sunshine,
To deck our way.
As humble plants by country hedgerows growing,
That treasure up the rain,
And yield in odours, ere the day's declining,
The gift again;
So let us, unobtrusive and unnoticed,
But happy none the less,
Be privileged to fill the air around us
With happiness;
To live, unknown beyond the cherished circle,
Which we can bless and aid;
To die, and not a heart that does not love us
Know where we're laid.

Reference: <http://www.english-for-students.com/rights-of-women.html>

Stories

1. Mother's Sacrifice

My mom only had one eye. I hated her... she was such an embarrassment. My mom ran a small shop at a flea market. She collected little weeds and such to sell... anything for the money we needed she was such an embarrassment. There was this one day during elementary school.

I remember that it was field day, and my mom came. I was so embarrassed. How could she do this to me? I threw her a hateful look and ran out. The next day at school... "Your mom only has one eye?!" and they taunted me.

I wished that my mom would just disappear from this world so I said to my mom, "Mom, why don't you have the other eye?! You're only going to make me a laughingstock. Why don't you just die?" My mom did not respond. I guess I felt a little bad, but at the same time, it felt good to think that I had said what I'd wanted to say all this time. Maybe it was because my mom hadn't punished me, but I didn't think that I had hurt her feelings very badly.

That night... I woke up, and went to the kitchen to get a glass of water. My mom was crying there, so quietly, as if she was afraid that she might wake me. I took a look at her, and then turned away. Because of the thing I had said to her earlier, there was something pinching at me in the corner of my heart. Even so, I hated my mother who was crying out of her one eye. So I told myself that I would grow up and become successful, because I hated my one-eyed mom and our desperate poverty.

Then I studied really hard. I left my mother and came to Seoul and studied, and got accepted in the Seoul University with all the confidence I had. Then, I got married. I bought a house of my own. Then I had kids, too. Now I am living happily as a successful man. I like it here because it's a place that doesn't remind me of my mom.

This happiness was getting bigger and bigger, when someone unexpected came to see me "What?! Who's this?!" It was my mother...

Still with her one eye. It felt as if the whole sky was falling apart on me. My little girl ran away, scared of my mom's eye.

And I asked her, "Who are you? I don't know you!!" as if I tried to make that real. I screamed at her "How dare you come to my house and scare my daughter! Get out of here now!!" And to this, my mother quietly answered, "oh, I'm so sorry. I may have gotten the wrong address," and she disappeared. Thank goodness... she doesn't recognize me. I was quite relieved. I told myself that I wasn't going to care, or think about this for the rest of my life.

Then a wave of relief came upon me... one day, a letter regarding a school reunion came to my house. I lied to my wife saying that I was going on a business trip. After the reunion, I went down to the old shack, that I used to call a house...just out of curiosity there, I found my mother fallen on the cold ground. But I did not shed a single tear. She had a piece of paper in her hand.... it was a letter to me.

She wrote:

My son, I think my life has been long enough now. And... I won't visit Seoul anymore... but would it be too much to ask if I wanted you to come visit me once in a while? I miss you so much. And I was so glad when I heard you were coming for the reunion. But I decided not to go to the school.... For you... I'm sorry that I only have one eye, and I was an embarrassment for you. You see, when you were very little, you got into an accident, and lost your eye. As a mother, I couldn't stand watching you having to grow up with only one eye... so I gave you mine... I was so proud of my son who was seeing a whole new world for me, in my place, with that eye. I was never upset at you for anything you did. The couple times that you were angry with me. I thought to myself, 'it's because he loves me.' I miss the times when you were still young around me. I miss you so much. I love you. You mean the world to me.

My World Shattered. I hated the person who only lived for me . I cried for My Mother, I didn't know of any way that will make up for my worst deeds...

Moral: Never Ever hate anyone for their disabilities. Never disrespect your parents, don't ignore and under estimate their sacrifices. They give us life, they raise us better than they had been, they give and keep trying to give better than they ever had. They never wish unwell

for their kids even in their wildest dreams. They always try showing right path and being a motivator. Parents give up all for kids, forgive all mistakes made by kids. There is no way to repay what they have done for kids, all we can do is to give what they need and it is just time, love and respect.

Reference: <http://www.moralstories.org/mothers-sacrifice/>

2. Appreciation of Hard Work

One young academically excellent person went to apply for a managerial position in a big company. He passed the first interview, the director did the last interview, made the last decision. The director discovered from the CV that the youth's academic achievements were excellent all the way, from the secondary school until the postgraduate research, Never had a year when he did not score.

The director asked, "Did you obtain any scholarships in school?" The youth answered "none".

The director asked, "Was it your father who paid for your school fees?" The youth answered, "My father passed away when I was one year old, it was my mother who paid for my school fees".

The director asked, "Where did your mother work?" The youth answered, "My mother worked as clothes cleaner. The director requested the youth to show his hands. The youth showed a pair of hands that were smooth and perfect".

The director asked, "Have you ever helped your mother wash the clothes before?" The youth answered, "Never, my mother always wanted me to study and read more books. Furthermore, my mother can wash clothes faster than me".

The director said, "I have a request. When you go back today, clean your mother's hands, and then see me tomorrow morning".

The youth felt that his chance of landing the job was high. When he went back, he happily requested his mother to let him clean her hands. His mother felt strange, happy but with mixed feelings, she showed her hands to the kid. The youth cleaned his mother's hands slowly. His tear fell as he did that. It was the first time he noticed that his mother's hands were so wrinkled, and there were so many bruises in her hands. Some bruises were so painful that his mother shivered when they were cleaned with water.

This was the first time the youth realized that it was this pair of hands that washed the clothes everyday to enable him to pay the school fee. The bruises in the mother's hands were the price that the mother had to pay for his graduation, academic excellence and his future. After finishing the cleaning of his mother's hands, the youth quietly washed all the remaining clothes for his mother. That night, mother and son talked for a very long time. Next morning, the youth went to the director's office.

The Director noticed the tears in the youth's eyes, asked: "Can you tell me what have you done and learned yesterday in your house?" The youth answered, "I cleaned my mother's hand, and also finished cleaning all the remaining clothes".

The Director asked, "please tell me your feelings". The youth said, "Number 1, I know now what is appreciation. Without my mother, there would not be the successful me today. Number 2, By working together and helping my mother, only I now realize how difficult and tough it is to get something done. Number 3, I have come to appreciate the importance and value of family relationship".

The director said, "This is what I am looking for to be my manager. I want to recruit a person who can appreciate the help of others, a person who knows the sufferings of others to get things done, and a person who would not put money as his only goal in life. You are hired". Later on, this young person worked very hard, and received the respect of his subordinates. Every employee worked diligently and as a team. The company's performance improved tremendously. Moral: If one doesn't understand and experience the difficulty it takes to earn the comfort provided by their loved ones, then they will never value it. The most important thing is to experience the difficulty and learn to value hard work behind all the given comfort.

Reference: <http://www.moralstories.org/appreciation-of-hard-work/>

3. Story of Lord Rama meeting Shabari

There was an young woman named Shabari who was a daughter of a hunter. She wasn't a good looking woman, but her heart was pure gold. Before the day of her wedding she saw 1000s of goats and sheep that her father had brought to sacrifice, as it was a custom among the hunters of that time.

She couldn't bear to see those animals being killed, so she ran away into the forest in the early morning to avoid the killing of those animals.

She went to many teachers and asked them to take her as their disciple and teach her 'true wisdom' (Brahma Jnana), all the teachers rejected her because she was of a low caste and wasn't worthy to learn Brahma Jnana.

Sage Matanga welcome her and took her as his disciples, other rishis and yogis condemned him for taking an outcaste as the disciple, they criticized him, called him fallen, impure.

Sage Matanga told Shabari "Oh my daughter, stay in my Ashram, clean the place, take care of the chores, serve, it will do good to you."

"But other rishis in the forest are not happy about you taking me as your disciple" says Shabari

"You have come to me seeking the greatest, I'll give you shelter" Sage was firm in his decision.

She was living peacefully in the Ashram, doing her daily duties, taking cows to the pastures and so on. Those rishis who were still ignorant rejected Shabari's Guru, calling him an impure one.

One day when Sage Matang was very old he called his disciple Shabari and said "My Daughter, I'm leaving this body, is there anything you want me to do for you?"

Shabari prayed "Lord take me with you to the highest abode you are going. I cannot live without you"

Sage Matanga said "Dear, One day Lord Rama will come to see you, until then stay alive, after that you can come to me"

Shabari stayed alive in anticipation of Lord Rama, She would get up early morning every day and go to the forest to collect the berries to serve Lord Rama, she didn't know when Rama would come, she would go to the forest and collect berries every day. In that manner she spent many years.

There was a beautiful and grand lake called Pampasar near her Guru's Ashram. Shabari who is now very old went to the lake with her pot made up of mud to collect water, there was a rishi sitting there with long beard and matted hairs chanting mantras, he was old and was reciting mantras wrongly, he heard this outcaste woman filling the divine water of the lake.

He thought "This low caste woman is making the water impure for our use" he threw a stone at her in anger, it hit her leg and the blood came out, a drop of blood fell into the lake, with seconds all the water in the lake became blood. Rishi started shouting loudly "Look, a drop of this outcaste's blood has turned the whole lake into blood, what should we do now?"

Shabari went to her Ashram with her filled pot, still crying with pain. Rishis had no water to drink or to use for the sacred rites. They started chanting purification mantras, doing Yagnas and Havanas, throwing holy powders into the lake but nothing helped. Water still remained blood. They brought water from Ganga, it was of no use, they brought Yamuna water, it was of no use

Someone in the group said, "Lord Rama has come, he is wandering in the forest, he can help us, let's go to him and pray him to turn this blood into water again"

Rama came upon their request to Pampasar, it was red everywhere, rishis were all standing around him.

Rama asked "What can I do for you now?"

"Lord, touch of your feet will change this into water back" said the rishis

Rama walked into the lake but the blood still stayed blood

"Take a dip in it Lord" said the rishis gathered there

Rama took a dip in it, but nothing changed.

"Lord, it is our last wish. Would you please clean your mouth with it and spit back into it" they requested

Rama took the blood with both hands, "But this is blood brother" said Lakshman, Rama took blood in his mouth and spit it back, but that did not change the lake.

Rama asked them "Tell me How did it become blood?"

One of the rishis said "There was a sage living here, he had an outcaste disciple Shabari, he has died but she still lives, she came to fetch water from this lake, a rishi threw a stone at her, it injured her and a drop of her blood fell into the river, it turned all the water into blood"

Rama on hearing the name of Shabari placed both his hands on his heart and said "Oh rishis that was not Shabari's blood, that was the blood from my heart, I cannot clean this."

"Lord our life has become difficult, we cannot live without this water"
"I have come to see her, bring her to me, send someone to bring her"
One of them went to Shabari and said "Lord Rama has come and he is requesting you to come"

Shabari on hearing Lord Rama's name came running to see him, rishis thought her impure shadow should not touch the Lord and tried to stop her. The soil from her feet fell into the water as she was running hastily, blood turned back into water. Everyone was surprised and were asking themselves "What happened? what happened?"

Lord Rama said "Did you see, dust from Shabari's feet has purified the lake. I bathed in it, cleaned my mouth but nothing changed. Dust from the feet of pure devotee purified the lake"

Shabari prayed to Lord Rama "now, please come to my hut Lord, I have decorated it with flowers for you, I have brought sweet berries for you. Please come my Lord"

Rama and Lakshman followed her to her hermitage, she brought them sweet berries in a bowl she had made with the leaves of a tree. Rama was pleased with the hard work she had gone through to bring him berries.

"Lord I have selected only the sweet berries for you, I tasted every berry to make sure I have only brought the sweetest berries, please take it my lord"

When Rama was about to take a berry Lakshman said "Brother these are half eaten, no good to eat". Rama took a fruit and ate it, he said to Lakshman "Brother, these berries are so sweet, I have never tasted berries as sweet as Shabari's berries. Whomsoever offers a fruit, a leaf, a flower or water with love, I take it with great joy"

Rama was touched by her love, he saw the leaves she had used to make the bowl, he blessed the tree that the leaves naturally grow to become like bowls. Rama asked her "Ask me anything you wish, I'm pleased by your devotion"

Shabari prays "Lord unite the light of my soul with the light of my Guru's soul". Rama blesses her and leaves, Shabari's body disappears, her soul merges with her Guru's.

4. Story of Draupadi

Draupadi was the daughter of king Drupada. The king was a very loving and trusting father who wanted the best for Draupadi. Draupadi also had high expectations for herself as well. When she was young, Draupadi experienced something awful that would stay with her and help her persevere in her adult life. One day, when Draupadi was about nine years old, the King took her on a hunting trip. Draupadi was so excited! She packed her best gear and planned out the whole trip. After the long journey, Draupadi and the king finally arrived at their destination. The first day and night was wonderful- everything went smoothly and according to plan. However, at dusk on the second day of hunting, a group of four boys started bothering Draupadi. They made fun of her because she was a girl on a hunting trip- they could not take her seriously. But Draupadi stood her ground and did not allow the boys to talk bad about her. She snapped and said something insulting to the boys, who became extremely angry. The boys decided to kidnap Draupadi to teach her a lesson. Draupadi knew she was no match physically against the four boys, so she let them take her. However, the whole time she was planning her escape in her head. She waited until the boys were not paying attention and ran from their grasp. It was dark, and with a head start Draupadi was able to get away and hide from them.

Although this moment should have terrified her and traumatized her, Draupadi used this experience to make her stronger and that strength carried into her adult life. Draupadi was the wife of the five Pandavas, which was unique in and of itself. Although it was shocking when she first found out that she would have five husbands, Draupadi accepted her situation and came to terms with it. This was not the end of her challenges, however. Yudhishtira, one of the five brothers, played a game of dice, betting everything he owned. Slowly but surely, he lost this bet, too. Now Draupadi was a slave of Duryodhana, Yudhishtira's cousin who had won the gambling match. Of course, he lost this bet too. Then, in front of everyone, Duryodhana orders his brother Dushasana to take off Draupadi's sari. Her sari amazingly became endless, never revealing her naked body! Although she never ends up being naked in front of everyone, this event would be extremely terrifying for anyone. Draupadi handles it

in the best way she can, and she escapes in a decent condition. Her bravery and ability to handle scary situations started in her childhood and carried over into her adult life to help her in that awful situation. Draupadi has always been brave, ever since she was a little girl. She can be aggressive when need be, but she never loses her sense of compassion. She is an extremely admirable woman!

5. Story of Mandodari

Mandodari is the daughter of Mayasura, the king of the Asuras, who are god-like demons. What is most interesting and even controversial is that she was the main wife of Ravana, the demon King of Lanka. Mandodari is said to be very caring and righteous, totally unlike her husband. Her personality of selflessness and faithfulness can be traced back to her childhood. She was said to be a very kind child, and she was the only daughter of Mayasura and Hema. Mandodari was special- she would always try to keep the peace between her two brothers who fought a lot when they were younger. These two brothers were extremely troublesome- they would stir the pot and cause issues among many people. They were also extremely dangerous, their powers were strong and they used them whenever they wanted. There was one instance in particular when her two brothers, Mayavi and Dundubhi, had been arguing and at each other's throats all day. The source of the argument was trivial, but nevertheless the argument became violent. The brothers started becoming physical- they were punching and biting each other. Young Mandodari absolutely hated seeing this, so she came up with a plan. She was able to calmly separate the brothers from each other, and she put them in different rooms. She first physically stepped in between the two brothers, then held each by their hair and spoke very calmly. She told them to separate because they were a disgrace to the family. Then she spoke with each of them separately. She explained to them that they were family and that no one else in the world would protect them like their own family would. She told them there were too many bad people and evil deeds going on to be fighting your own brother over something so trivial. Mandodari, even at a young age, had the capability to speak eloquently and gently yet still firmly enough to get her point across. Sometimes her speeches

would work, sometimes they wouldn't. In this case, however, her talks with her brothers did work, and that was the last time they ever allowed a disagreement to get out of hand.

When Mandodari was older and married to Ravana, she had to exercise this skill very often. She wanted so badly to lead Ravana down the path of righteousness, but it was almost hopeless. Her greatest challenge was when her husband decided to kidnap Sita. Mandodari knew that Ravana's lust was too great to overcome, but she still tried to plead with him to let Sita go after she had been kidnapped. Although Ravana did not listen, Mandodari did use her power to save Sita's life. Ravana was furious when Sita would not agree to marry him, and he got his sword and was about to behead Sita. Mandodari, however, grabbed Ravana's arm and gently lowered it, convincing him that he was making a foolish mistake. This saved Sita's life so that she could eventually return safely to Rama.

Mandodari was an extremely loyal and faithful wife to Ravana, despite his flaws and corrupt actions that she disagreed with. She tried her best to make a better person out of him, which was extremely admirable and brave. She was a beautiful woman and a fascinating lady whose story deserves to be told.

6. Story of Lord Rama meeting Shabari

There was an young woman named Shabari who was a daughter of a hunter. She wasn't a good looking woman, but her heart was pure gold. Before the day of her wedding she saw 1000s of goats and sheep that her father had brought to sacrifice, as it was a custom among the hunters of that time.

She couldn't bear to see those animals being killed, so she ran away into the forest in the early morning to avoid the killing of those animals.

She went to many teachers and asked them to take her as their disciple and teach her 'true wisdom' (Brahma Jnana), all the teachers rejected her because she was of a low caste and wasn't worthy to learn Brahma Jnana.

Sage Matanga welcome her and took her as his disciples, other rishis and yogis condemned him for taking an outcaste as the disciple, they criticized him, called him fallen, impure.

Sage Matanga told Shabari "Oh my daughter, stay in my Ashram, clean the place, take care of the chores, serve, it will do good to you." "But other rishis in the forest are not happy about you taking me as your disciple" says Shabari

"You have come to me seeking the greatest, I'll give you shelter" Sage was firm in his decision.

She was living peacefully in the Ashram, doing her daily duties, taking cows to the pastures and so on. Those rishis who were still ignorant rejected Shabari's Guru, calling him an impure one.

One day when Sage Matang was very old he called his disciple Shabari and said "My Daughter, I'm leaving this body, is there anything you want me to do for you?"

Shabari prayed "Lord take me with you to the highest abode you are going. I cannot live without you"

Sage Matanga said "Dear, One day Lord Rama will come to see you, until then stay alive, after that you can come to me"

Shabari stayed alive in anticipation of Lord Rama, She would get up early morning every day and go to the forest to collect the berries to serve Lord Rama, she didn't know when Rama would come, she would go to the forest and collect berries every day. In that manner she spent many years.

There was a beautiful and grand lake called Pampasar near her Guru's Ashram. Shabari who is now very old went to the lake with her pot made up of mud to collect water, there was a rishi sitting there with long beard and matted hairs chanting mantras, he was old and was reciting mantras wrongly, he heard this outcaste woman filling the divine water of the lake.

He thought "This low caste woman is making the water impure for our use" he threw a stone at her in anger, it hit her leg and the blood came out, a drop of blood fell into the lake, with seconds all the water in the lake became blood. Rishi started shouting loudly "Look, a drop of this outcaste's blood has turned the whole lake into blood, what should we do now?"

Shabari went to her Ashram with her filled pot, still crying with pain. Rishis had no water to drink or to use for the sacred rites. They started chanting purification mantras, doing Yagnas and Havanas, throwing holy powders into the lake but nothing helped. Water still remained

blood. They brought water from Ganga, it was of no use, they brought Yamuna water, it was of no use

Someone in the group said, "Lord Rama has come, he is wandering in the forest, he can help us, let's go to him and pray him to turn this blood into water again"

Rama came upon their request to Pampasar, it was red everywhere, rishis were all standing around him.

Rama asked "What can I do for you now?"

"Lord, touch of your feet will change this into water back" said the rishis

Rama walked into the lake but the blood still stayed blood

"Take a dip in it Lord" said the rishis gathered there

Rama took a dip in it, but nothing changed.

"Lord, it is our last wish. Would you please clean your mouth with it and spit back into it" they requested

Rama took the blood with both hands, "But this is blood brother" said Lakshman, Rama took blood in his mouth and spit it back, but that did not change the lake.

Rama asked them "Tell me How did it become blood?"

One of the rishis said "There was a sage living here, he had an outcaste disciple Shabari, he has died but she still lives, she came to fetch water from this lake, a rishi threw a stone at her, it injured her and a drop of her blood fell into the river, it turned all the water into blood"

Rama on hearing the name of Shabari placed both of his hands on his heart and said "Oh rishis that was not Shabari's blood, that was the blood from my heart, I cannot clean this."

"Lord our life has become difficult, we cannot live without this water"

"I have come to see her, bring her to me, send someone to bring her"

One of them went to Shabari and said "Lord Rama has come and he is requesting you"

Shabari on hearing Lord Rama's name came running to see him, rishis thought her impure shadow should not touch the Lord and tried to stop her. The soil from her feet fell into the water as she was running hastily, blood turned back into water. Everyone was surprised and were asking themselves "What happened? what happened?"

Lord Rama said "Did you see, dust from Shabari's feet has purified the lake. I bathed in it, cleaned my mouth but nothing changed. Dust from the feet of pure devotee purified the lake"

Shabari prayed to Lord Rama "now, please come to my hut Lord, I have decorated it with flowers for you, I have brought sweet berries for you. Please come my Lord"

Rama and Lakshman followed her to her hermitage, she brought them sweet berries in a bowl she had made with the leaves of a tree. Rama was pleased with the hard work she had gone through to bring him berries.

"Lord I have selected only the sweet berries for you, I tasted every berry to make sure I have only brought the sweetest berries, please take it my lord"

When Rama was about to take a berry Lakshman said "Brother these are half eaten, no good to eat". Rama took a fruit and ate it, he said to Lakshman "Brother, these berries are so sweet, I have never tasted berries as sweet as Shabari's berries. Whomsoever offers a fruit, a leaf, a flower or water with love, I take it with great joy"

Rama was touched by her love, he saw the leaves she had used to make the bowl, he blessed the tree that the leaves naturally grow to become like bowls. Rama asked her "Ask me anything you wish, I'm pleased by your devotion"

Shabari prays "Lord unite the light of my soul with the light of my Guru's soul". Rama blesses her and leaves, Shabari's body disappears, her soul merges with her Guru's.

7. The Story of Sita

Sita is born directly from the Earth and found by King Janaka, who recognizes her "celestial beauty" and determines her bride price to be her suitor's "manliness." Thus she is wed to Rama, with whom she falls in love at first sight. She returns with Rama to Ayodhya, where they live luxuriously until Rama's scheming stepmother Kaikeyi connives to have him banished for 14 years. Sita eagerly agrees to stay by her husband's side, and off they go to the forest.

Forest life is romantic and pleasant. The luxurious appointments of palace life are traded for bark clothing and simple huts, but Sita, always an earthy type, loves living close to nature. Sita and Rama

have many adventures in the forest, meeting sages and vanquishing demons, until one day they are espied by Surpanakha, demon-king Ravana's ugly sister. Surpanakha falls madly in love with Rama, and transforms herself into a beautiful woman in an attempt to seduce him. Instead, Rama makes fun of her and his brother Laxman cuts off her nose. Devastated, Surpanakha reports to Ravana, who pledges revenge on her behalf.

Ravana and his demon friend Mareecha visit Sita and Rama's forest home. Mareecha transforms himself into a beautiful golden deer to captivate Sita, who, as a woman, is inherently vulnerable to shiny pretty things. Sita insists Rama catch the deer, and while he is thus lured from their hut, Ravana makes his move, capturing Sita and spiriting her away in his flying chariot.

Ravana holds Sita captive in Lanka for a year, continually asking her to marry him. Ever chaste and devoted to Rama, Sita rebuffs his every advance, refusing even to sleep under his roof. Instead, she is installed in the palace garden, where she pines for Rama and contemplates suicide. One evening she is secretly visited by the magic monkey warrior Hanuman, who delivers the message that Rama is looking for her. Hanuman instantly becomes as devoted to Sita as he is to Rama, and Sita decides to trust him when he presents her with Rama's signet ring. She tells Hanuman that if Rama doesn't rescue her soon, she will "surely die" by killing herself. Hanuman offers to liberate Sita then and there by carrying her away from Lanka on his back, but she refuses, insisting that only her husband may rightfully rescue her. Later Hanuman declares Sita's purity so powerful she could, if she wanted, burn Ravana to ashes with it and escape on her own, but Sita knows that a woman asserting her own power isn't virtuous.

Rama finally returns with Hanuman and the army of monkey-warriors who lay waste to Lanka. Rama personally vanquishes Ravana in one-on-one combat. Sita is elated - at last reunited with her beloved husband! But Rama rejects her, accusing her of "sleeping in another man's house." Thus Sita throws herself on a funeral pyre in anguish, and her purity is proven when she is spared by the flames.

Rama now embraces Sita and returns with her and Hanuman to Ayodhya, where he assumes his rightful place as king. There they live happily ever after, until Rama hears of a launderer bad-mouthing Sita's

chastity behind his back. He responds not by punishing the gossip, but by banishing Sita from the palace, in secret, with no explanation. Sita is at this time pregnant with twins, but she is nonetheless left for dead in the woods. Fortunately, she is found by the sage Valmiki, who protects her for 14 years while she raises her sons.

Back in Ayodhya, Rama has a golden statue of Sita made to accompany him at functions where a wife is expected. After about 14 years, he hears of the brave young upstarts Lav and Kush. Upon finding them, he identifies them as his sons, and invites them back to Ayodhya. He recognizes Sita as well, but does not embrace her. Sita decides she has suffered enough, and addresses the Earth: "If you are truly my Mother, take me back into your womb!" The Earth then opens up before her, she jumps in, and the fissure seals behind her. Thus Sita lives and dies as the Ideal Woman.

8. The test of Swami Vivekananda

SWAMI VIVEKANAND'S inspiring personality has been well known in India and abroad from decades to come. This unknown monk of India suddenly rose to fame at the Parliament of Religions held in Chicago (America) in 1893, representing Hinduism. His vast knowledge of Eastern and Western culture as well as his deep spiritual insight, brilliant conversation skills, empathy and colorful personality made a mark on the hearts of many. People who ever happen to see or hear Swami Vivekanand even once still cherish his memory after a lapse of more than half a century.

Before leaving for abroad for the first time to preach Hinduism, Vivekanand's mother wanted to know whether he is all perfect for this mission or not, she invited him for dinner. Vivekanand enjoyed the food that had the additional flavor of his mother's special love and affection. After the delicious dinner, Vivekanand's mother offered Vivekanand a dish of fruits and a knife. Vivekanand cut the fruit, ate it and after that his mother said, "Son, can you please give me the knife, I need it." Vivekanand immediately responded by giving the knife.

Vivekanand's mother calmly said, "Son, you have passed my test and I heartily bless you for going abroad." Vivekanand surprisingly asked, "Mother, how did you test me? I did not understand."

Mother replied, "Son, when I asked for the knife, I saw how you handed it to me, you gave the knife by holding its sharp edge and kept the wooden handle of knife towards me. This way, I would not get hurt when I take it and this means you took care of me. And this was your test in which you passed.

The person who thinks of others welfare rather than thinking about self has got the right of preaching the world and you have got that right. You have all my blessings."

This was the most important mark he left in the hearts of many he met in his lifetime - to think of others before thinking for self.

Drama

Topics

1. Women's Sacrification
2. Women's courage
3. The achievements of women
4. Women's education
5. Save girl child

Group Discussion

Topics

1. Why we have stories about women sacrificing themselves for families?
2. Women Education in India
3. Dowry System In India
4. Girl Child Rights and Protection in India
5. "Woman" an epitome of perseverance

Essay writing

Topics

1. Women's Education
2. Women's Righteousness
3. Dowry System In India
4. "Woman" an epitome of perseverance

Poetry Writing

Theme: Foster Women's Honour

The participants has to write a poem related to the theme

Story Writing

Theme: Foster Women's Honour

The participants has to write a story related to the theme

Class - XII

Oratorical

Topics

1. "War and peace"
2. National War heroes
3. Salutation of Bharath Matha
4. Role of youth in modern India
5. India Past, Present, Future in my vision
6. "I am proud to be an Indian"

Poems

1. Invocation To Freedom - Subramanya Bharathi

Mother, those that hungering seek thy grace
And offer to thee their life and love,
Howbeit consigned to dungeons here,
They'd qualify for a place in Heaven.

Those unvisited by your grace, Mother,
Must exult in being slaves;
Albeit inhabiting palaces,
They breathe the air of prison cells.

Winning your grace through heroic deeds
Many Western peoples now live a new life;
They've achieved all, being always ready
To make the supreme sacrifice.

Alas, born in a hapless land
Which remembers not the glories lost,
Knowing the power of your grace, Mother,
How best may I propitiate thee?

I call these Light! Nectar of the brave!
Preserver of the righteous!
Destroyer of suffering and deceit!
I call for the descent of your grace.

Reference: <http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/invocation-to-freedom/>

2. Indian Republic

- Subramanya Bharathi

Long live the Republic of Bharat!
Victory to the Republic of Bharat!

Thirty crores of people share
This commonwealth of ours;
A marvel Republic
Without an equal in the world.
Long live the Republic

Shall we see henceforth the greed
Of one man seizing another's bite?
Shall one see unmoved
The spectacle of another's pain?
Shall we revel in sensuality,
Or tolerate the selfish life?
Long live the Republic

Spacious fields and generous springs
Enrich this mighty land;
Plentiful is her gift of fruits,

Abundant the harvest of corn;
Numerous are the gifts,
Perennial the flow.
Long live the Republic

We shall now lay down the law
And die to preserve it-
We'll rather send the world up in flames
Than suffer one man to starve.
Long live the Republic

This is what Lord Krishna said:
'I live in all living things.'
Bharat will show the world the way
Of all attaining the Life Divine.
Long live the Republic

We are of the same caste and race,
We are children of Bharat all;
We are equal in law and stature,
And every one is Bharat's King!
Long Live the Republic

3. I LOVE TRICOLOR!

Color my heart, into tricolor
Left one with orange
Gives me courage and trained me to do sacrifice
Right one is filled with green
Have faith and make others one
Where ever when I go, the taste of happiness
Always found
And O God please fills
White into middle

that I can passage a feast of
Calm and peace
And never let down to any one in my reach
Please fill these tricolors on me
Please fill this tricolor on me
Vande Matram
Happy Republic Day

Reference: <http://worldrapid.com/64th-indian-republic-day-patriotic-poems-in-english-and-hindi.html>

4. Freedom - Subramanya Bharathi

When will this thirst for freedom slake?
When will our love of slavery die?
When will our Mother's fetters break?
When will our tribulations cease?
Wasn't there another Bharat
Reared by our noble Aryan race?
Lead us, Aryan, to victory!
Is't right we remain slaves?
Are famine and disease alone our share?
For whom, then, are the laurels and fruits?
Will you abandon us, your suppliants?
Can the mother cast her child aside?
Brave warrior! Aryan Lord!
Thou destroyer of the demon-race,
Where is your dharma? Isn't yours the duty

Reference: <http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/freedom-408/>

5. There Is No Fear - Subramanya Bharathi

The people of this world, if against they stand,
There is no fear, there is no fear, nothing like fear.

Although, we are counted cheap and rebuked,
There is no fear , there is no fear , nothing like fear.

If to beg for food, would be a life attained,
There is no fear , there is no fear , nothing like fear.

Loveable possessions if, are lost,
There is no fear , there is no fear , nothing like fear.

If clothed bosomed damsels, cast their eyes
There is no fear , there is no fear , nothing like fear.

Poison in the mouth, if fed by friends
There is no fear , there is no fear , nothing like fear.

Shielded armies, if to attack approach
There is no fear , there is no fear , nothing like fear.

On the acme of my head, if the sky did crash and plummet down
There is no fear , there is no fear , nothing like fear.

Reference: <http://www.poemhunter.com/poem/there-is-no-fear/>

6. The Gift of India - Sarojini Naidu

"Is there ought you need that my hands withhold,
Rich gifts of raiment or grain or gold?
Lo ! I have flung to the East and the West
Priceless treasures torn from my breast,
And yielded the sons of my stricken womb

To the drum-beats of the duty, the sabers of doom.
Gathered like pearls in their alien graves
Silent they sleep by the Persian waves,
Scattered like shells on Egyptian sands,
They lie with pale brows and brave, broken hands,
they are strewn like blossoms mown down by chance
On the blood-brown meadows of Flanders and France.
Can ye measure the grief of the tears I weep
Or compass the woe of the watch I keep?
Or the pride that thrills thro' my heart's despair
And the hope that comforts the anguish of prayer?
And the far sad glorious vision I see
Of the torn red banners of victory?
when the terror and the tumult of hate shall cease
And life be refashioned on anvils of peace,
And your love shall offer memorial thanks
To the comrades who fought on the dauntless ranks,
And you honour the deeds of the dauntless ones,
Remember the blood of my martyred sons!"

Reference: <http://www.dgreetings.com/indian-independence-day/indian-independence-day-poems.html>

Stories

1. Bharat Maa

Once upon a time Bharat Maa (Mother India) was sleeping on a bed. The eldest son came to meet her, and saw her sleeping. So he sat at her head. Later, her second son came, and seeing her sleeping, he sat at her feet.

When Bharat Maa awoke, she saw the second son first.

"Beta, what do you want?" she asked the second.

The eldest son was upset.

"Maa!" he cried, "I came first. I should be given the right to talk first to you."

Bharat Maa gently turned to the eldest.

"What do you want, my child?"

"I've come to ask for your something," said the eldest.

"Even I've come to ask for something," said the second.

"Whatever this man has to ask you, don't give it to him, Maa! Only the first-born should have the right to you. I ask that you remove him from your presence." said the elder angrily, pointing to the second.

"Maa, you have always treated me as your child. You have never shown favouritism. Please don't send me away from you. He's forcing me to go." said the second, pointing to the elder.

Bharat Maa lifted both of her sons to each lap.

"Look my dear children. You know that I cannot take away any of your right of being my children. You were always my children, you will always be my children." she said both, but especially to the younger. And to the eldest she said, "Son, as the elder son I offer you a boon. Anything you want from me, you can have. Only, you can't take away the right of the younger of being my child."

"Then I want everything," the eldest quickly said, delighted.

"Everything?" asked Bharat Maa.

"Yes everything," said the eldest. "I want the right over your land and waters, I want your power and your identity, I want your prestige and your wealth, I want your culture and your people. I want everything."

"But what about me?" asked the younger, concerned.

"Once I get everything," laughed the eldest, "you will get nothing. And then you either work for me or you can leave."

"But I don't want to leave, Maa, I don't want to leave you." cried the younger brother, visibly distraught.

"Don't worry, my child. I give you a boon too." said Maa gently.

"I want some land..."

"Sorry, it's all mine." said the eldest, delighted.

"I want your identity..."

"That's mine to fashion."

"I want to take some of your culture and..."

"Culture is mine as well..."

“Maa, it’s not fair. He’s taken everything.” complained the younger, in tears.

“Not everything my child. Because you are my child, there is already a part of me in you. No one, not even I, can take that away from you.”

“What does that matter? I have the power and the authority to use Maa’s identity for whatever I want. I can discount her image in you by discounting anything associated with you.”

“Maa, I know I am your child. But I am scared. I am scared of my brother,” said the younger shaking. “What use is your image? I can’t do anything with it?”

“You can, my son, you can. You can serve me.”

“I have everything,” said the eldest to Maa. “You can’t give him anything!”

“I am allowing your brother to serve me,” she said to the elder. “His service is not my right to take, but his to give.”

“But if I serve you, Maa, won’t my elder brother exploit my service? I would end up serving him.” said the younger, a little scared.

“When you serve me, my child, you will serve me. What your brother does after that, may not be in your control. You do, what you think is best for me, because I am in you and you are in me.”

“Then I agree, Maa. I want to serve you. And that’s what I want.”

“Fool! I’ve got everything from Mother.” laughed the eldest.

“And I have Mother,” said the younger, finally understanding.

Drama

Topics

1. Is patriotism relevant in a globalised world?
2. National War heroes
3. Param Veer chakras
4. Bio – sketch of any Param Vir Chakra Awardee on his / her notable deeds.
5. Veerapandiya Kattabomman.

Group Discussion

Topics

1. What does it mean to be a patriotic Indian?
2. What is patriotism?
3. How to inculcate patriotism in young generation?
4. An honour for our National Emblems why?

Essay Writing

Topics

1. National War heroes
2. Salutation of Bharath Matha
3. India Past, Present, Future
4. What is patriotism?
5. How to inculcate patriotism in young generation?

Poetry Writing

Theme : Instill Patriotism

The participants has to write a poem related to the theme

Story Writing

Theme : Instill Patriotism

The participants has to write a story related to the theme

General Questions about the Nation

- Who among the following discovered the sea route to India?
(a) Colombus (b) **Vasco de Gama** (c) a & b both (d) Duplex
- The Nawab of Awadh with two refugees prepared for a battle against the British on 22nd October 1764, this battle is famous by the name of:
(a) **The battle of Buxar** (b) The first battle of Palasi
(c) The battle of Panipat (d) None of these
- In 1780 Hyder Ali the ruler of Mysore attacked the British, he was supported by the:
(a). Portuguese (b) Spanish (c) **French** (d) Dutch
- Indian Economy was transformed from a self-sufficient and surplus economy to the colonial economy after:
A. **Annexation of Bengal** B. Permanent settlement
C. Battle of Palasi D. Battle of Buxar
- "The bones of the cotton weavers are bleaching the plains of India" was remarked by:
(a) R.C.Dutta (b) **William Bentinck**
(c) Dadabhai Naoroji (d) Raja Rammohan Roy
- The British rulers were very shrewd and they put the blame of India's growing poverty on:
(a) Poor opportunities for capital investments (b) Outdated social beliefs
(c) Primitive methods of production
(d) **Size and growth of India's population**
- Who was referred as the "best and the bravest of the military leader of the rebellions" by Sir Hugh Rose, the Commander of the British Army during the 1857 Revolt?
(a) Tantiya Tope (b) **Rani Laxmi Bai**
(c) Nana Saheb (d) Mangal Pande
- Where the first serious mutiny of Indian soldiers took place in the British Army?
(a) **Vellore** (b) Meerut (c) Barrackpore (d) Patna
- During 1824-29 there was a serious uprising at Kittur (in present day known as Karnataka) The Kittur rebels killed the collector of Dharwar and declared it an independent state. This uprising is known as:
(a) Velu Thampi Revolt (b) Godkari uprising
(c) **Kittur Chennamma uprising** (d) Dharwar killing

10. "Not mercy, but service for man must be regarded as God" was said by:
 (a) Swami Dayanand Saraswathi
 (b) **Swami Ramkrishna Paramahansa**
 (c) Swami Vivekananda (d) Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar
11. Which of the following Socio-religious reforms movement of the 19th century was looked upon the serious menace to the British sovereignty in India?
 (a) **Arya Samaj** (b) Brahmao Samaj
 (c) Veda Samaj (d) Prathana Samaj
12. Which of the following leaders gave the slogan "Do or Die"?
 (a) Lala Lajpat Rai (b) Subhas Chandra Bose
 (c) Gopal Krishna Gokhale (d) **M.K.Gandhi**
13. Who among the following is acclaimed as the 'Father of Modern India'?
 a) MK Gandhi b) Jawahar Lal Nehru
 c) **Rajaram Mohan Roy** d) Devendranath Tagore
14. In which year Vivekananda went to America and attended the World Parliament of Religions at Chicago ?
 (a) 1883 (b) **1893** (c) 1896 (d) 1899
15. Who among the following was the founder of Indian National Congress?
 a) W.C.Bannerji b) **A.O.Hume**
 c) Dadabai Naoroji d) George Yule
16. Which of the following was/were the main weapons used by the moderate nationalists to exert pressure upon the government against the partition of Bengal?
 a) **Swadeshi and Boycott** b) Satyagrah
 c) No cooperation d) Civil Disobedience
17. Which of the following nationalist movements was supported by the Indian capitalist class?
 a) **Civil disobedience** b) Swadeshi
 c) Quit India d) No cooperation
18. Who was the Prime Minister of Britain when India got Independence?
 a) Churchill b) **Attlee** c) Clive d) Mountbatten
19. Who said, "Independence is our Birth Right"?
 a) **Bal Gangadhar Tilak** b) Lala Lajpat Rai
 c) Jawahar Lal Nehru d) Mahatma Gandhi

20. The 'Dandi March' was undertaken by Mahatma Gandhi to:
- Break the Salt Law**
 - Start satyagrah
 - Resolve the dispute among Gujarat
 - Press the demand for Purna mill worker Swaraj
21. Who was the composer of famous patriotic song "Sare Jahan Se Achcha"?
- Iqbal**
 - Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
 - Rabindra nath Tagore
 - Subhas Chandra Bose
22. The Justice Party movement in Madras merged with the:
- Dravida Kazhagam
 - Self-Respect league
 - a and b both**
 - None of these
23. The famous 1835 minute on education is associated with:
- William Hunter
 - Raja Ram Mohan Roy
 - Sir Charles Wood
 - Lord Macaulay**
24. Which Raja helped Swami Vivekananda to go to USA to deliver his famous Chicago inter-religious meet?
 Ans: Raja of Ramnad helped Swami Vivekananda for his voyage to Chicago.
25. Who is Vanchinathan and what did he do?
 Ans: Ashe, Sub Collector of Tirunelveli, who ordered firing into the crowd of mill workers during their strike, was murdered in 1911 at Maniachi Railway station by Vanchinathan.
26. Which newspapers played significant role in awakening the people on freedom struggle? Name at least one English newspaper and one Tamil newspaper?
 The Hindu, Swadesamitran and Desabakthan played a significant role in awakening the people.
27. Which year was Indian National Congress was founded?
 The Indian National Congress was founded in 1885.
28. Who started Indian alternative to British shipping operations?
 V.O.Chidambaram Pillai.
29. Who used the word 'Vande Mataram' in his song which became our national song later? Bankim Chandra
30. What did Vanchinathan do after shooting Ashe, sub-collector?
 He shot himself dead in the toilet.
31. What was the movement started by Dr.Annoe Besant known as?Home rule movement:
 It was started by Dr.Annie Besant in 1916. She induced the people through her patriotic ideas.

32. What is known as Jalianwalabagh tragedy and who led the same? The people protested against the Rowlett Act which enabled the British to arrest and punish Indians without reason. General Dyer ordered to kill the innocent Indians who had assembled at the Jalianwalabagh.
33. Which year the famous Dandi March took place? Salt Satyagraha: on March 1930, Gandhiji violated the salt laws at Dandi.
34. Why did Salt Satyagraha take place? The British had banned the Indians from taking salt from Indian seas.
35. Parallel to Dandi march who led salt satyagraha in Tamilnadu? In Tamilnadu Rajaji violated the salt laws at Vedaranyam. From Trichi nearly 100 patriots headed by Rajaji marched to Vedaranyam.
36. What is Tirupur Kumaran Known for? At Tirupur on 11th January 1932 the police attacked a procession carrying National flags and singing national songs. As a result of the lathi charge, Tirupur Kumaran, a freedom fighter sacrificed his life. He demonstrated his patriotism by firmly holding the congress flag and shouting Vande Mataram against the British. It was a deed of patriotism, heroism and symbol of dedication.
37. Who were the first Europeans to create the colony in India? Portugese in the year 1510.
38. Which was the last European country to vacate the Indian soil as coloniser? Portugese in the year 1961 left India
39. In which place in India started the liberation war against the British? In the liberation war of India against British rulers, Tamil Nadu Vellore Mutiny (July 10, 1806) was the first instance of a mutiny by Indian sepoy against the British East India Company. In the liberation war of India against British rulers, Tamil Nadu Vellore Mutiny (July 10, 1806) was the first instance of a mutiny by Indian sepoy against the British East India Company. It predates even the Indian Rebellion of 1857 by half a century. The revolt, which took place in the South Indian town of Vellore, was rather brief, lasting only one full day but brutal, as mutineers broke into the Vellore fort and killed or injured 200 British troops, before they were subdued by reinforcements from nearby Arcot.

40. Who was the Indian king who refused to pay taxes to British Collector, Jackson?
Veeranpandiya Kattabomman
41. Where was Kattabomman hanged for refusing to pay taxes to the British?
Kayathar.
42. Who was the first palayakaarar to resist the British?
Puli Devar or Pooli Devar was the first palayakarar who ruled an area called Nelkatumseval or Avudayapuram situated now in the Sankarankoil taluk of Tamil Nadu. All this happened in late 1750s and early 1760s, way before Kattabomman appeared on the scene. Nelkatumseval was the headquarters of Puli Thevar, the first chieftain in Tamil Nadu to resist the British.
43. Who was the first king to issue a proclamation of independence from the British rule?
The Maruthu Pandiyar brothers (Periya Maruthu and Chinna Maruthu) ruled Sivagangai towards the end of the 18th century. They were the first to issue a proclamation of independence from the British rule from Trichy Thiruvaram Temple, Tamil Nadu on June 10, 1801, 56 years before the Sepoy mutiny (also known as the first war of Independence) which broke out in many parts of north India in 1857.
44. What was end of the Maruthu Pandiyars who fought the British?
The Maruthu Pandiyars and many of their family members were captured at Chalapuram and they were hanged on October 24, 1801.
45. In which prison was VOC confined and what was he asked to do in the jail? V.O.C. He was charged with sedition and a sentence of two life imprisonments (in effect 40 years) was imposed. He was confined in the Central Prison, Coimbatore (from 9 July 1908 to 1 December 1910). He is known as "Chekkiluththa Chemmal" -- a great man who pulled the oil press in jail for the sake of his people.
46. Whose student was Vanchinathan who assassinated General Ashe? V.V. Subramania Aiyar. Aiyar remained in Pondicherry for over ten years. While in Pondicherry, Aiyar met with fellow revolutionaries Subramanya Bharathi and Aurobindo. In Pondicherry, Aiyar was involved in the plot to assassinate Mr. Ashe, the Collector of Tirunelveli. One of his students, Vanchinathan assassinated General Ashe. Thus more trouble arose for V.V.S. Aiyar and his companion Subramanya Bharathi.

47. What was the name of the ship which bombed Chennai during the first world war? On 22 September 1914 the German cruiser SMS Emden entered the Madras harbour and bombed the city.
48. When was Subramania Bharathi born and what was his name when he was born? Bharathi was born to Chinnasami Subramania Iyer and Elakkumi (Lakshmi) Ammaal as "Subbayya" on December 11, 1882 in the village of Ettayapuram.
49. On what date and which year did Bharathiar die? He was struck by an elephant at Parthasarathy temple, Thiruvallikeni, Chennai, whom he used to feed regularly. Although he survived the incident, a few months later his health deteriorated and he died on September 11, 1921.
50. Who was Sathyamurthy? Sathyamurthy was a leader of the Indian National Congress and an Indian freedom fighter. He was a prominent leader of the Indian National Congress until his demise on March 28, 1943. Later in his life, he was elected mayor of Madras and served in his capacity as an able administrator from 1939 to 1940.
51. Who is Subramania Siva? With whom did he work closely in freedom struggle? Subramanya Siva was a firebrand revolutionary independence fighter from Tamil Nadu. He closely worked with V.O. Chidambaram Pillai and Subramanya Bharathy and inspired many young men to join the freedom movement.
52. Who were the great Trinity in Indian freedom struggle during the years between 1890 and 1910? Bala Gangadhar Tilak from Maharashtra Bipin Chandra Pal from Bengal Lala Lajpat Rai from Punjab Called as Bal, Pal and Lal Trio during Freedom struggle.
53. Who were the great trio arrested for assassinating the British Dy. Superintendent of Police Saunders as a response to the death of Lala Lajpat Rai? Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajaguru
54. How did Lala Lajpat Rai die? In 1928, Simon Commission that came to India to discuss constitutional reforms was protested by Lalaji because the commission had no Indian members. The Britishers brutally lathi charged Lalaji during the protest and because of severe head injuries he expired on November 17, 1928. The Dy SP Saunders was responsible for his death.

55. Who is considered to be the pioneer of Sepoy Mutiny in 1857? Mangal Pandey. Mangal Pandey, at the age of 22 joined the British East India Company as a soldier in the 34th Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry. He was a true freedom fighter who gave a spark to the First War of Indian Independence. The British termed it as Sepoy Mutiny 1857 as it was a mass revolt of Indian soldiers in the British Army. Mass revolt forced Pandey to attack his British sergeant on the parade ground, besides wounding an adjutant. A native soldier stopped him from killing them. The officer in charge ordered a Jamadar of the troop to arrest Pandey but he refused to do so. Mangal tried to commit suicide to light the flame of nationalism in the hearts of millions of Indians but he failed to do so. He was then captured and sentenced to death on April 8, 1857 in Barrackpore. March 29, 1857 is considered to be a day when Mangal Pandey reaped the seed for a struggle which gave India her freedom.
56. Who was foreign lady who was described by Swami Vivekananda her as a real Lioness. Rabindranath Tagore regarded her as Lok-Mata and Aurobindo Ghosh regarded as Agni-sikha and who was heralded by Subramania Bharathi as guru? Nivedita was one among the host of foreign women who were attracted towards Swami Vivekananda and Hindu philosophy. Born in Ireland on 28 October 1867, she arrived in India in January, 1898, in search of truth. She was impressed by the ideals of Womanhood in India. She once remarked that India was the land of great women..She propagated for the cause of India throughout America and Europe. Margaret Elizabeth Noble (1867-1911), i.e. Sister Nivedita, was an Anglo-Irish social worker, author, teacher and disciple of Swami Vivekananda. She met Vivekananda in 1895 in London and travelled to India (Kolkata) in 1898. Swami Vivekananda gave her the name Nivedita (which means one who is dedicated to God) on March 25, 1898. In November 1898 she started a school for girls which is now called Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Sister Nivedita Girls' High School. She worked to improve the lives of Indian women.
57. In which jail was the freedom fighter V.D.Savarkar held in isolation? In the cellular jail in Andaman islands.
58. Which was the nearest French Colony near Tamilnadu where

- Bharathi and Aurobindo stayed during their struggle against the British.
Pondicherry
59. Against which British law did Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar fought the British vehemently?
Criminal Tribes Act
 60. Which was the party in Tamilnadu that aligned with the British and governed Madras Presidency in the year 1937?
Justice party
 61. Who founded the Indian National Congress?
The Indian National Congress was founded by A.O.Hume
 62. What is the title given to Shri.V.O.Chidambaram Pillai for launching the swadeshi shipping?
To honour his service and sacrifice he was given the title Kappalottiya Tamizhan.
 63. Which year the bloody Jalianwalabagh tragedy happened?
Jalianwala Bagh tragedy which occurred in 1919.
 64. Why did the bloody Jalianwalabagh tragedy happened?
The people protested against the Rowlett Act which enabled the British to arrest and punish Indians without reason. General Dyer ordered to kill the innocent Indians who had assembled at the Jalianwalabagh.
 65. What did Gandhiji do as a culmination of Dandi march?
He took salt by violating the salt laws of the British.
 66. Which were the European countries which set up colonies in India?
Portuguese, Dutch, Danish, English and French in that order set up colonies in India.
 67. Which year was Kattabomman hanged for refusing to pay taxes to the British?
19th October 1799
 68. Who were the Maruthu Pandiar brothers and which place did they rule?
The Maruthu Pandiyar brothers (Periya Maruthu and Chinna Maruthu) ruled Sivagangai.

69. What is the full name of V.O.C.?Vulaganathan Ottapidaaram Chidambaram Pillai or V.O.C. was born on 05 September 1872
70. Where was Subramania Bharathi Born?Bharathi was born to Chinnasami Subramania Iyer and Elakkumi (Lakshmi) Ammaal as "Subbayya" on December 11, 1882 in the village of Ettayapuram.
71. In which school did Bharathi work as Tamil teacher?Bharathi worked as a school Tamil teacher in Madurai Sethupathy High School (now a higher secondary school).
72. How many people attended the funeral of Bharathiar?Though Bharathi was a people's poet there were only fourteen people to attend his funeral
73. In which year was the Indian Muslim League formed?1906.
74. Who among the following discovered the sea route to India? (a) Colombus (b) **Vasco de Gama** (c) a & b both (d) Duplex
The fleet arrived in Kappad, near Calicut on 20 May 1498 Kerala India. Negotiations with the local ruler, the Zamorin of Calicut, occasionally took on a violent nature. Efforts by Gama and the Portuguese to obtain favorable trade terms were complicated by resistance from indigenous Arab merchants. Eventually Gama was able to gain an ambiguous letter of concession for trading rights, but he had to depart without giving notice of his intention to do so after the Zamorin and his Navy chief Kunjali Marakkar insisted that Gama leave all his goods as collateral. Vasco da Gama kept his goods, but left a few Portuguese with orders to start a trading post.
74. The Nawab of Awadh with two refugees prepared for a battle against the British on 22nd October 1764, this battle is famous by the name of:(a) **The battle of Buxar** (b) The first battle of Palasi (c) The battle of Panipat (d) None of theseThe **Battle of Buxar** was fought in October 1764 between the forces under the command of the British East India Company, and the combined armies of Mir Kasim, the Nawab of Bengal; Shuja-ud-Daula, the Nawab of Awadh; and Shah Alam II, the Mughal Emperor^[1]. The battle fought at Buxar (currently in Bihar state, India), a town located on the bank of the Ganges river, was a decisive battle won by the forces of the British East India Company.
75. In 1780 Hyder Ali the ruler of Mysore attacked the British, he was supported by the:
(a) Portuguese (b) Spanish (c) **French** (d) Dutch

When the Marathas attacked Hyder Ali in 1771, the English did not help him. Hence, he began to dislike the English. The English also captured the French port of Mahe on the western coast of India. The kingdom of Mysore was using the port of Mahe. Moreover, Hyder Ali was a friend of the French. Hence, when the English refused to vacate Mahe, Hyder Ali declared war on them in 1780. Historians call this war the Second Mysore War. During the initial stages of the war, Hyder Ali was victorious, but in July 1781, the British army under Eyre Coote defeated him at Porto Novo (Parangipettai). After Hyder Ali's death on 7th December 1782, his son Tipu Sultan continued the war. Hyder was buried at Srirangapatnam near Mysore.

76. Indian Economy was transformed from a self-sufficient and surplus economy to the colonial economy after: (a) **Annexation of Bengal** (b) Permanent settlement (c) Battle of Palasi (d) Battle of Buxar
77. "The bones of the cotton weavers are bleaching the plains of India" was remarked by:

- (a) R.C.Dutta (b) **William Bentinck**
 (c) Dadabhai Naoroji (d) Raja Rammohan Roy

Lord William Henry Cavendish-Bentinck GCB, GCH, PC (14 September 1774 — 17 June 1839), known as **Lord William Bentinck**, was a British soldier and statesman. He served as Governor-General of India from 1828 to 1835.

78. The British rulers were very shrewd and they put the blame of India's growing poverty on:
- (A) Poor opportunities for capital investments
 (b) Outdated social beliefs
 (C) Primitive methods of production
 (D) **Size and growth of India's population**
79. Who was referred as the "best and the bravest of the military leader of the rebellions" by Sir Hugh Rose, the Commander of the British Army during the 1857 Revolt?
- (a) Tantiya Tope (b) **Rani Laxmi Bai**
 (c) Nana Saheb (d) Mangal Pande

The Rani (Queen) of Jhansi (c.19 November 1828 — 17 June 1858) (Hindi- झाँसी की रानी Marathi- झाँसीची राणी), known as Jhansi Rani, was the queen of the Maratha-ruled princely state of Jhansi, was one of the leading figures of the Indian Rebellion of 1857, and a symbol of resistance to British rule in India. She has gone down in history as a

legendary figure, as India's "Joan of Arc." [1]

80. Where the first serious mutiny of Indian soldiers took place in the British Army?

(a) **Vellore** (b) Meerut (c) Barrackpore (d) Patna

The Vellore Mutiny (July 10, 1806) was the first instance of a mutiny by Indian sepoys against the British East India Company. It predates even the Indian Rebellion of 1857 by half a century. The revolt, which took place in the South Indian town of Vellore, was rather brief, lasting only one full day but brutal, as mutineers broke into the Vellore fort and killed or injured 200 British troops, before they were subdued by reinforcements from nearby Arcot. The reasons for the mutiny revolved mainly around resentment against changes in sepoy dress code in November 1805. Hindus were prohibited from wearing religious marks on their foreheads and Muslims were required to shave their beard and trim their moustache.

81. During 1824-29 there was a serious uprising at Kittur (in present day known as Karnataka) The Kittur repels killed the collector of Dharwar and declared it an independent state. This uprising is known as:

(a) Velu Thampi Revolt (b) Godkari uprising

(c) **Kittur Chennamma uprising** (d) Dharwar

killing Kitturu Rani Chennamma (Kannada:

) (1778 - 1829) was the queen of the princely state of Kittur in Karnataka. In 1824, 33 years before the 1857 war of independence, she led an armed rebellion against the British in response to the Doctrine of lapse. The resistance ended in her martyrdom and she is remembered today as one of the earliest Indian rulers to have

fought for independence. Along with Abbakka Rani, Keladi Chennamma and Onake Obavva she is much venerated in Karnataka as an icon of bravery and women's pride. Belagam district.

82. "Not mercy, but service for man must be regarded as God" was said by: (a) Swami Dayanand Saraswathi (b) **Swami Ramkrishna Paramahansa** (c) Swami Vivekananda (d) Ishwar Chandra

Vidyasagar Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa (Bangla: রামকৃষ্ণ পরমহংস Ramkṛṣṇa Pāramahansa) (February 18, 1836 - August 16, 1886), born Gadadhar Chattopadhyay [2] (Bangla: গদাধর চট্টোপাধ্যায় Gôdadhor Chôṭṭopaddhae), was a famous mystic of 19th-century India. His religious school of thought led to the formation of the

Ramakrishna Mission by his chief disciple Swami Vivekananda[4][5][6] - both were influential figures in the Bengali Renaissance as well as the Hindu renaissance during the 19th and 20th centuries. [8][9] He was considered an avatar or incarnation of God by many of his disciples, and is considered as such by many of his devotees today. Ramakrishna was born in a poor Brahmin Vaishnava family in rural Bengal. He became a priest of the Dakshineswar Kali Temple, dedicated to the goddess Kali, which had the influence of the main strands of Bengali bhakti tradition. His first spiritual teacher was an ascetic woman skilled in Tantra and Vaishnava bhakti. Later an Advaita Vedantin ascetic taught him non-dual meditation, and according to Ramakrishna, he experienced nirvikalpa samadhi under his guidance. Ramakrishna also experimented with other religions, notably Islam and Christianity, and said that they all lead to the same God. Though conventionally uneducated, he attracted attention of the Bengali intelligentsia and middle class.

83. Which of the following Socio-religious reforms movement of the 19th century was looked upon the serious menace to the British sovereignty in India?

(a) **Arya Samaj** (b) Brahmao Samaj
(c) Veda Samaj (d) Prathana Samaj

Arya Samaj (Sanskrit *ārya samāja* आर्य समाज "Noble Society") is a reform movement founded in India by Swami Dayananda in 1875. He was a sannyasi (renouncer) who believed in the infallible authority of the Vedas. Dayananda advocated the doctrine of karma and reincarnation, and emphasized the ideals of brahmacharya (chastity) and sanyasa (renunciation). There are approximately 3-4 million followers of Arya Samaj worldwide.

84. Which of the following leaders gave the slogan "Do or Die"?

(a) Lala Lajpat Rai (b) Subhas Chandra Bose
(c) Gopal Krishna Gokhale (d) **M.K.Gandhi**

The fast began on 13th Jan, 1948 and continued till 18th Jan, 1948. He gave up the fast only after getting list of assurances to maintain communal peace from the community leaders under the mediation of Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

85. Who among the following is acclaimed as the 'Father of Modern India'?

a) MK Gandhi b) Jawahar Lal Nehru
c) **Rajaram Mohan Roy** c) Devendranath Tagore

Raja Ram Mohan Roy (August 14, 1772 —September 27, 1833) was

a founder (with Dwarkanath Tagore and other Bengali Brahmins) of the Brahma Sabha in 1828 which engendered the Brahmo Samaj, an influential Indian socio-religious reform movement. His influence was apparent in the fields of politics, public administration and education as well as religion. He is best known for his efforts to abolish the practice of sati, the Hindu funeral practice in which the widow was compelled to sacrifice herself on her husband's funeral pyre. It was he who first introduced the word "Hinduism" into the English language in 1816. For his diverse contributions to society, Raja Ram Mohan Roy is regarded as one of the most important figures in the Bengal Renaissance. His efforts to protect Hinduism and Indian rights by participating in British government earned him the title "The Father of the Bengal Renaissance" or "The Father of the Indian Nation."

86. In which year Vivekananda went to America and attended the World Parliament of Religions at Chicago ?

- (a) 1883 (b) **1893** (c) 1896 (d) 1899

Famous brothers and sisters of America was well appreciated and they took interest in Hinduism

87. Who among the following was the founder of Indian National Congress?

- a) W.C.Bannerji b) **A.O.Hume**
c) Dadabai Naoroji D) George Yule

Venue: Bombay Time: Noon Day: December 28 of 1885 Presided over by: W.C. Banerjee This historic first meeting of a political party which decided the destiny of India nominated A.O. Hume as the General Secretary. It was how the Grand Old Party of India, which spearheaded the country's movement for freedom, took its first step towards the country's independent future. And Hume invited leaders from all over India to go to the sessions of the party to discuss the important issues the people wanted to get solved, and to exchange opinions, and to chalk out plans for the future programs. If it were an Indian who made all this possible, the authorities would not have allowed this to happen, and the Indian National Congress would never have taken form.

88. Which of the following was/were the main weapons used by the moderate nationalists to exert pressure upon the government against the partition of Bengal?

- a) **Swadeshi and Boycott** b) Satyagrah
c) No cooperation d) Civil Disobedience

89. Which of the following nationalist movements was supported by the Indian capitalist class?
- a) **Civil disobedience**
 - b) Swadeshi
 - c) Quit India
 - d) No cooperation

90. Who was the Prime Minister of Britain when India got Independence?
- a) Churchill
 - b) **Attlee**
 - c) Clive
 - d) Mountbatten

Attlee entered Parliament in 1922. In 1927 he visited India as a member of the Simon commission and was converted to views that strongly favored Indian self-government. He joined the Labour government in 1930 but resigned in 1931 when Ramsay MacDonald MacDonald, Ramsay (James Ramsay McDonald), 1866—, British statesman, b. Scotland. The illegitimate son of a servant, he went as a young man to London, where he joined the Social Democratic Federation (1885) and the Fabian Society (1886)..... Click the link for more information. formed the National government. As leader of the Labour party from 1935, Attlee was an outspoken critic of Conservative foreign policy, objecting particularly to the government's failure to intervene in the Spanish civil war. During World War II he served (1940—) in Winston Churchill Churchill, Sir Winston Leonard Spencer, 1874—, British statesman, soldier, and author; son of Lord Randolph Churchill .Educated at Harrow and Sandhurst, he became (1894) an officer in the 4th hussars coalition cabinet, and on Labour's electoral victory in 1945 he became prime minister.Under Attlee's leadership, the Bank of England, the gas, electricity, coal, and iron and steel industries, and the railways were nationalized. His government also enacted considerable social reforms, including the National Health Service. Independence was granted to Burma (Myanmar), India, Pakistan, Ceylon (Sri Lanka), and Palestine, and Britain allied itself closely with the United States in the cold war confrontation with the Soviet Union. The postwar economic crisis required stringent economic and financial controls, which reduced support for the government. Labour won the 1950 general election by a narrow margin, but in 1951, Attlee decided to go to the country again and was defeated. He was leader of the opposition until his retirement in 1955, when he received the title of Earl Attlee.

91. Who said, "Independence is our Birth Right"?
- a) **Bal Gangadhar Tilak**
 - b) Lala Lajpat Rai
 - c) Jawahar Lal Nehru
 - d) Mahatma Gandhi

Bal Gangadhar Tilak (29th Couplet) Described by British as "The Father of Indian Unrest" Tilak was born on 23.07.1856. His slogan, "Swaraj (Self Rule) is my birthright", inspired millions of Indians. His book "Geetarahasya" a classic treatise on Geeta in Marathi was written by him, in prison at Mandalay. Great journalist- editor, an authority on Vedas, Sanskrit Scholar, mathematician and a natural leader of India. Died 01.08.1920 "Swaraj is our birthright," thundered Tilak, the Lion of India. He founded schools and published newspapers, all for his motherland. He rotted in a distant jail at Manda lay, in Burma. he wore himself out till his last breath, to awaken his countrymen

92. The 'Dandi March' was undertaken by Mahatma Gandhi to:
- Break the Salt Law**
 - Start satyagrah
 - Resolve the dispute among Gujarat mill worker
 - Press the demand for Purna

Swaraj The Salt March to the remote seaside village of Dandi, about 320 km from Ahmedabad, and the Civil Disobedience campaign it launched was the greatest nonviolent battle by history's greatest nonviolent campaigner. Mahatma Gandhi himself saw this as the quintessence of his philosophy in action. The Salt March is about a battle by an astute political campaigner to free his country from the yoke of British colonialism. Here we have the skinny, scantily dressed 61- year-old Mahatma armed with nothing but a bamboo staff marching to the sea with a handful of followers, mostly young, in an attempt to liberate India. The Salt March sees Gandhi and his followers leaving his ashram on the banks of the Sabarmati river on the outskirts of Ahmedabad on March 12, 1930 and breaking the British salt laws about three weeks later at the seaside hamlet of Dandi. This launched a mass struggle that filled the prisons and shook the foundations of the British empire.

93. Who was the composer of famous patriotic song "Sare Jahan Se Achcha"?
- Iqbal**
 - Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
 - Rabindra nath Tagore
 - Subhas Chandra Bose

Saare Jahan Se Achchha is one of the enduring patriotic poems of the Urdu language. Written originally for children in the ghazal style of Urdu poetry by poet Muhammad Iqbal, the poem was published in the weekly journal Ittehad on 16 August 1904. [1] Recited by Iqbal the following year at Government College, Lahore, now in Pakistan, it quickly became an anthem of opposition to the British rule in India. The song, an ode to Hindustanland comprising present-day

Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan celebrated and cherished the land even as it lamented its age-old anguish. Also known as Tarana-e-Hindi, it was later published in 1924 in the Urdu book Bang-i-Dara. Iqbal was a lecturer at the Government College, Lahore at that time, and was invited by student Lala Har Dayal to preside over a function. Instead of delivering a speech, Iqbal sang Saare Jahan Se Achcha. The song, in addition to embodying yearning and attachment to the land of Hindustan, expressed "cultural memory" and had an elegiac quality. In 1905, the 27-year old Iqbal was still in his idealistic phase and viewed the future society of the subcontinent as both a pluralistic and composite Hindu-Muslim culture. Later that year he left for Europe for a three-year sojourn that was to transform him into an Islamic philosopher and a visionary of a future Islamic soci

94. The Justice Party movement in Madras merged with the:

- a) Dravida Kazhagam b) Self-Respect league
 c) **a and b both** d) None of these

The Justice Party (Tamil: நீதிக்கட்சி), officially known as South Indian Liberal Federation (S. I. L. F.), was the political wing of Then Nala Urimai Sangam (literal translation: The South Indian Welfare Association). The Justice Party derived its name from an English-language daily of that time, named Justice. The Justice Party was established in 1917 as the South Indian Liberal federation by Sir P. Theagaroya Chetty and Dr. T. M. Nair as a result of a series of non-Brahmin conferences and meetings in the Madras Presidency. The formation of the SILF or the Justice Party marked the culmination of a series of failed efforts to establish an organisation representing the non-Brahmins of the Presidency. The early political work of the party involved petitioning the imperial administrative bodies and British politicians demanding more representation for non-Brahmins in administration and in the government.

95. The famous 1835 minute on education is associated with: ____

- a) William Hunter b) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
 c) Sir Charles Wood d) **Lord Macaulay**

He is the one who spoiled out education system. English parliamentarian, read this necessarily in answering: "I have traveled across the length and breadth of India and I have not seen one person who is a beggar, who is a thief. Such wealth I have seen in this country, such high moral values, people of such calibre, that I do not think we would ever conquer this country, unless we break

the very backbone of this nation, which is her spiritual and cultural heritage, and, therefore, I propose that we replace her old and ancient education system, her culture, for if the Indians think that all that is foreign and English is good and greater than their own, they will lose their self-esteem, their native self-culture and they will become what we want them, a truly dominated nation.”

96. Which Raja helped Swami Vivekananda to go to USA to deliver his famous Chicago inter-religious meet?

Ans: Raja of Ramnad helped Swami Vivekananda for his voyage to Chicago.

97. Who is Vanchinathan and what did he do?

Ans: Ashe, Sub Collector of Tirunelveli, who ordered firing into the crowd of mill workers during their strike, was murdered in 1911 at Maniachi Railway station by Vanchinathan. On June 17, 1911, Vanchi assassinated Ashe, the district collector of Tirunelveli, who was also known as Collector Dorai. He shot Ashe at point-blank range when Ashe’s train had stopped at the Maniyachi station, en route to Madras. He committed suicide thereafter. The railway station has since been renamed Vanchi Maniyachi. Vanchi was a close collaborator of Varahaneri Venkatesa Subrahmanya Iyer (normally shortened to V.V.S.Aiyar or Va.Ve.Su Iyer), another freedom fighter who sought arms to defeat the British.

98. WHAT IS THE COLOUR OF ASHOKA CHAKRA IN THE NATIONAL FLAG?

Navy Blue. India’s national flag is a horizontal tricolour of deep saffron (Kesari) at the top, white in the middle and dark green at the bottom. In the centre of the white band is a navy blue wheel (Chakra). Its design is that of the wheel which appears on the abacus of the Saranath Lion Capital of Ashoka.

99. WHAT IS THE PLAYING TIME OF FULL VERSION OF NATIONAL ANTHEM?

Playing time of the full version of the National Anthem is approximately 52 seconds. The song Jana-gana-mana, composed by Rabindranath Tagore, was adopted by the Constituent Assembly as the National Anthem of India on January 24, 1950.

100. WHICH IS OUR NATIONAL BIRD?

The Indian Peacock, *Pavo cristatus* (Linnaeus), the national bird of India.

101. WHO IS THE FIRST NOBEL LAUREATE FROM INDIA?

Rabindranath Tagore is the first Indian Nobel Laureate

102. WHO WAS THE CHIEF ARCHITECT OF THE FAMOUS BRIHADESSWARA TEMPLE IN THANJAVUR?

Sama Varma, the chief architect began to design a structure, which stood on a square base of 29 mts and rose up to a height of about 65 mts. The temple stands within a fort. The towering Vimanam is about 200 feet high. The octagonal Shikharam rests on a single block of granite weighing 81 tons. The size of the Nandi matches that of the huge Linga. The Kalasam on top is about 3.8 mts in height. Besides, the gopuram on which this dome rests is 216 feet high.

103. WHICH IS THE LAST OF THE EXISTING TEMPLE MONUMENT OF SOLANKI STYLE OF ARCHITECTURE?

The Tejpala Temple of Mount Abu is among the last monuments built in the Solanki style. A striking feature of the Tejpala Temple is the pendant of the dome, which in the words of a Western thinker Fergusson, "hangs from the center more like a cluster of crystal drops than a solid mass of marble."

104. HOW MANY LANGUAGES ARE THE OFFICIALLY RECOGNISED LANGUAGES IN INDIA?

India has 18 officially recognised languages with a number of dialects and spin-offs.

105. WHICH IS THE OLDEST DANCE FORM OF TAMILNADU?

Bharathanatyam is one of the oldest dance forms of India. This dance originated in the state of Tamil Nadu and was nurtured in the temples and courts of southern India. The complete performance of this dance involves six stages known as Alarippu, Jatiswaram, Sabdam, Varnam, Padam and Thillana. Kathak came from Katha or Story telling.

106. WHICH IS THE MANAGEMENT SCHOOL IN THE WORLD THAT IS MOST DIFFICULT TO GET ADMISSION INTO?

Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad is the toughest management school in the world to get into, ahead of Harvard Business School, Columbiya University, Spain's Institute de Empressa and France's Insead, according to a survey by *The Economist*.

107. GIVE A ROUGH FIGURE OF THE NUMBER OF DAILY NEWSPAPERS COMING OUT IN INDIA?

There are more than 5,000 dailies, 16,000 weeklies and over 6,000 fortnightlies in all Indian Languages, higher than in any other country. This only shows Indian's read more than others in the world.

108. GARBA DANCE BELONGS TO WHICH STATE IN INDIA? GUJARAT.
The word Garba derives its name after a lamp called Garba deep, which means the lamp inside the earthen pot. It is a circular dance performed by women around an earthenware pot called a Garbo, filled with water. A betel nut and a silver coin are placed with in the pot, called kumbh, on top of which a coconut is placed.
109. WHICH IS AN IMPORTANT FOLK DANCE FORM OF BENGAL?
Brita or Vrita dance is one of the most important traditional folk dances of Bengal. This is a dance performed by the barren woman of Bengal who worships in gratitude after their wish being fulfilled.
110. HIKKAT IS THE DANCE FORM OF YOUNG BOYS AND GIRLS OF WHICH STATE IN INDIA?
Hikkat is a playful dance of the young boys and girls in Kashmir. The young ones form couples and the partners, inter locking their arms; hold each other's hands. Joining their feet close, they bend their bodies and heads back wards. Facing each other, they go round and round with perfect precision in a fast dizzy spin.
111. WHICH IS THE OLDEST GRAMMAR BOOK IN TAMIL?
Tolkapiyam the name signifying the "ancient institutions", was written by Tolkapiyanar. It is the oldest Tamil grammar dating back to 500 B.C. It lays down rules for different kinds of poetical compositions drawn from the examples from some of the best works. Iyal is elucidated clearly and systematically in Tolkapiyam containing about 1,610 Sutrams (aphorisms), in three parts- Ezhuthu (orthography), Sol (etymology) and Porul (literary conventions and usages).
112. WHO WROTE THE FAMOUS WORK 'THIRUKURAL'?
Thiruvalluvar. The Tirukkural of Tiruvalluvar is the most outstanding and inspiring popular work .The author Tiruvalluvar is generally assigned to the first Century A.D.
113. WHICH ARE THE BASIC SCRIPTURES FOR HINDUISM?
The Vedas are the basic scriptures of Hindus. Each Veda has four parts i.e. Samhita, Brahmana, Aranyaka and Upanishads. The first three parts are called Karmakanda- interpretation of actions.
114. IN WHICH PLACE IN TAMILNADU WAS THE POET KAMBAR BORN?
Kambar, who wrote Kambaramayanam was born in the 9th century in Therazhundur a village in Thanjavur district. In Kambaramayana there are total 10,418 verses in Six Kandas (chapters).

115. WHAT ARE THE FOUR STAGES OF LIFE IN INDIAN CULTURE?

In Indian culture, we have 4 stages of Human life. Brahmachari, Grahastha, Vanaprastha and Sanyas The first three stages —Student life, Household life, Retired life help one to achieve the goals in life. The last stage- Renunciate life helps one to achieve the Goal of Life.

116. WHICH IS THE LARGEST RAILWAY SYSTEM IN THE WORLD AND HOW MANY RAILWAY STATIONS ARE THERE IN THAT SYSTEM?

The fact about the Indian railways: Tracks of 1,00,000 Km. 5,700 stations. 2,300 railway yards. 11,000 freight and passenger trains a day. Over a million passengers a day. The longest tunnel in the world. The highest station in the world. The longest railway platform is at Kharagpur. The largest railway in the world.

117. WHICH IS THE LARGEST MEASURE OF TIME?

The biggest measure of time is also given by India, called as One Kalpa —4.32 Billion Years i.e one cycle of creation of age of the Universe. Indians were also the pioneers in discovering timelessness —how to transcend the relative realm of time & space and discover infinity.

118. WHICH OF THE EARLY KINGDOMS WERE PIONEERS IN NAVAL FLEET?

Indian had a great sea power.The Pallavas and Cholas were pioneers in naval fleets. India had close commercial relation with Indonesia. The Indian fleet had played an important part in the establishment of the Sri Vijaya nagara Empire and the Shailendra Dynasty. In the 7th century, Indian rulers had their fleets sailing from Sind to Malabar and from Cape Camorin to the ports on the east sea coast. According to the Historian, Strabo, the celebrated scholar, 120 ships sailed from India in a single season from one major seaport alone.

119. WHAT IS THE DESCENDING MOTION OF RAAGA KNOWN AS?

Avaroha.

120. WHAT ARE THE FIVE 'Ks' WHICH SIKHS SHOULD HAVE ON THEIR BODIES?

To mark their distinct identity, the Sikhs wore the five 'K'- s on their bodies —Kesh (untrimmed hair), Kanga (comb), Kach (kaupeen), Kara (steel bracelet), Kirpaan (the sword). Guru Govind Singh, the 10th and the last Guru (died in the year 1708 AD) established the Khalsa movement (religious body for the maintenance of Sikhism).

121. WHAT ARE THE TWO BRANCHES OF BUDDHISM?

Buddhism is divided into two major branches —1. Hinayana (practised in Srilanka, Thailand, Cambodia and Burma) 2. Mahayana (practised in China, Japan, Taiwan, Tibet, Nepal, Mangolia, Korea and Vietnam).

122. WHICH PANDIAN KING PARTICIPATED IN THE FAMOUS WAR BETWEEN PANDAVAS AND KAURAVAS?

Malayadvaja Pandian fought on the Pandava side.

123. HOW MANY UPANISHADS ARE THERE IN INDIAN LITERATURE?

1. Ishavasya Upanishad 2. Kena Upanishad 3. Katha Upanishad 4. Prashna Upanishad 5. Mundaka panishad 6. Mandukya Upanishad 7. Taittriya Upanishad 8. Aitreya Upanishad 9. Chandhogya Upanishad & 10. Brahadaranyaka Upanishad.

124. HOW MANY AVATARS OF LORD VISHNU ARE THERE ACCORDING TO HINDU TRADITION?

10. Dasavatara of Lord Vishnu. They are: 1. Matsya, 2. Kurma, 3. Varaha, 4. Narasimha, 5. Vamana, 6. Parasurama, 7. Rama, 8. Krishna, 9. Buddha, 10.Kalki

125. WHO IS THE GURU OF SWAMI VIVEKANADA?

Sri Ramakrishna Paramahamsa born at Kamarpukur in Bengal on the 18th February 1936.

WHAT IS THE ORIGINAL NAME OF SWAMI VIVEKANADA?

Swami Vivekananda was born on January 12, 1863, in an opulent family in Calcutta, Narendranath Datta as he was named, and had a sharp intellect with a rational approach which made him doubt any belief that was in practice.

126. WHO WAS THE SAINT WHO INSPIRED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF VIJAYANAGAR EMPIRE FOR THE REVIVAL OF HINDUISM?

Vidyaranya. His patriotism and purity was responsible in building the last great Indian empire which resisted the foreign invasions. Born in the year 1268, Madhava had his education under Saint Vidyateertha of Kanchipuram. Once when the army of Mallik Kafur, the general of Sultan Alauddin Khilji, was attacking all temples in South India, Madhava's blood boiled on hearing the uncivilized conduct of the invaders.

One day, two handsome youth Harihara (Hakka) and Bukkaraya (Bukka) came to Vidyaranya's hermitage and introduced themselves

as the rulers of the land before the Mughal army attacked, and killed their people. Under the guidance of Vidyaranya, Hakka and Bukka planned an attack on Anegodi. Later, Vidyaranya laid the foundation for the great Vijayanagar Empire. He attained Samadhi in 1386 A.D. at the age of nearly 118 years.

127. WHAT ARE THE NAMES OF FOUR YUGAS ACCORDING TO THE HINDU ASTRONOMY?

The concept of Yuga is unique in Indian Astronomy. Kali, Dwapara, Treta, and Krita Yuga are the four fundamental yugas, Dwapara, Treta, Krita Yuga are respectively 2,3,4 times Kali Yuga's time span. Kaliyuga —4,32,000 Years , Dwapara —8,64,000 Years, Tretayuga —12,96,000 Years, Kritayuga —17,28,000 Years. One Mahayuga is the total of these four yugas that is 43,20,000 Years.

128. WHERE WAS THE WORLD'S FIRST ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY LOCATED?

Some 500 years ago, there was a flourishing school of astronomy in Kerala, just like its more famous school of mathematics. Kerala had an observatory in Mahodayapuram in the 9th century A.D., which encouraged the tradition of observational astronomy in Kerala. Parameswara (1360 —1455 A.D.), the teacher of Nilakantha had carried out precise astronomical observations for over a half century. Nilakantha was born on January 14 1444, at Kundapura, Kerala.

129. WHERE IS THE FIRST SLIDE FOR THE CHILDREN SET-UP IN THE WORLD?

The rock-cut children's slide at Mamallapuram in Tamil Nadu is considered the oldest children's slide in the world.

130. WHICH ANIMALS, APART FROM LIONS, ARE IN OUR NATIONAL EMBLEM?

Elephant, horse, bull apart from Lion, The National emblem is an adaptation from the Saranath, Lion capital of Ashoka. In the original, there are four lions, standing back to back, mounted on an abacus with a frieze carrying sculptures of an elephant, a galloping horse, a bull and a lion separated by intervening wheels over a bell-shaped lotus. Carved out of a single block of polished sandstone, the capital is crowned by the wheel of the law, Dharma Chakra. It inspires us to march along the path of dharma slogging like bull yet remaining swift as a horse. The bell-shaped lotus has been omitted.

131. WHICH IS THE HIGHEST CIVILIAN AWARD IN INDIA?

Bharat Rathna Award is the highest civilian honour. Padma Awards namely, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shree are given for exceptional and distinguished service of high order in any field.

132. WHAT TYPE OF ARCHITECTURE IS THE BODHGAYA TEMPLE?

The Bodh Gaya temple is typical of the Mahayana architecture that developed in the Gangetic region during the first millennium. The building consists of a plinth on which rests a square pyramidal tower, measuring 54.8 mts from the ground.

133. WHICH ARE THE TWO COUNTRIES THAT HAVE THE LARGEST ARMY?

India's professional standing army of 1.1 million is the second largest in the world after China's.

134. WHICH COUNTRY DEVELOPED THE ATM TECHNOLOGY?

The ATM bank card technology was developed in India by one Mr. Jayant from Indore, in the late Eighties but it was patented in the US. It was a one million sale to Unisys, which in turn made \$700 million by selling it all over the world.

135. WHICH IS THE STATE KNOWN LAND OF GEMS IN INDIA?

IT DERIVES ITS PRESENT NAME FROM THAT. Manipur, the land of Gems, is situated in the eastern frontier of India.

136. WHAT IS THE MOST DISTINCTIVE ASPECT OF KUMMI DANCE OF TAMILNADU?

In Kummi the dancers gather in a circle and clap their hands as they dance.

137. WHICH COUNTRY IS THE LARGEST PRODUCER OF MILK IN THE WORLD?

India is the largest producer of milk in the world. The milk is processed and distributed using state technology. The National Dairy Development Board now handles more than 10,900 metric tons of milk a day. It is estimated that Operation Flood increased milk during the period 1974—by 44 million metric tons per year. The entire operation is run on commercial basis. Of the 72,000 village level co-operatives, milk was collected only from 53,000. The rest of them were considered to be commercially unviable. It is estimated that this alone is responsible for more than a billion dollars of rural income. Here is an indigenous initiative that converted the poor into

consumers. More importantly, it created six million entrepreneurs in India's villages.

138. HOW MANY LIONS ARE IN INDIA'S NATIONAL EMBLEM?

FOUR - The National emblem is an adaptation from the Saranath, Lion capital of Ashoka. In the original, there are four lions, standing back to back, mounted on an abacus with a frieze carrying sculptures of an elephant, a galloping horse, a bull and a lion separated by intervening wheels over a bell-shaped lotus. Carved out of a single block of polished sandstone, the capital is crowned by the wheel of the law, Dharma Chakra. It inspires us to march along the path of dharma slogging like bull yet remaining swift as a horse. The bell-shaped lotus has been omitted.

139. WHICH RAILWAY STATION IN THE WORLD HAS THE LONGEST PLATFORM?

The railway platform at Kharagpur in West Bengal is 833 mts (2,733 ft) longest in the world.

140. WHAT IS KONARK MOST KNOWN FOR?

The Supreme achievement of Orissa's architectural genius is the Sun Temple at Konark, about 32 Kms north — east of Puri which was built during the reign of the eastern Ganga King Narasimha Deva I, (1238 — 64).

141. WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THE NAME OF THIRUVANANTHAPURAM? WHY IS IT CALLED BY THAT NAME?

Thiruvananthapuram (Trivandrum) gets its name from the grand Anantapadmanabhaswamy temple. This temple enshrines an imposing image of Vishnu, in the Anantasayanam posture — lying on his serpent bed. Also here are images of yalis (mythological animal), with non — extractable moving stone balls in their mouths.

142. WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE HORSE OF MAHARANA PRATAP WHICH SAVED HIS LIFE IN HIS BATTLE OF HALDIGHATI AGAINST MUGHALS?

Chetak. Maharana Pratap was a great Rajput King. Akbar wanted to control the whole of India and used a mix of tolerance; generosity and force to overcome the Rajput Kings. Rana Pratap led the Rajputs against the army of Akbar to preserve the independence of Mewar. Rana Pratap not only had to face the mighty Mughals but also had to fight against other Rajput kings (Raja Todar Mal and Raja Man Singh) who aligned with the Mughals. In the Battle of Haldighati (1576) fought between Maharana Pratap and the Mughals; Maharana

Pratap was badly hurt in the battle and was saved by his wise horse Chetak, who took him in an unconscious state away from the battle scene.

143. YAKSHAGANA IS DANCE FORM OF WHICH STATE IN INDIA?

Yakshagana hails from the coastal strip of Karnataka and is at least 400 years old. The heart of this form is gana or song, raising from distinct class of Kannada literature.

143. WHICH UNIVERSITY IN SAURASHTRA WAS A KEEN COMPETITOR TO NALANDA AND TAXSHILA UNIVERSITIES?

The University of Valabhi (600 AD to 1200AD) was situated in Saurashtra in western Bharath. For some time the university stood as a rival for Nalanda. It championed the cause of Hinayana Bhudisam. Students came from the Gangetic plains to learn in this university. We find surprising figures at the time of Hiuen Tsang about this university. He states that "around 7th century there were 6000 monks studying in this university and 100 monasteries were provided for them".

144. WHICH SAGE IS KNOWN TO HAVE COMPILED THE VEDAS?

The great sage Krishna Dvaipayana Vyasa or Veda Vyasa is known to have effected this division by collecting all the mantras extant during his time, and editing them into four groups: Rig, Yajur, Sama Atharva.

145. WHO CALCULATED FIRST THE TIME TAKEN FOR THE EARTH TO COMPLETE ONE ORBIT OF THE SUN?

In Surya Siddhanta, Bhaskaracharya calculates the time taken for the earth to orbit the Sun to 9 decimal places (365.258756484 days). The modern accepted measurement is 365.2596 days. The difference between the ancient measurement (1500 years ago) and the modern measurement is only .00085 days (0.0002%).

146. WHO WAS THE MOST WELL-KNOWN POET OF THE KING VIKRAMADITYA?

Kalidasa - said to have been the most brilliant among the "nine gems" in the court of the famous King Vikramaditya of Ujjain. Kalidasa's plays and poems are famous all over the world for its sheer literary beauty. They abound with depth in expression of human emotions, precise similes and beautiful descriptions of nature.

147. WHERE WAS ADI SHANKARA BORN? Adi Shankara was born into a pious and devout family in a village called Veliyanad near Kalady.

148. WHO WAS LORD KRISHNA’S GURU? Sandeepany Maharishi.
149. WHO IS THE FOUNDER OF JAINISM? Vardhamana Mahavir.
150. WHAT ARE THE PANCHABHUTAS?
1. Earth (Prithivi), 2. Water (Aapa), 3. Fire (Anala), 4. Air (Vayu), 5. Space (Akasha)
151. NAME THE BOOK IN WHICH PREPARATION OF BATTERY CELL IS FIRST EXPLAINED IN THE WORLD?
Agasthya Samhiti
152. NAME THE BOOK AND ITS AUTHOR WHO WROTE FIRST ABOUT THE EARTH’S PERIOD OF REVOLUTION AROUND SUN?
The book called Siddhanta Shironmani written by Bhaskaracharya
153. WHICH COUNTRY, OTHER THAN USA AND JAPAN HAS BUILT SUPER COMPUTER INDIGENOUSLY?
India is the only country other than US and Japan, to have built a **super computer** indigenously.
154. KABIR,THE GREAT SAINT, WROTE SIMPLE COMPOSITIONS CALLED ‘DOHA’ —TWO LINERS AND ‘CHOWTAI’ —FOUR LINERS. IN WHICH HOLY BOOK HIS VERSES WERE INCLUDED BY GURU ARJUN DEV?
Kabir, a great saint was born in 1398 A.D. His simple compositions “ Doha” —Two Liners or “ Chowtai” —Four Liners became popular immensely. His 500 verses are recorded in the Guru Granth Sahib in 1604 A.D. by Guru Arjun Dev.
155. WHO IS THE SAINT IDENTIFIED IMMEDIATELY WITH THE MENTION OF THIRUANNAMALAI?
Ramana Mahariashi. Venkataramana was born on December 30, 1879. When he was 16 years old the fear of death seized him. Since he was all alone, he told himself that he has to face death. He imagined his death and consequent cremation of his body. Visualizing his cremation in his mind, a question occurred “if I could see my own cremation, then who died?” he then began to ponder “Am I merely the body or Am I the life which has the body?”
155. WHICH COUNTRY CONSUMES MOST GOLD IN THE WORLD AND WHAT PERCENTAGE OF THE GLOBAL OUTPUT DOES IT CONSUME?
India consumes nearly 25% of the world’s gold output.
156. WHO IS THE WORLD’S FIRST AND BEST KNOWN ASTROLOGER?
Varahimihira was the bestand the most respected astrologer of India.

He flourished during the 6th century. He was resident of Ujjain, also known by the name Avanti in Western Malwa. He was the son and the pupil of Adityadasa. He describes the four types of earthquakes and their symptoms. They are mentioned in 32nd chapter of Bharat Samhita as 1. Vayumandal, 2. Agnimandal, 3. Indramandal, 4. Varunamandal.

157. MANDAKINI IS THE NAME OF WHICH RIVER?Ganga.

158. HOW MANY CHAPTERS OR PARVAS IS MAHABHARAT DIBVIDED INTO?

18 Parvas. They are: 1. Adi Parva, 2. Sabha Parva, 3. Aranya Parva, 4. Virata Parva, 5. Udyoga Parva, 6. Bheeshma Parva, 7. Drona Parva, 8. Karna Parva, 9. Shalya Parva, 10. Souphthika Parva, 11. Sthree Parva, 12. Santhi Parva, 13. Anushasanika Parva, 14. Ashvamedha Parva, 15. Ashramavasika Parva, 16. Mousala Parva, 17. Mahaprasthanika Parva & 18. Swargarohana Parva.

159. IN THE BATTLE OF KURUKSHETRA, WHAT WAS THE SYMBOL DISPLAYED IN THE FLAG OF ARJUNA'S CHARIOT?Hanuman.

160. HOW MANY AZHWARS ARE THERE IN THE VAISHNAVISM?

Azhwars are devotees of Lord Vishnu who have sung on the Lord by visiting the various abodes of the Lord. They were 12 in number.

161. WHO IS THE GODDESS OF LEARNING?Saraswathi.

162. WHICH ARE CALLED THE PANCHAKAVYAS IN SANSKRIT? NAME THEM?

1. Raghuvamsa, 2. Kumarasambava, 3.Kiratharjuneyam, 4.Shisupalavadham, 5.Naishadam.

163. HOW MANY MILITARY INVASIONS AND SUBJUGATIONS HAS INDIA DONE IN THE LAST 3000 YEARS?

India **never invaded any country** in her last 10000 years of history.

164. WHO WAS THE SPIRITUAL LEADER AND SOCIAL REFORMER FROM KARNATAKA WHO STARTED AN INSTITUTION CALLED ANUBHAVA MANTAPA TO EMPHASIZE ALL WERE EQUAL BEFORE GOD AND THE FOLLOWERS OF ANUBHAVA MANTAPA WERE GIVEN A LINGA TO BE WORN AROUND THE NECK?

Basaveshvara or Basavanna formed a new spiritual institution called Anubhava Mantapa. Piety and character alone was required of anyone who came into Anubhava Mantapa and they were given a Linga to wear around their necks to show that all were equal in the eyes of God. In 1167, he left his mortal body.

165. **MIRABAI THE SAINT POET WAS DEVOTED TO WHICH GOD?**
The poet Mirabai was born in the year 1498 in Rajasthan. From a young age Mira was devoted to Krishna.
166. **WHAT IS THE NATIONAL EMBLEM OF INDIA?**
Four lions standing back to back. The National emblem is an adaptation from the Saranath, Lion capital of Ashoka. In the original, there are four lions, standing back to back, mounted on an abacus with a frieze carrying sculptures of an elephant, a galloping horse, a bull and a lion separated by intervening wheels over a bell-shaped lotus. Carved out of a single block of polished sandstone, the capital is crowned by the wheel of the law, Dharma Chakra. It inspires us to march along the path of dharma slogging like bull yet remaining swift as a horse. The bell-shaped lotus has been omitted.
167. **FROM WHICH OF THE UPANISHADS IS THE PHRASE 'SATYAMEVA JAYATE' TAKEN?**
The words 'Satyameva Jayate' - from Mundaka Upanishad, meaning Truth Alone Triumphs - are inscribed below the abacus in the Devanagari script.
168. **HOW MANY SPOKES DOES THE ASHOKA CHAKRA HAVE?**
Its diameter approximates to the width of the white band and it has 24 spokes.
169. **WHICH IS OUR NATIONAL TREE?**
Commanding a central presence in the timeless setting of India's countryside is the mighty Banyan, a tree endemic to the Indian subcontinent.
170. **WHAT IS OUR NATIONAL GAME?** Hockey is the National Game of India.
171. **WHICH CITY'S SUBURBAN RAILWAY SYSTEM IN THE WORLD CARRIES THE LARGEST NUMBER OF PASSENGERS AND HOW MANY PASSENGERS A DAY?**
The Mumbai suburban railway system carries 59 lakh passengers a day, the highest in the world. About 1,077 suburban trains run every day on a track length of just 288 km.
172. **WHICH EMPEROR BUILT THE FAMOUS BRIHADESWARA TEMPLE IN THANJAVUR?**
The magnificent Brihadeeswara temple is a symbol of the greatness of the Chola Empire under the emperor king Rajaraja Chola. One of

the tallest temples in the world, it was so designed that the vimana never casts a shadow at noon at any time of the year.

173. WHERE IS THE HIGHEST NON-MILITARY AIRPORT IN THE WORLD?

Leh Airport in Ladakh at a height of 3,256 m (10,680 ft) is the highest non —military airport.

174. WHAT TYPE OF ARCHITECTURE IS THE FAMOUS KHAJURAHO TEMPLE? WHAT IS THE SPECIALITY OF THIS TYPE OF ARCHITECTURE?

One of the most developed and refined expressions of the Indo — Aryan architectural genius is to be found in the group of temples at Khajuraho, Bundelkhand in Madhya Pradesh. Of the 85 temples originally built by the Chandells Rajputs between 950 A.D and 1050 A.D only about 20 are well preserved. Six Jain temples are grouped together to the southeast of Khajuraho. The complete absence of window openings characterizes the group of temples to the northwest of the town.

175. WHICH OF THE TEN GURUS OF SIKH PANTH INITIATED BUILDING OF THE HAR MANDIR SAHIB?

Guru Arjun Dev Nanak —V (1563-1606) initiated the construction of the temple in 1589. His great contemporary Muslim mystic, Mian Mir was requested to lay the foundation stone. The great Sikh secular leader, Maharaja Rnjit Singh, donated 100 kgs gold to the temple.

176. WHERE AND WHEN WAS SHIVAJI MAHARAJA BORN?

Shivaji was born in the fort of Shivneri during the year 1630.

177. WHEN WAS MOHANDAS KARAMCHAND GANDHI BORN?

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was born in 1869.

178. WHICH COMPANY IS THE WORLD’S LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF BI-CYCLES?

Hero cycles limited the flagship company of the Hero group, has been the largest manufacturer of bicycles in the world since 1986. The two units at Ludhiana and Sahibabad have a combined production capacity of more than 16500 bicycles a day.

179. WHICH IS OLDEST LIVING LANGAUGE IN THE WORLD?

Sanskrit literature is more than 5000 years old and Tamil 3000 years. Some Indian languages do not have a script. Although some other languages are called "tribal" or "aboriginal", their populations may be larger than those that speak some European Languages. Bhili

and Santali both tribal languages, each have more than 4 million speakers. Gondi is spoken by more than 2 million people.

180. WHICH UNIVERSITY IN INDIA IS POPULARLY REFERRED TO NOW, AS HARVARD OF ITS TIMES IN THE 4TH CENTURY BC?

Nalanda University. The Harvard of its times was built in 4th century BC and was one of the greatest achievements in the field of education. More than 10,500 students studied over 60 subjects at the Nalanda University which included Brahminical and Buddhist, sacred and secular, philosophical and practical. Nalanda attracted students not only from parts of India but also from far off lands.

181. ON WHAT THEMES MOSTLY THE DANCE OF KATHAKALI IS BASED ON?

Kathakali is based mostly on mythology and the themes of Rama and Krishna.

182. MOHINIYATTAM HAS ORIGINATED FROM WHICH STATE IN INDIA?

Mohiniyattam is a distinctive dance form of Kerala.

183. WHAT IS MOST BASIC AND DISTINCTIVE ASPECT OF KARAGATTAM?

Karagattam is performed balancing a pot on the head called *Karagam*. Karagattam is a popular folk dance of across Tamil Nadu, though its birthplace is said to be Thanjavur.

184. WHICH IS MOST WIDE-SPREAD FOLK DANCE OF ASSAM?

Bihu is the most widespread folk dance of Assam. The dance is part of the Bihu festival that comes in Mid, when harvesting is done, and continues for about a month.

185. KUCHIPUDI DANCE FORM ORIGINATED FROM WHICH STATE IN INDIA?

Kuchipudi originated in the state of Andhra Pradesh in Southern India. Kuchipudi derives its name from the village Kuchelapuram, from its origin, as far back in the dim recesses of time as the 3rd century BC.

186. WHICH IS THE UNIVERSITY IN INDIA WHERE IN BUDDHA AND MAHAVIRA STAYED AND TAUGHT THEIR PHILOSOPHIES?

Nalanda (425 AD to 1205 AD) was another university that flourished in ancient Bharath. This was the place which was sanctified by the stay of Buddha and witnessed a number of discussions on the Buddhist doctrines. This was also the place Mahavira expounded the Jain philosophy. The university was founded by King Sakraditya.

187. WHERE IS THE LARGEST BATHING COMPLEX IN THE WORLD SITUATED AT?

The bathing complex at Shirdi, Nasik in Maharashtra, built and maintained by Sulabh International for the Shirdi Saibaba Trust is the largest bathing complex in the world. The complex can serve 30,000 people a day.

188. WHICH ARE THE SEVEN NOTES OR SABDA SWARA IN INDIAN MUSIC?

The seven notes are Shadja, Rishaba, Gandhhara, Madhayama, Panchama, Dhaivata and Nishada abbreviated to Sa, Ri, Ga, Ma, Pa, Dha, Ni, Sa respectively. It is stated that the note produced by the peacock at the highest point of rapture is the note Shadja. Rishaba is said to represent the sound that is made by the cow while calling her calf. Gandhara is the bleat of the goat. Madhayama is identified with the heron. The nightingale of India the Koel sings always in Panchama. Dhaivata is the neighing of the horse. Nishada is the trumpeting of the elephant.

189. WHO COMPOSED THE EPIC MAHABHARTA?

Maharishi Vyasa composed this work and taught to his disciple Vaisampayana who narrated to Janamejaya (son of Parikshith). It is a mixture of epic, ancient legends and didactic (instructive of morals) matter divided in to 18 Parvas or Chapters and supplementary called Harivamsa.

190. WHAT DOES THE WORD 'VEDA' LITERALLY MEAN?

The word Veda literally means 'Knowledge par excellence' or 'Supreme Knowledge'.

191. WHAT DOES THE FAMOUS PHRASE '*Vasudeva Kutumbakam*' APPEARING IN RIG VEDA MEAN?

The concept of '*Vasudeva Kutumbakam*' or Universal oneness was propounded in the Rig Veda and it means the whole universe is one family.

192. HOW MANY SLOKAS DOES THE WORK OF MAHABHARAT CONTAIN?

The Mahabharata, composed by Veda Vyasa, has more than 1,00,000 slokas. It is the longest epic ever written in the literary history.

193. WHEN IS THE EARLIEST RECORDED SYMPOSIUM ON MEDICAL TREATMENTS HELD?

According to records, Sage Bharadwaja, founder of the Indian system of medicine, Ayurveda, presided over the symposium on medicinal plants in relation to diseases in 7th Century BC in the Himalayan region

194. WHAT DOES THE WORD 'PURANA'MEAN?

The word 'Purana' means History or ancient work. The Puranas are eighteen in number.

195. HOW MANY CHAPTERS ARE IN BHAGVAD GITA?

Eighteen

196. WHAT WAS THE SHARE OF INDIA IN THE WORLD TRADE IN THE YEAR 1000 AD?

In the ancient world, India stood foremost in Industry & Business. In the year 1001, 33% of the world trade was India's share. Our ancestors were into global business global business- with Europe, Middle East and south Asia. This is evident of their excellent management tactics.

197. WHAT ARE THE FOUR METHODS, IN THE INDIAN WISDOM, WHICH CAN BE ADOPTED TO RESOLVE POTENTIAL OR ACTUAL CONFLICTS BETWEEN PERSONS

A well known concept in Indian tradition is the set of four methods used in dealing with situations of potential or actual conflict:- Sama, Dana, Bheda & Danda.

198. WHICH IS MINUTEST MEASURE OF TIME IN THE WORLD?

India has given to the world the smallest measure of time called as "krati". It is 34,000th of a second.

199. WHO FIRST DISCOVERED THAT EARTH REVOLVES AROUND THE SUN?

Araybhatta, some 1000 years before Copernicus published his theory of revolution of the earth, that stated the earth revolves around the sun." Just as a person travelling in a boat feels that he trees on the bank are moving, people on the Earth feel that the Sun moving."

200. WHICH WAS THE UNIVERSITY IN WHICH THE AUTHOR OF ARTHASHASTRA WAS A PROFESSOR IN ECONOMICS AND POLITICS?

University of Takshshila.

201. WHAT IS THE ASCENDING MOTION OF A RAAGA KNOWN AS?The ascending and descending motion of a raaga is called as Aaroha.

202. HOW MANY PILLARS DOES THE AAYIRMKAAL MANDAPAM AT RAMANATHASWAMY TEMPLE AT RAMESHWARAM HAVE?
It has 983 pillars, though popularly known as 'corridor with thousand pillars'. Another great about the temple is that the corridor in the Ramanathaswamy temple at Rameshwaram, Tamil Nadu, is 1,220 m (4,002 ft) long.
203. WHICH IS THE NATIONAL SONG OF INDIA AND WHO AUTHORED IT?
Vande Mataram is the National Song while Jana gana Mana is the National Anthem. The author of Vande Mataram, is Bankim Chandra Chatterjee.
204. WHY WAS THE SIKH RELIGION FORMED?
The invasion by rulers from outside India started threatening the culture of people in India. Areas of Punjab came under severe attack of these religious conversion. These witnessed a need for a new system. Thus was born the religion of Sikhism. Shri Guru Nanak Dev (1469 — 1539 A.D.) the first Guru of this system was followed by nine Gurus nominated by each of them before their death.
205. WHO IS REGARDED AS YELLOW AVATAR IN THE HINDU RELIGION?
Buddha (Born 563 BC) rejected many significant aspects of Hindu Philosophy, challenged the authority of the priesthood, derided the validity of the Vedic scriptures and rejected the sacrificial cult based on them. He preached the 'Middle — Way between the pursuits of pleasure on the one extreme and rigorous ascetic practices on the other.
206. WHAT ARE THE FIVE VOWS TO WHICH THE JAINS SHOULD FOLLOW?
The followers of Jainism adhere to five vows. These five are 1. Ahimsa — non violence, 2. Sathya — truthfulness, 3. Asteya — non stealing, 4. Aparigraha — non possessions, 5. Brahmacharya — control over all kinds of passions, emotions and desires.
207. WHO IS THE ONLY WOMAN IN THE AZHWARS OF VAISHNAVISM?
Andal. She is the only woman in the 12 Azhwars of Sri vaishnava sect. She authored works like Thiruppavai, Poomalai and so on. She has a temple in Srivilliputtur where the garland worn by her is worn by Lord Vatapatrasayi the next day. Andal is a shining example to show the world the power of true love.

208. WHEN BHARAT,THE BROTHER OF RAMA, RULED AYODHYA,WHAT DID HE KEEP TO SYMBOLISE HIMSELF AS RAMA’S ADMINISTRATOR AND NOT RULED IN HIS OWN CAPACITY?
 Rama’s Padhuka or Sandal.
209. WHAT WAS THE STRENGTH OF PANDAVA ARMY?
 7 Akshouhini (units). One Ahshouhini comprised of 21,870 chariots, 21,870 soldiers mounted on elephants, 65,610 soldiers mounted on horses, and 1,09,350 soldiers on foot.
210. NAME THE ANY ONE OF THE SEVEN LOWER PLANETS OR LOKAS ACCORDING TO THE HINDU SYSTEM?
 The Seven lower lokas.1. Athala, 2. Vithala, 3. Suthala, 4. Mahathala, 5. Rasathala, 6. Thalathala & 7. Pathala.
211. WHAT ARE THE UPAVEDAS?
 1. Ayur Veda —(Medicine), 2. Dhanur Veda —(Military Science), 3. Ghandharva Veda —(Music), 4. Shilpa Shastra —(Mechanics, Architecture).
212. THERE ARE SEVEN CHIRANJEEVI OR IMMORTALS (WHO DO NOT HAVE DEATH) ACCORDING TO THE HINDU TRADITION. CAN YOU NAME ANY ONE OF THE CHIRANJEEVIS?
 1. Hanuman, 2. Bali, 3. Vyasa, 4. Vibhishana, 5. Ashwattama, 6. Krupa, 7. Parasurama
213. THERE ARE SEVEN RISHIS, WHO ARE CALLED SAPTARISHIS, WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE HINDU RELIGION’S DEVELOPMENT. CAN YOU NAME ANY ONE OF THEM?
 Name the Saptarishi (Seven sages).1. Kashyapa, 2. Athri, 3. Bharadwaja, 4. Vishvamisra, 5. Gowthama, 6. Jamadgani, 7. Vasishtha.
214. WHO IS THE GODDESS OF WEALTH IN THE HINDU TRADITION?
 Lakshmi.
215. WHO WAS THE GURU OF SWAMI VIVEKANANDA?Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa.
216. WHICH IS THE BIRTHPLACE OF BUDDHA?
 Lumbini.
217. THERE ARE NAVARASAS OR EMOTIONS IN THE ARTS OF INDIA.CAN YOU NAME ANY THREE OF THEM?
 The Navarasas are: 1. Srungara , 2. Veera 3. Karuna 4. Arphuta 5. Hasya 6. Bhayanakara 7. Bebhatsa 8. Roudra 9. Shanta.

218. NAME THE INDIAN CHEMIST WHO CONSTRUCTED A MECHANISM FOR DISTILLATION FIRST IN THE WORLD?
Sage Nagarjuna has described in his work Rasaratna Samuchchaya
219. NAME THE FIRST BOOK WHICH STATED THAT THE SUNLIGHT CONSISTS OF SEVEN COLOURS — VIBGYOR?
Rig Veda
220. WHICH IS THE FIRST BOOK WHICH EXPOUNDED ABOUT THE SIZE OF AN ATOM?
Shweta Shvaropanishad.
221. WHICH CIVILISATION IN THE WORLD IS THE OLDEST CONTINUOUS CIVILISATION?
Indian or Hindu civilisation is the **world's largest, oldest, continuous civilization.**
222. WHAT IS THE LARGEST NUMBER USED BY INDIANS IN THEIR CALCULATIONS IN THE ANCIENT TIMES?
The largest numbers the Greeks and the Romans used were 10 TO THE POWER 6, whereas Hindus used numbers as big as 10 to the power of 53 with specific names as early as 5000 BCE during the Vedic period. **Algebra, trigonometry and calculus also** came from India. Quadratic equations were by Sridharacharya in the 11th century.
223. WHICH COUNTRY INVENTED THE GAME OF CHESS?
Chess (Shataranja or AshtaPada) was invented in India.
224. WHICH TWO COUNTRIES HAVE THE FIRST AND SECOND LARGEST POOL OF SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS?
India has the second largest pool of **Scientists and Engineers** in the World. The USA has the largest pool of scientists and Engineers.
225. WHO IS THE FOUNDER AND CREATOR OF HOTMAIL (WORLD'S FIRST WEB-BASED E MAIL PROGRAMME)
Sabeer Bhatia.
226. WHICH ARE THE EIGHT QUALITIES THAT LEAD SALVATION OR NIRVANA ACCORDING TO BUDDHA?
Gautama Buddha was born in the Shakya clan belonging to a Kshatriya family. Gautama Buddha gives us the Noble Eightfold Path or the Middle Path that leads a person to Nirvana. 1. Right Understanding, 2. Right Thoughts, 3. Right Speech, 4. Right Action, 5. Right Livelihood, 6. Right Effort, 7. Right Mindfulness, 8. Right Concentration.

227. VARDHMAN MAHAVEER THE 24TH THIRTHNKARA OF JAINISM AND FOUNDER OF PRESENT JAINISM WAS THE PRINCE OF WHICH KINGDOM?
Vardhaman Mahaveer was the 24th Tirthankara of Jainism. Vardhamana Mahaveera was born to Priyakrini and Sidharth in the year 599 B.C. He was the prince of the Lichavi Kingdom. Mahaveer spent 12 years in tapas. During this period he had food only 349 times.
228. WHO IS THE GURU FROM KERALA WHO WORKED FOR SPIRITUALITY AND EQUALITY OF ALL PEOPLE?
Sri Narayana Guru. 'One caste, One religion, One God for all the people of the world' said Sri Narayana Guru. He headed the spiritual revolution in Kerala.
229. WHO WAS THE SAINT WHO INSPIRED AND MOTIVATED KING SHIVAJI?
Samartha Ramdas was the great saint who inspired Shivaji. He was born to Suryaji Pant and Renukabei in Jamb, Maharashtra; in 1608 A.D. his original name was Narayan. He was a great devotee of Hanuman and Lord Rama.
230. WHO IS THE FOUNDER OF CHINMAYA MISSION WHICH REVIVED AND TOOK THE BHAGVAD GITA TO THE MASSES?
Swami Chinmayanandha. The most striking features in his life were, working for 18 to 20 hours a day throughout his 42 years of service to the mankind. He wrote more than one lakh letters guiding people and started 250 centers worldwide. He trained more than 600 men & women in Vedanta to carry on the message all over the world. His magnetic personality even in his old age had youth flocking around him. His famous statements were "Youth are not useless but used less", and "Youth are not careless but cared less".
231. WHO ARE THE SAIVITE QUARTET (FOUR PEOPLE), WHO LED THE REVIVAL SAIVITE TRADITION IN TAMILNADU BY THEIR POETIC RENDERING?
Appar, Sundarar, Thirugnanasambhdhar and Manikkavasagar.
232. WHICH COUNTRY IS THE LARGEST PRODUCER OF TEA IN THE WORLD? WHICH COUNTRY IS THE LARGEST CONSUMER OF TEA?
India is the largest producer and consumer of tea in the world, accounting for more than 30% of global production and 25% of consumption.

233. WHERE IS THE RUST-PROFF IRON PILLAR LOCATED IN THE WORLD?
The spectacular Iron Pillar of Delhi 370 A.D., a monument to Indian engineering prowess in the fabrication of massive iron structures. Masive Iron Pillars at Dhar in Madhya Pradesh and Kodachadri in Karnataka are great wonders. A remarkable feature of the massive Iron Pillar built in India is that it has reminded rust- proof for more than 16 centuries.
234. WHAT IS ONE KALPA ACCORDING TO INDIAN ASTRONOMICAL CALCULATION?
4,32,00,00,000 Years (14 Manvantaras + 1 Kritayuga) or 1000 Mahayugas. This time span compares with the age of the Universe. One Mahayuga is the total of four yugas that is 43,20,000 Years.
235. WHO INVENTED THE VALUE OF SQUARE ROOT OF 2 IN MATHEMATICS ACCURATELY?
Almost 2,600 years ago Apastamba, the great Indian geometer and author of 'Apastamba Sulba Suttras', first time gave a remarkably accurate value for square root of 2, as equal to $1+1/3+1/(34)-1/(3434)$, which gives an answer correct to six decimal places.
236. WHO IS THE FIRST DOCTOR IN THE WORLD TO HAVE WRITTEN TREATISE ON THE DISEASES AND THEIR CURE LIKE THE PRESENT-DAY HANDBOOK DISEASES FOR PHYSICIANS?
Charaka was the 1st physician to present the concept of digestion, metabolism and immunity. He authored 'Charaka Samhita', which was a revised treatise of the original by Agnivesha. Around 20 centuries ago in which famous Ayurvedic treatise Charaka Samhita, Charaka remarked that a physician who fails to enter the body of patient with the lamp of knowledge and understanding could never treat diseases. According to Charaka the body function because it contains three doshas namely bile, phlegm and wind. Illness is caused due to the disturbance in balance among these three doshas.
237. WHERE WAS THE WORLD'S FINGER-PRINT BUREAU SET-UP AND USED IN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION?
The world's first fingerprint Bureau was set up in Calcutta in June 1897. A murder case in 1898 in Jalpaiguri was the first in the world where the culprit was caught on the basis of dactyloscopy, the science of fingerprint identification.

238. WHICH OF THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE THE HIGHEST ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATION?

India has the second largest English —speaking graduates in the world (next to the USA).

WHICH ARE THE TWO COUNTRIES THAT HAVE THE LARGEST NUMBER OF COMPANIES LISTED IN THE STOCK EXCHANGES?

In the number of companies listed, India is in second place, only after US. The US leads with 6355 listed companies as of end 2001. India follows closely with 5795.

239. WHICH LANGUAGE IS CONSIDERED AS MOTHER OF ALL EUROPEAN LANGUAGES?

Sanskrit is the mother of all European languages. According to Forbes (July 1987), Sanskrit was considered the most suitable language for speech recognition in computer. During the early years of software revolution when western scientists were figuring out a way of constructing a protocol for writing code, they realized that the principles had already been laid down in the Sanskrit language by Panini some 2500 years ago.

240. WHICH IS THE BIGGEST BANK IN INDIA?

The State Bank of India is the country's biggest public sector commercial bank. The SBI group has more than 13,000 branches including its seven associate banks. The bank also has 51 foreign offices in 31 countries.

241. HOW DID DHIRUBHAI AMBANI START HIS CAREER AS?

Ambani- A journey from a petrol pump attendant to creating the first Private Indian Fortune 500 company. Dhirubhai Ambani was the son of an ordinary school-master in rural Gujarat. A school dropout, his first income was as a child, selling snacks to pilgrims. A job with an India trading company took him to Aden and he moved on from there to work for Shell, as a petrol pump attendant. When he returned to India in 1957, polyester had just been invented, and Ambani believed it represented the future of Indian textile business. His foresight was right. His investment of Rs.15,000 to set up a trading house paid off quickly and by the mid-1960's he was the largest polyester trader in the country.

242. WHO EXPOUNDED ABOUT SPACE TRAVEL IN DETAIL ABOUT MECHANICS AND SYSTEM OF AIR TRAVEL?

Kardama Rishi. There is an exhaustive description of space travel on a kind of airplane about the mechanics and operation

systems by Kardama Rishi in the famous work 'Bhagavatham'. The Bhagavatham has portions that describe scientific truths and possibilities of future advancements in science as well. The 3rd canto, chapter 31 gives a complete stage by stage description of the growth of the foetus in the womb. The concept of relatively of time is mentioned in the 3rd discourse of the 9th canto. The 12th canto of the Bhagavatham also has calculations of time periods and the time life cycle of the universe.

243. WHO WAS THE FIRST SCIENTIST TO HAVE PIONEERED WIRELESS COMMUNICATION OR RADIO?

IEEE has proved what has been a century old suspicion in the world scientific community that the pioneer of wireless communication was **Prof. Jagdish Bose** and not Marconi.

244. WHO IS THE FATHER OF SURGERY IN THE WORLD?

Sushruta is the father of surgery. 2600 years ago he and health scientists of his time conducted complicated surgeries like cesareans, cataract, artificial limbs, fractures, urinary stones and even plastic surgery and brain surgery. Usage of anesthesia was well known in ancient India. Over 125 surgical equipment were used. Deep knowledge of anatomy, physiology, etiology, embryology, digestion, metabolism, genetics and immunity is also found in many texts.

245. HOW MANY COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD CAN LAUNCH THEIR OWN SATELITES?

SIX. India is among the six countries in the world which can launch their own satellite.

246. WHAT IS THE RATIO OF WIDTH AND LENGTH OF NATIONAL FLAG?

The ratio of the width and length of the flag is 2:3.

247. WHICH IS OUR NATIONAL FLOWER?

The National Flower "Lotus" or water lily is an aquatic plant of nymphaea species with abroad floating leaves and bright fragrant flowers that grow only in shallow waters.

248. WHAT IS OUR NATIONAL ANIMAL?

Tiger the magnificent animal is scientifically called the Panthera tigris. The tiger needs to be emulated to remain alert and swift while working towards our goals in life.

249. WHERE IS THE HIGHEST MOTORABLE ROAD BUILT IN THE WORLD?
The Jammu Kashmir State Road Transport Corporation (JKSRTC) operated the first vehicle across Khardung La Pass at 18,380 ft in 1962 —the highest motorable road in the world.
250. WHICH COMPANY LAUNCHED THE WORLD'S FIRST GEARED FOUR-STROKE SCOOTER?
A four-stroke 150cc 9 hp scooter called Legend from Bajaj Auto Ltd, Pune, was launched on July 25, 1998. This is the world's first geared four —stroke scooter.
251. WHICH IS KNOWN AS HAR MANDIR SAHIB?
Har Mandir Sahib, popularly known as the Golden temple is the holiest shrine for the Sikhs. Sikhs in all congregations had a role in building this noble edifice to their faith. Their participation took two forms —voluntary labour (seva) at the site and, a donation (daswandh) of 10 percent of their income to support the construction.
252. WHICH OF THE TEN SIKH GURUS'S SONS WERE BRICKED ALIVE BY AURANGAZEB?
Guru Gobind Singh was born at Patna in the year 1666. He infused new enthusiasm for freedom, democracy, righteousness and self-sacrifice in to the minds of vanquished people suppressed under the killing weight of Mughal despotism. In performance of divine mission, his two sons were lost fighting the Mughal hordes, while other two were bricked alive at Sirhind for not converting to Islam under orders of a Mughal Governor. He attained salvation in 1708 AD.
253. IN HOW MANY LANGUAGES IN INDIA DO THE NEWSPAPERS COMING OUT?
The nation has newspapers in 87 languages, radio programs in 71 and films in 15.
254. WHERE WAS THE WORLD'S FIRST UNIVERSITY SET-UP AND WHEN?
The world's first university was established in Takshila in 700 BC.
255. WHICH COUNTRY POSSESSES THE LARGEST POSTAL NETWORK IN THE WORLD?
India possesses the largest postal network in the world. It comprises 154149 post offices of which 89% are located in 604341 villages. Letters are collected from 564701 letterboxes and processed by a network of 573 Railway Mail Services (RMS).

256. WHICH IS THE MOST INSTINCTIVE DANCE FORM OF PUNJAB?
The most popular instinctive dance of men in Punjab, Bhangra, is one of India's popular folk dances. This dance is performed during the Baisakhi festival to the accompaniments and songs of Dholak.
257. ODISSI DANCE FORM BELONGS TO WHICH STATE IN INDIA?
Odissi traces its origins to the ritual dances performed in the temples of Orissa by the devadasis (temple dancers).
258. WHAT IS THE ANCIENT MEDICINAL SCIENCE OF INDIA KNOWN AS?
Ayurveda is the ancient medicinal science of India. Before the four Vedas were formally compiled, all branches of knowledge were termed as Veda of that branch. The branch of science related to health was termed as Ayurveda. It is part of Atharvana Veda. Ayurveda is divided into eight parts. Hence it is also known as Ashtanga ayurveda.
259. WHICH COUNTRY ACCORDING TO A STUDY BY THE GEMOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA WAS THE ONLY SOURCE OF DIAMONDS UNTIL THE YEAR 1896?
According to the Gemological Institute of America until 1896, India was the only source of diamonds to the world.
260. HOW MANY KANDAS OR CHAPTERS ARE IN VALMIKI'S RAMAYAN?
Valmiki completed writing the Ramayana Story in 24,000 verses. The epic is divided into Seven Kandas. The seven Kandas are the Bala Kanda, the Ayodhya Kanda, the Aranya Kanda, the Kishkinda Kanda, the Sundara Kanda, the Yudha Kanda, and the Uttara Kanda.
261. WHICH IS THE LARGEST PILGRIM DESTINATION IN THE WORLD?
The Venkateswara temple in the city of Tirupati built in the 10th century, is the world's largest pilgrimage destination and also the largest revenue generating pilgrim centre in the world.
262. WHAT DOES THE STATEMENT '*ekam sat vipraah bahudhaa vadanti*' MEAN?
'ekam sat vipraah bahudhaa vadanti' means 'Truth is one, and ways attain the same are many'. This sums up the spirit of the entire Rig Veda.
263. WHAT ARE THE THREE SECTIONS OF THIRUKURAL?
The Tirukkural is divided into three sections dealing with the three goals of people who want to live a full life in this world. Aram, Porul and Kama corresponding to the three Purusharthas *Dharma, Artha and Kama* respectively. There are 1,330 Kural couplets, divided into 133 chapters, each containing ten Kurals. In its essence Tirukkural is a treatise par excellence on the art of living.

264. WHO IS THE AUTHOR OF THE FAMOUS WORK *PANCHATANTRA*? Vishnu Sharma. Panchatantra is the best collection of stories in the world, all of them with certain principles or ideology to be conveyed to the children.
265. IN WHICH OF THE CHAPTERS OF MAHABHARAT DOES THE WORK OF *BHAGVAD GITA* APPEAR?
The Bhagavad Geeta appears in the 10th Canto of the Mahabharatha, called the Bhishma Parva. "If the entire Vedas are compared to a cow, Bhagavad Geeta is the milk of that cow". Sri Krishna, the most successful and dynamic statesman of that time comes to Arjuna's rescue. The dialogue between Arjuna and Sri Krishna forms the body of the Bhagavad Geeta. This dialogue was faithfully recorded by Sage Vyasa in 701 verses.
266. WHICH IS THE OLDEST RECORDED LANGUAGE OF THE WORLD? Sanskrit, the Indo-Aryan language is the oldest recorded language of the world; Rig Veda was the first Sanskrit prevalent during 2000-500 BCE-1000 AD.
267. WHAT DOES THE PHRASE "Ahimsa Paramo Dharmah, Himsa Tathaiva Cha" MEAN?
THIS SHOULD BE POLICY OF HUMAN LIFE ACCORDING TO RAMAYAN?
Non-violence is the Supreme Dharma. So too is the violence, to protect Dharma.
268. WHICH ORGANISATION OR COMPANY IS THE LARGEST EMPLOYER IN THE WORLD? The Indian railway is the largest employer in the world.
269. WHO DISCOVERED THE LAW OF GRAVITY FIRST? 1200 years before Sir Isaac Newton rediscovered the laws of gravity; Bhaskaracharya spoke about it in his Surya Siddhanta: "Objects fall on the earth due to a force of attraction by the Earth. Therefore the Earth, Planets, Constellations, Moon and are held in orbit by attraction".
270. WHO WROTE THE TREATISE 'ARTHASHASTRA'? Kautilya or Chanakya was not the originator of this science. At least four different schools of thought — those of Brihaspati, Ushanas, Prachetasa Manu, Parasara and Ambhi are referred to in Kautilya's Arthashastra. Thirteen individual teachers of 'Arthashastra'-Science of Economics & Government existed before Kautilya.

271. WHICH ARE TWO IMPORTANT ASPECTS ON WHICH THE CARNATIC MUSIC RESTS ON?

The basic of Carnatic Music is the system of Ragas (melodic scales) and Taalas (rythmic cycles). There are seven Rythmic cycles and 72 fundamental raagas. All other Raagas are considered to have stemmed from these. An elaborate scheme exists for identifying these scales, known as the 72 Melakarta Raagas.

272. WHICH COUNTRY PRODUCES THE MOST NUMBER OF FILMS PER YEAR AND HOW MANY FILMS PER YEAR?

India is the globe's largest producer of films, annually cranking out more than 850 titles. Exports earned \$100 Million in 1999, a tenfold increase since 1990.

The year 2000 earnings were estimated at \$ 250 Million. Management consultant Arthur Andersen predicts Indian Exports will expand by at least 50 percent each year, earning around \$ 3 Billion by 2006. India's IT software and Engineering skills is spilling into India's fast —growing reputation as an outsourcing center for high, lowanimation and special effects. Arthur Andersen forecasts that Indian animation exports alone will reach \$ 2 Billion in 2003.

273. WHO WROTE THE FAMOUS *NARAYANEYAM*?

Having come to know that devotional singing at the Guruvayoor temple cures one from paralysis, Narayana Bhattathiri decided to take this up for 100 days. During the 100 days of his Bhajanam at the temple at Guruvayoor, he summarized the entire Bhagavata Purana of 18,000 verses in 1,034 verses at the rate of one Dasaka (canto). On the hundredth day, he is known to have had a vision of the Lord in the form of Venugopala. The 100th canto composed on that day gives a graphic description of this form of the Lord from the Head to the foot. This immortal composition was named Narayaneeyam. He was just 27 years old at that time.

274. WHAT IS THE HOLY BOOK OF THE SIKHS?

Guru Granth Sahib.

275. HOW MANY GURUS OR TIRTHANKARAS WERE IN JAINISM? There are twenty-four Tirthankaras or prophets of Jainism starting from Rishabhath to Vardhamana Mahavir. Mahavira was born in village Kundagrama in district Muzaffarpur, in 599 BC. At the age of thirty, he renounced his family and proceeded in search of truth. In the thirteenth year of his asceticism he attained the supreme knowledge.

276. WHAT IS THE NAME OF PHILOSOPHY PROPOUNDED BY ADI SHANKARA? Advaita. By the time he was 32 years old, Shankara had single handedly revived the Hindu Culture and brought 75 different schools of thought under his Advaita Philosophy. And at 32, he had completed his mission in life. Shankara was not just a mere personality he was an institution.
277. JANAKI IS THE OTHER NAME OF A DIVINE HISTORICAL PERSON. WHO IS SHE?
Sita.
278. WHAT WAS THE STRNGTH OF THE KAURAVA ARMY?
11 Akshouhini (units). One Ahshouhini comprised of 21,870 chariots, 21,870 soldiers mounted on elephants, 65,610 soldiers mounted on horses, and 1,09,350 soldiers on foot.
279. NAME ANY ONE OF THE HIGHER PLANETS OR LOKAS ACCORDING TO THE HINDU SYSTEM?
The seven higher lokas are: 1. Bhurloka 2. Buvarloka 3. Suvarloka 4. Maharloka 5. Janaloka 6. Tapoloka 7. Satyaloka
280. WHO IS THE WORLD'S FIRST STENOGRAPHER?
Vinayaka is the World's first stenographer. He wrote to the dictation of Veda Vyasa of epic of Mahabharat.
281. WHICH ARE THREE GUNAS OF HUMAN BEINGS ACCORDING TO INDIAN SYSTEM OF CLSSIFICATION?
The three gunas are Sattva, Rajas & Tamas. They are associated with three colours. Sattva —White, Rajas —Red, Tamas —Black
282. HOW MANY PURANAS ARE THERE?
18 Puranas. 1. Mathsyas Puranam, 2. Markandeya Puranam, 3. Bhagavatha Puranam, 4. Bhavishya Puranam, 5. Brahmanda Puranam, 6. Brahma Puranam, 7. Brahmanvaivarta Puranam, 8. Vihnu Puranam, 9. Vayu Puranam, 10. Vamana Puranam, 11. Varaha Puranam, 12. Agni Puranam, 13. Naradha Puranam, 14. Padma Puranam, 15. Linga Puranam, 16. Garuda Puranam, 17. Kurma Puranam, & 18. Skanda Puranam
283. NAME THE SIX PADAIVEEDU OR ABODES OF LORD MURUGA IN TAMILNADU?
Six abodes (Arupadai Veedu) of Lord Muruga. 1. Tiruchendur, 2. Tirutani, 3. Tirupparamkundram, 4. Palamudhircholai, 5. Palani, 6. Swamimalai.

284. HOW MANY NAYANMARS ARE THERE IN THE SAIVITE TRADITION?
Nayanmars are the devotees of Lord Shiva who have sung on the Lord by visiting the various abodes of the Lord. They were 63 in number.
285. WHO IS THE GODDESS OF ENERGY OR STRENGTH?
Sakthi or Parvathi.
286. WHO IS THE FOUNDER OF BUDDHISM?
Gautama Buddha.
287. WHICH ARE THE FIVE LITERARY WORKS IN TAMIL THAT ARE CALLED AIYMPERUM KAPPIANGAL?
Silapathikaram, Manimekalai, Seevakachinthamani, Valayapathi, Kundalakesi,
288. WHAT ARE NAMES OF SEVEN CONTINENTS OF THE WORLD IN THE INDIAN SYSTEM OF GEOGRAPHY?
Names of the Sapta Dweepa. (7 continents)1. Jambu Dweepa, 2. Plaksha Dweepa, 3. Shalmalai Dweepa, 4. Usha Dweepa 5. Krouncha Dweepa, 6. Shaka Dweepa, 7. Pushkara Dweepa
289. WHO CALCULATED AND WROTE FIRST ABOUT THE SPEED OF LIGHT?
Saayanacharya in his Commentary on Rig Veda, discussed about light and its speed and qualities. Saayana was a minister in the court of King Bukka I of the Vijayanagar Empire in south India; he was also a Vedic scholar who wrote extensive commentaries on several ancient texts.
290. WHO WAS THE FIRST MATHEMATICIAN WHO FORMED THE RULES FOR OPEARATION OF ZERO
Brahmagupta
291. WHICH ARE THE TWO LARGEST DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD?
India is the **world's largest democracy** in terms of population and USA is the largest democracy in terms of geography.
292. WHO WAS THE FIRST MATHEMATICIAN WHO REVELED THE VALUE OF 'PI' i.e. $22/7 = 3.14$
The value of **pi** was first calculated by Bodhayana, and he explained the concept of what is now known as the Pythagorean Theorem. He discovered this in the 6th century long before the European mathematicians.
293. WHERE WAS THE EARLIEST RESERVOIR AND DAM IRRIGATION OF THE EORLD CONSTRUCTED?
The earliest reservoir and dam for irrigation was built in India

in **Saurashtra**. According to Saka King Rudradaman I of 150 CE a beautiful lake called **Sudarshana** was constructed on the hills of Raivataka during Chandragupta Maurya's time.

294. WHICH COUNTRY INVENTED THE DECIMAL SYSTEM IN MATHS?
The place value system, the **decimal system** was developed in India in 100 BC.

295. WHICH FAMOUS SCIENTIST OF THE WORLD MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENT ABOUT INDIA: "We owe a lot to the Indians, who taught us how to count, without which no worthwhile scientific discovery could have been made."Albert Einstein.

296. WHO WAS THE AUTHOR OF THE BOOK 'VIMANA SHASTRA' IN THE EARLY DAYS?

Sage Bharadwaj. He had extraordinary knowledge on aerodynamics science which is seen in his book 'Vimana shastra'. Even today many research scholars and scientists are referring to his work mainly, Vimana shatra —The Science of Aero-dynamics.

297. WHAT WAS THE PHILOSOPHY TAUGHT BY MADHWACHARYA?

Madhwa preached Dwaita philosophy. He said one should realize his limitation and surrender to the Lord. He also said real duty is helping others who suffer more than you. Madhwa was born in a small village near Udipi on a Vijayadasami day in 1238 A.D. He was initiated into Sanyas at the age of 12; his whole life was devoted to propagation of Vedic Philosophy.

298. NANDANAR WAS DEVOTED TO WHICH GOD AND WHAT DOES HIS STORY REVEAL?

This young boy, Nandanar, was engaged in the trade selling the carcasses of cows and tending his landlord's farm. He had great love for Lord Shiva and deep urge to visit the temple of Thiruppunkoor. Despite frequent requests the landlord refused to grant him leave to visit the temple. The greedy landlord wanted him to till 40 acres of land in a single day if he had to visit the temple.

The boy prayed to Lord Shiva and went to sleep. Overnight, the land was tilled. All are equal before God when filled with devotion to God or bhakthi.

299. WHO IS THE SAINT WHO PREACHED VISISHTADVAITA AND RE-ESTABLISHED VAISHNAVISM?

In the year 1017 A.D., Ramanuja an exponent of Vishistadvaita philosophy are qualified nonwas born in the village of Sri

Perumpudur. He worked hard upto his age of 120. He was a great social reformer and enabled the under-privileged to develop their spirituality. He took over as the head of the Vaishnavite sect in Srirangam mutt after the death of Yamunacharya, whose wishes were, that a Vishistadvaita Bashya should be written for the Brahma Sutras. The names of Parasara, the author of Vishnu Purana and Saint Sadagopan should be perpetuated. Then Saint Nambi duly initiated. Ramanuja after testing him 17 times to the mantra of "Om Namo Narayanaya" Despite the warning of his guru not to preach to everyone of this mantra unless they desired for it, Ramanuja preached it from the top of Srirangam temple by calling everyone, so that everyone would attain salvation. Ramanuja closed his long active career at the remarkable age of 120 years. He set the order of conduct in Vaishnavite temples which is followed even today.

300. WHO IS THE MOST RECORDED SINGER IN THE WORLD WHO HAS RENDERED MOST NUMBER OF SONGS?

Lata Mangeshkar. The Guinness Book of Records lists Lata Mangeshkar as the most recorded artist in the world with not less than 40,000 solo, duet and chorus-backed songs recorded in 20 Indian languages between 1948 and now. A Phalke Award winner for her contribution to Indian Cinema, the latest jewel in Lata's crown is having India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna conferred on her.

301. WHAT WAS THE OPENING PHRASE OF SWAMI VIVEKAKANDA IN HIS FAMOUS CHICAGO ADDRESS IN THE WORLD PARLIAMMENT OF RELIGIONS IN THE YEAR 1893. THE AMERICANS WERE ASTOUNDED BY THIS PHRASE AS NOBODY HAD ADDRESSED THEM LIKE THAT UNTIL THEN?

"My dear Brothers and Sisters of America..." This concept of universal brotherhood of Hinduism held the audience speechless.

302. WHICH COMPANY IS THE LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF MOTORCYCLES IN THE WORLD?

India's Hero Honda is the world's largest motorcycle manufacturer, with 2002 production of 17 lakh units.

303. WHICH COUNTRY DEVELOPED THE EARLIEST TECHNOLOGY FOR PRODUCTION OF ZINC AT ALARGE SACLE?

Zinc technology developed in India since 4th century BC, culminating the large production of Zinc in Zawar Rajasthan in

the thirteenth century. The American society of Metals formally recognized this pioneering technological achievement as an “International Historical land mark for Metallurgy” in the year 1989. The contribution of ancient Indians in Metallurgy is very outstanding and acknowledged throughout the world. The history of Indian Metallurgy starts before 2500 B.C. and goes beyond 13th century A.D., Developments in Iron Technology in different parts of India started from 1400 B.C. onwards.

304. WHAT IS ONE MANVANTRA IN THE INDIAN ASTRONOMICAL CALCULATION?
30,84,48,000 Years (71 Mahayugas + Kritayuga). One Mahayuga is the total of these four yugas that is 43,20,000 Years and Kritayuga is 17,28,000 Years
305. WHICH MATHEMATICIAN IS CONSIDERED AS THE WORLD’S PIONEER OF CYCLICAL QUADRILATERALS IN MATHEMATICS?
Brahmagupta (600 A.D.).The outstanding contribution of Brahmagupta (600 A.D.) to cyclic quadrilaterals and to the solution of indeterminate equations of the second degree is hailed the world over.
306. WHO PERFORMED WORLD’ FIRST PLASTIC SURGERY?
India takes pride in presenting the first surgeon to the world in fourth century B.C- Sushruta. That was the world’s first plastic surgery performed nearly 26 centuries ago, the art he mastered from his guru Divodasa Dhanvantari in Varanasi.
307. WHICH IS THE LARGEST KNOWN DIAMOND IN THE WORLD AND WHERE IS IT NOW?
Kohinoor, world’s largest diamond belongs to India, it was a part of Maharaja Ranjit Singh’s COLLECTION before the British invaded and looted this precious property.
308. HOW MANY CHAKRAS ARE THERE IN THE HUMAN BODY ACCORDING TO INDIAN SYSTEM OF ANATOMY AND WHAT ARE THEIR NAMES?
Seven. The charkas are mentioned below: 1. Mooladhara Chakra, 2. Swadhistana Chakra, 3. Manipuraka Chakra, 4. Anabata Chakra, 5. Vishuddi Chakra, 6. Ajna Chakra, 7. Soma Chakra.
309. WHICH IS THE OLDEST CONTINUOUSLY INHABITED CITY IN THE WORLD?
The city of Kashi

310. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES IS THE LARGEST EXPORTER OF PROCESSED DIAMONDS?

India

311. WHO ARE THE MOST EFFICIENT LOGISTIC OPERATORS i.e. MOVING GOODS AND PARCELS, IN THE WORLD ON DAILY BASIS?

The Dabbawalas in Bombay deliver nearly 1.5 lakh lunch boxes (dabbas) to Mumbai's citizens and it is said that their efficiency Rating is 99.999999 or one error in six million transactions as rated by the American Business Weekly, Forbes Global.

312. WHO FIRST DISCOVERED THAT EARTH REVOLVES AROUND THE SUN AND NOT THE OTHER WAY?

Aryabhata, some 1000 years before Copernicus published his theory of revolution of the Earth, that stated the earth revolves around the sun: "Just as a person traveling in a boat feels that the trees on the bank are moving, people on the Earth feel that the Sun is moving

313. WHO DISCOVERED THE LAW OF GRAVITY FIRST?

1200 years before Sir Isaac Newton rediscovered the laws of gravity, Bhaskaracharya spoke about it in his Surya Siddhanta: "Objects fall on the earth due to a force of attraction by the Earth. Therefore the Earth, Planets, Constellations, Moon and the Sun are held in orbit by attraction".

314. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING GROUPS OF PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT LEVELS OF EDUCATION ARE MOST UNEMPLOYED?

The Task Force on generation of Employment headed by Montek Singh Ahluwalia states that the unemployment problem is higher among the educated as the unemployment rates suggests below: 0.2% is unemployed among the illiterates, 1.2% is unemployed among the primary school educated, 3.3% is unemployed among the middle school educated, 7.8% is unemployed among the higher secondary school educated, 8.8% is unemployed among the graduates, 11.2% in unemployed among the Post Graduates

315. WHAT IS THE NATIONAL EMBLEM OF INDIA?

Four lions standing back to back.

316. WHICH OTHER ANIMALS, APART FROM LIONS, ARE IN OUR NATIONAL EMBLEM?

Elephant, Horse and Bull

317. FROM WHICH OF THE UPANISHADS IS THE PHRASE 'SATYAMEVA JAYATE' TAKEN? The words 'Satyameva Jayate' - from Mundaka Upanishad, meaning Truth Alone Triumphs-are inscribed below the abacus in the Devanagari script.
318. WHAT IS OUR NATIONAL FLOWER? The National Flower "Lotus" or water lily is an aquatic plant of nymphaea species with broad floating leaves and bright fragrant flowers that grow only in shallow waters
319. WHICH CITY'S SUBURBAN RAILWAY SYSTEM IN THE WORLD CARRIES THE LARGEST NUMBER OF PASSANGERS AND HOW MANY PASSANGERS A DAY? The Mumbai suburban railway system carries 59 lakh passengers a day, the highest in the world. About 1,077 suburban trains run every day on a track length of just 288 km
320. WHEN WAS ROCKET TECHNOLOGY FIRST USED IN A WAR AND WHO USED IT? In the year 1799, by Tipu Sultan against British Army. Tipu Sultan's army was the first to use rockets. Abdul Kalam tells the story, in half jest and half pain that the British learnt about accurate rocket propulsion from Tipu Sultan's armory. The remnants of the rockets fired at the British are still kept at the museum in London.
321. WHICH COMPANY LAUNCHED THE WORLD'S FIRST GEARED FOUR-STROKE SCOOTER? A four-stroke 150cc 9 hp scooter called Legend from Bajaj Auto Ltd, Pune, was launched on July 25,1998. This is the world's first geared four —stroke scooter.
322. WHICH COUNTRY HAS THE LARGEST ENGLISH-SPEAKING GRADUATES IN THE WORLD? WHICH COUNTRY IS THE SECOND LARGEST? India has the second largest English —speaking graduates in the world (next to the USA).
323. WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE HORSE OF MAHARANA PRATAP WHICH SAVED HIS LIFE IN HIS BATTLE OF HALDIGHATI AGAINST MUGHALS? In the Battle of Haldighati (1576) fought between Maharana Pratap and the Mughals; Maharana Pratap was badly hurt in the battle and was saved by his wise horse Chetak, who took him in an unconscious state away from the battle scene.

324. WHICH ARE THE TWO COUNTRIES THAT HAVE THE LARGEST NUMBER OF COMPANIES LISTED IN THE STOCK EXCHANGES?
In the number of companies listed, India is in second place, only after US. The US leads with 6355 listed companies as of end 2001. India follows closely with 5795
325. WHICH COUNTRY DEVELOPED THE ATM TECHNOLOGY?
The ATM bank card technology was developed in India in the late Eighties but it was patented in the US. It was done by one Mr. Jayant from Indore. It was a one million —dollar sale to Unisys, which in term made \$700 million by selling it all over the world.
326. WHICH COMPANY IS THE WORLD’S LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF BI-CYCLES?
Hero cycles limited the flagship company of the Hero group, has been the largest manufacturer of bicycles in the world since 1986. The two units at Ludhiana and Sahibabad have a combined production capacity of more than 16,500 bicycles a day.
327. WHICH LANGUAGE IS CONSIDERED AS MOTHER OF ALL EUROPEAN LANGUAGES?
Sanskrit is the mother of all European languages. According to Forbes Magazine (July 1987), Sanskrit was considered the most suitable language for speech recognition in computer. During the early years of software revolution when western scientists were figuring out a way of constructing a protocol for writing code, they realized that the principles had already been laid down in the Sanskrit language by Panini some 2500 years ago.
328. WHERE WAS THE WORLD’S FIRST UNIVERSITY SET-UP AND WHEN?
The world’s first university was established in Takshila in 700 BC. Nalanda University, the Harvard of its times was built in 4th century BC and was one of the greatest achievements in the field of education. More than 10,500 students studied over 60 subjects at the Nalanda University which included Brahminical and Buddhist, sacred and secular, philosophical and practical. Nalanda attracted students not only from parts of India but also from far off lands.
329. WHICH IS THE MANAGEMENT SHOOOL IN THE WORLD THAT IS MOST DIFFIICULT TO GET ADMISSION INTO?
Ans :Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad is the toughest management school in the world to get into, ahead of Harvard Business School, Columbiya University, Spain’s Institute de Empresa and France’s INSEAD, according to a survey by *The Economist*

330. WHICH COUNTRY POSSESSES THE LARGEST POSTAL NETWORK IN THE WORLD? India possesses the largest postal network in the world. It comprises 154,149 post offices of which 89% are located in 604,341 villages. Letters are collected from 564,701 letterboxes and processed by a network of 573 Railway Mail Services (RMS).
331. WHICH UNIVERSITY IN SAURASHTRA WAS A KEEN COMPETITOR TO NALANDA AND TAXSHILA UNIVERSITIES?
Valabhi. The University of Valabhi (600 AD to 1200AD) was situated in Saurashtra in western Bharath. The university stood as a rival for Nalanda. It championed the cause of Hinayana Bhudisam. We still know students coming from the Gangetic plains to learn in this university. We find surprising figures at the time of Hiuen Tsang about this university. He states that "around 7th century there were 6000 monks studying in this university and 100 monasteries were provided for them.
332. WHAT IS THE ANCIENT MEDICINAL SCIENCE OF INDIA KNOWN AS? 1
Ayurveda - Ayurveda is the ancient medicinal science of India. Before the four Vedas were formally compiled, all branches of knowledge were termed as Veda of that branch. The branch of science related to health was termed as Ayurveda. It was part of Atharvaveda. Ayurveda is divided into eight parts. Hence it is also known as 'Aashtanga Ayurveda'.
333. WHICH IS THE OLDEST DANCE FORM OF TAMILNADU?
harathanatyam is one of the oldest dance forms of India. This dance originated in the state of Tamil Nadu and was nurtured in the temples and courts of southern India.

General Questions

Ancient Indian Scientists

1. Acharya Bharadwaj acquired extensive knowlwdge of the _____ and did serve tapas (**Vedas**)
2. Acharya Bharadwaj had a hermitage in the holy city of prayag and was an ardent apostle of _____ and mechanical science (**Ayurveda**)
3. Acharya Kapil celebrated as the founder of _____ philosophy (**Sankhaya**)
4. Acharya Kanaada found _____ as offering littered all over the

place. (**Grains of rice**)

5. Acharya Kanaada childhood name was _____ (**Kashyapa**)
6. Acharya Susrutha has also described the number of _____ methods (**Stitching**)
7. Acharya Charaka was considered to be the first world renowned physician for _____ (**Internal Medicines**)
8. Acharya Patanjali is the profounder of yoga based on _____ and _____ (**Upanishads , Atharvaveda**)
9. Aryabhata main interest and concentration was _____ and astronomy (**Mathematics**)
10. Varahamihira was a world known Indian _____ (**Astronomer**)
11. Brahmagupta was one of the most significant _____ of ancient india(**Mathematicians**)
12. Bhaskaracharya was the first Indian mathematician to write down the _____ that figures the Hindu Arabic decimal system (**Number**)
13. Nagarjuna dedicated research for twelve years produced maiden discoveries and inventions in the facilities of _____ (**Chemistry**)
14. Nagarjuna was the extraordinary wizard of _____ born in the village of Baluka in Madhya Pradesh (**Science**)

Family orientation leads to higher savings and safer investment

15. From a very young age Indians are inculcated with the habit of spending _____ and _____ more (**Spending, Saving**)
16. Indian tradition teaches her citizens to be very careful with regard to the usage of _____ (**Resources**)
17. Over consumption, excessive usage and wastage are treated as _____ to be avoided (**sins**)
18. Entrepreneurial ventures are initiated with the hope of leaving _____ enterprises to the succeeding generations (**Profitable**)
19. Cutting down the expenditures and saving the maximum amount of money for the betterment of families remain the _____ of Indians (**Mantra**)
20. The total amount of gross domestic saving was _____ during 1950 —51 (**Rs. 871 crores**)

21. Indians make savings in a variety of _____ (**Avenues**)
22. Even investment in _____ which is a highly popular mode of savings across the country (**Gold**)
23. India has one of the highest rates of _____ in the world (**Savings**)
24. Indians prefer to invest in safer avenues as compared to the _____ (**Riskier one**)
25. Investments in _____ and _____ of companies are not in the high priority list of Indian public (**Shares, Debenture**)
26. One has to keep in mind that the world witnessed the _____ crisis during the above period (**Global Economic**)

Higher level of Entrepreneurship

27. Many of us having feeling that our people are generally lazy so there is not much _____ in the country (**Entrepreneurship**)
28. India is an _____ nation (**Ancient**)
29. _____ is not something new to the Indian society and it must have dominated the lives of people (**Entrepreneurship**)
30. India was in fact made poor and underdeveloped during the _____ period (**British**)
31. All sorts of _____ tiny, small and big have been coming up in thousand every year (**Enterprises**)
32. The Indian brand equity foundation notes that India has emerged as a country with _____ entrepreneurs (**85 Million**)
33. _____ is considered the best way to lead a purposeful existence. (**Karma Yoga**)
34. _____ exhorts people to work without expecting result (**Mahabharata**)
35. The Indian mind has been engage in one or other _____ activities (**Productive**)
36. _____ is a household name in India and is familiar in many places in abroad (**Sivakasi**)
37. Interesting to note that highest priced _____ in the world released in the US from sivakasi (**Diary**)

38. Sivakasi entrepreneurs also print _____ and items of high security such as _____ for countries from Europe (**Cheque book, Flight tickets**)
39. India was the _____ most entrepreneurial in the world (**Second**)
40. _____ and _____ have become synonymous with their products throughout the world (**Surat, Tirupur**)

Womens are Strength of Indian Economy

41. Most of us feeling that the role of women in the Indian economy is limited and they play only a marginal role in _____ (**Economic activities**)
42. Government of India 2004 noted that there were _____ women enterprises (**10,63,721**)
43. Womens perform a variety of functions that help the growth of the _____ (**Economy**)
44. Economies can be sustained only when conditions are favourable at the _____ level (**Family**)
45. The role of ladies belonging to the rural _____ households of the Goundar community in the Coimbatore (**Farming**)
46. The habit of _____ comes naturally to the Indian Women (**Savings**)

India's Achievements

47. Indian _____ companies can once more raise their heads in the glory (**Pharma**)
48. Indian Farmers consider bio- degradable waste as marvellous _____ (**Manures**)
49. Indian Farmers also find development of _____ as a lucrative venture(**Herbal**)
50. A reaserch scholar has said excessive use of _____ during the last three decades had spoiled the texture of soil (**Pesticides**)
51. The silk saree weaved in any part of the world other than Karnataka cannot be called as the _____ (**Mysore Silk**)
52. Hindustan Lever Ltd is planning to take its _____ centres global sometimes (**Ayush Therapy**)

53. The biggest and tallest ever _____ in Asia capable of producing 2000 KW (2MW) power has been installed in Tirunelveli district (**Wind Turbine generator**)
54. India's fastest academic computer a "teraflop" Linux Cluster has been commissioned at the _____ (**Institute of mathematical science**)
55. _____ was the first Indian manufacturer to display well entrenched foreign brands from the market (**Ardeshir Godrej**)

General Questions about Indian Elephant

56. The largest Indian Elephant was ____ high at the shoulders [3.43 meters , (11.3 ft)]
57. The two large elephant bulls were named as _____ and _____ (**Raja Gaj , Kanchha**)
58. The large elephant bull Raja Gaj stood _____ tall at the shoulder [11.3 ft (3.4 m)]
59. Indian Elephants are _____ to mainland like India, Nepal, Bhutan, Thailand etc. (**Native**)
60. Elephas maximus has been listed as Endangered by _____ as the population has declined by at least 50% over the 60 to 75 years (**IUCN**)
61. IUCN stands for _____ (**International Union for Conservation of nature**)

Great Women In Ramayana

62. _____ life shows that illumination comes to the Sincere aspirant irrespective of ancestry or rituals (**Shabari**)
63. _____ was a saint lady who did not come into direct contact with rama but assisted by serving Hanuman (**Swayamprabha**)
64. Hala means _____ (**Ugliness**)
65. As there was nothing blameable in her Brahma himself gave her the name _____ (**Ahalya**)
66. _____ was the wife of monkey King Vali (**Tara**)
67. _____ cheerfully urged her Son to follow Rama in his wanderings and exerts himself diligently to minister to his wants (**Sumitra**)

Main Women characters in the Mahabharata

68. _____ more than any other person in the epic kept her faith in the moral order undimmed (**Gandharai**)
69. _____ throughout the Mahabharata is the embodiment of patience fortitude and self sacrifice (**Kunti**)
70. _____ was the central figure of the great epic Mahabharata (**Draupadi**)
71. Princess _____ was the only daughter of King Sharyati (**Sukanya**)
72. _____ was the daughter of the royal sage Vishvamitra and Menaka (**Shakuntala**)

Great Women in the puranas

73. _____ humbly lived her life of a faithful wife making no display of her wisdom (**Madalasa**)
74. According to the Bhagavata purana _____ was the daughter of swayambhuva Manu the primeval king of the human race (**Devahuti**)
75. According to the Matsya purana _____ daughter of Himalaya was to be married to Shiva (**Uma**)
76. _____ was the loving queen of King Harishchandra (**Shaibya**)
77. _____ was the mother of the famous Dhruva (**Suniti**)
78. _____ as the markandeya purana says was the mother of king Marutta and chief queen of King Avikshita (**Bhamini**)

Great womens in Buddhism

79. _____ was born as the daughter of suppabuddha at the shakyan village of Devadaha (**Mahapajapati Gotami**)
80. _____ when grow up she had an exquisite apearance with the complexion like molten gold (**Kshema**)
81. _____ was brought to her sense by teacher by the exercise of his extrodinay power (**Patachara**)
82. _____ was found in the mango garden of the sakhyan noble mahanama a rich citizen of vaishali was duly adopted by him. (**Ambapali**)
83. _____ was diligent, uncomplaining and gentle but was not lucky in marriage (**Isidasi**)

Great womens in Jaininsm

84. _____ was the nineteenth Tirthankara and aprincess according to the Shwetambara Jaina canons (**Mallinatha**)
85. _____ she is a onl;yvag datta (betrothed) is the highest ideal of the Indian womanhood (**Rajimati**)
86. _____ who prepared the first copy of that monumental allegorical work of siddharshi the upamitabhava prapanchakatha in A.D. 905 (**Guna Sadhwi**)
87. _____ became the first female disciple of mahavira and the head of his jaina order of nuns (**Ajja Chandana**)

Great womens in Soth India

88. _____ was a women of the Vellala community and was betrothed to kalippagai a soldier (**Tilakavati**)
89. _____ whose virtues and piety sambandar has extolled in his songs is honoured as one of the Nayanars (**Mangaiyarkarasi**)
90. _____ is one of Sixty three Shaiva saints and her songs are included in the eleventh book (Tirumurai) of canonical literature of Tamil Shaivism (**Karaikkil Ammaiyar**)
91. _____ imbibed her father's devotional fervour and dedicated herself body and soul to Ranganatha (Vishnu) [**Kodai , (Andal)]**
92. _____ constructed the a large jain temple at purigere which became famous (**Kunkuma Mahadevi**)
93. _____ is a great morality to tamil children even today as an introduction to Tamil poetry and a guide to moral life (**Avvai**)
94. _____ she was a daughter of tupakula Lingama Nayaka of Chandragiri and a courtesan of Tiruvellore called Kanaka (**Mangamma**)
95. _____ was the queen of Kumara Kampana who conquered Shambavaraya in 1361 A.D (**Gangadevi**)
96. _____ was not a lady of royal rank being daughter of Keshava Shetti a potter of Gopavaram (**Molla**)
97. _____ was the eldest daughter of the Kakatiya King Ganapatideva (**Rudramba**)

The Making of Pride of India

98. _____ in Chennai scrutinized the medicine part of the compilation (**Dr, S. Srivatsan MBBS**)
99. Town planning in India was guided by _____ (**Astronomy**)
100. The speed of light occurs in a vedic hymn used in _____ (**Funeral rites**)
101. _____ was born in India (**Plastic Surgery**)

Science in Vedas

102. Nirkuta gives two meaning of the word _____ The planet earth and The animal cow (**Gau**)
103. _____ is the centre of the universe (**Sun**)
104. There are _____ type of Vedas (**Four**)
105. Rituals are hymns of two kinds they are _____ and _____ (**Shrauta, Smarta**)
106. In Rig Veda the Sukta 2nd Rik is prescribed for the final rites of a _____ (**Nitya Agnihotri**)
107. Vishvamitra is the Mantra — Drashtra and not the _____ (**Mantra Karta**)
108. The eternal knowledge is revealed by a higher power to the humans, knowledge is _____ not of human origin (**Apaurusheya**)
109. Each Vedic Shakha (recession) has its own _____ (**Kalpa**)
110. Various _____ have written Kalpas (**Sages**)
111. Vedic passages were woven into the daily rituals of the _____ so that they are preserved and not lost (**Hindus**)
112. On the completion of the _____ the world as it exists comes to an end and it is reborn (**Kali —Yuga**)
113. The Indian concept of time is _____ eternally (**cyclical**)
114. According to the Indian concepts there are 4 Yugas there are _____, _____, _____, and _____ (**Krita, Treta, Dvapara, Kali**)
115. While the _____ are gone the structure remains or revived in the old order (**species**)
116. Newton discovered the _____ (**Gravity**)
117. The Vedic passages were _____ multiple truths which were divined by certain evolved individuals (**Heterogeneous**)

118. _____ in his time arranged the Vedic passages (**Vedavyasa**)
119. Various sages have written Kalpas, Bodhayana, Gautama etc some of these we will look at in the chapter on _____ (**Mathematics**)
120. In Rig Veda 1st Mandala, 164th Sukta of 41 Riks is in praise of the _____ (**Sun**)
121. In Rig Veda 164th Sukta which talks about the elliptical path of _____ (**Planet**)
122. In Rig Veda the 164th Sukta is intended for the purification of a _____ who has committed a theft (**Brahmin**)

Questions From Hanuman Chalisa

123. Yug sahastra yojan per Bhanu! Leelyo taahi madhur phal janu!! These lines are comes under the _____ Sloka (**Hanuman Chalisa**)
124. From this Sloka line “Yug sahastra yojan per Bhanu” 1 Yug is equal to ___ Years (**12000**)
125. From this Sloka Lines “Yug sahastra yojan per Bhanu” 1 Yojan is equal to _____ Miles (**Eight**)
126. From this Sloka “Yug sahastra yojan per Bhanu” how did you calculate the distance between sun and Earth
 Ans : $\text{Yug} \times \text{Sahastra} \times \text{Yojan} = \text{par Bhanu}$ $12000 \times 1000 \times 8 \text{ miles} = 96000000 \text{ miles}$ $1 \text{ mile} = 1.6 \text{ kms}$ $96000000 \text{ miles} = 96000000 \times 1.6 \text{ kms} = 1536000000 \text{ kms to Sun}$
127. Hanuman ji did jump to Planet Sun, thinking it as a _____ (**Sweet Fruit**)

Ganesa Beyond the Indian Frontiers

128. Lord Ganesa is depicted with an elephant’s head a _____ and in a variety of poses (**Bulging Belly**)
129. The Worship of Ganesa began in the _____ period around 4th —5th cent A. D (**Gupta**)
130. There are some images of Lord Ganesa in _____ which have recently come to light (**Afghanistan**)
131. Carumati a daughter of Ashoka built a temple of Ganesa in _____ (**Nepal**)
132. In Nepal Lord Ganesa was worshipped by the Hindus including the _____ (**Buddhist**)

133. In Nepalese tradition a mystic mantra in praise of Ganesa called the _____ (**Ganapati Hridaya**)
134. Lord Ganesa did not achieve as much popularity in _____ as he did in Nepal (**Tibet**)
135. With the introduction of _____ in Mangolia Lord Ganesa reached that land (**Buddhism**)
136. Lord Ganesa being the god who removed the _____ and granted success in any undertaking (**Obstacles**)
137. In the famous Hindu temple at Bangkok there is an interesting _____ of Ganesa (**Bronze statue**)
138. Cambodia is extremely rich in _____ remains and there are innumerable images of Hindu including the Buddhist divinities (**Sculptural**)
139. As already observed the _____ was known in Cambodia as early as the 6th century (**Mahabharata**)
140. _____ was the most popular form of Ganesa in Nepal (**Heramba**)

Religio Cultural Emissaries From India

141. After his conversion to Buddhism Ashoka undertook a pilgrimage to _____ (**Lumbini**)
142. The King's daughter carumati who later on married _____ of Nepal (**Devapala**)
143. In Sumatra the local indigenou contains many _____ words pointing to the prevalence of Mahayana Buddhism in the 17th century (**Sanskrit**)
144. The majority of settlers in Cambodia hailed from _____ (**South India**)

Indian Influences on the Geographical names of South East Asia

145. In the geography of modern India we have at least _____ places (**Three**)
146. The Patna derived from the Sanskrit word _____ (**Pattana**)
147. The name of the celebrated river _____ reminded of the Iravati (**Iravadi**)
148. The capital of the Candra dynasty of Arkan was _____ (**Vaisali**)

149. The name of the Kambuja country (Cambodia) reminds us of _____ of Indian literature (**Kamboja**)
150. _____ capital of Kambuja which was built by Sresthavarman (**Sresthapura**)
151. King Jayavarman of Kambuja is said to have fixed his capital first at _____ and changed successively to Kuti (**Indrapura**)
152. In _____ the streams are named after famous Indian rivers (**Bali**)
153. The name "Java" was derived from the _____ word (**Sanskrit**)
154. The name Sumatra is said to be derived from the Sanskrit word _____ (**Samudra**)

Ancient Maritime Ventures

155. On the west the Arabian Sea separate India from the _____ (**Arabian Peninsula**)
156. The Arabian Sea _____ of the ancient Indians had been the main centre of maritime activity (**Ratnakara**)
157. _____ are already known to these seafarers (**Monsoon Wind**)
158. Ships and boats of India were built of _____ (**Wooden Planks**)
159. In Tamil the Ship is known as the _____ (**Kalam**)
160. The King of Dhara is very particular about the selection of wood to be used in constructing a _____ (**Ship**)

Ramayana in Asia

161. Ramayana is a wonderful poetic composition of the sage _____ (**Valmiki**)
162. The Ramayana was book that stood more for an _____ than for a form (**Ideal**)
163. The _____ describe that Ravana did not physically carry Sita he took her by lifting the big chunk of earth on which she was standing (**Kamba Ramayana**)
164. Rama katha was incorporated in the _____ (**Buddhist Jayakas**)
165. India had regular contact with _____ from the early centuries of the Christian era (**Indonesia**)
166. The great titan _____ was sleeping when Ravana got crushing defeat at the hands of Rama (**Kumbhakarna**)

167. The Ramayana of Thailand is known as _____ (**Ramakriti**)
168. The ___ is seems to be Angada who was sent by Rama as spy to Lanka (**Monkey**)
169. Bali receives fatal wounds subsequently dies and the Kingdom goes to ____ (**Surgiva**)

Hindu Deities in Central Asia

170. As to the popularity of _____ in central Asia there is ample evidence (**Saivism**)
171. The popularity of Saivism continued in _____ and other parts of central Asia. (**Afghanistan**)
172. Ganesa, Kumara, the Sun, moon have been noticed in _____ and few other paintings of central Asia (**Tun — Huang**)
173. _____ and Gisane are names common to men and God (**Demeter**)

Cultural Relations of India and Korea

174. The history of _____ goes back to ancient times but her contacts with India commence in the 4th century (**Korea**)
175. The manufacture of sacred utensils used in _____ (**Worship**)
176. Korea not only developed itself but it also disseminated the benefits of _____ (**Dharma**)
177. Artist _____ paintings of Avalokitesvara and vimalakirti were done in the Indian style (**Solguh**)
178. In China _____ has become a national cult (Dhyana)
179. In Korea Dhyana developed into a number of _____ (**Denomination**)

The Home of Tibetan Learning

180. Guru _____ a famous Tantric teacher from India visited Tibet in the 18th century A.D (**Padmasambhava**)
181. In course of time Padmasambhava has found the _____ in Tibet (**Nyingma School of Vajrayana**)
182. The entire esoteric system of the Doctrine has been classified into distinct group _____ and _____ (**Internal, External**)
183. The people of Tibet regards _____ and _____ which they preach and practice as essentially founded on Lord Buddha's teaching (**Sutras, Tantras**)

INDIAN INVENTIONS

184. Which cinematographer has invented the Bounce lighting? (The Apu Trilogy film)
A. Amit Roy B. Amol Rathod **C. Subrata Mitra** D. Anil Mehta
185. Which person was described as the "father of fibre optics", for inventing the glass fibre with cladding? (in 1950)
A. Vinod dham B. Gurinder Mann
C. Charles K. Kao **D. Narinder Singh Company**
186. Which entrepreneur was invented the shampoo and introduced to Britain?
A. Sake Dean Mohamed B. CV Raman
C. Marie Curie D. Prafulla Chandra Ray
187. At which year Milton Bradley introduced snakes and ladders game in united states of America?
A. 1950 **B. 1943** C. 1958 D. 1942
188. Who was the Co- inventor of the Universal Serial Bus? (USB)
A. Ajay Bhatt B. Homi Bhabha
C. Sathyendra Nath Bose D. Vikram sarabhai
189. Which metal was first recognized as metal in India? (it is used for medicinal purposes)
A. Aluminium B. Bronze C. Copper **D. Zinc**

Indian Influence in Siam

190. The First important Thai Kingdom was that of _____
(Sukhodhaya)
191. A new dynasty was founded in _____ by Chao Phaya Chakkri
(1782)
192. The Thai rulers were ardent follower of _____
(Hinayana Buddhism)
193. Buddhist images of the _____ both earlier and later have also been discovered **(Gupta Style)**
- Swami Vivekananda Life India's Emissary to the West**
194. Swami Vivekananda is the one person who stands as a _____ between India and the western world **(Golden Link)**
195. Swami Vivekananda knew _____ and had great respect for India's culture **(Sanskrit)**

196. When we study human history we come across an arresting phenomenon in the _____ of the rest of the world for India (**Fascination**)
197. Nehru said about Swami Vivekananda was a kind of _____ between the past and the present (**Bridge**)
198. _____ said that if you wants to understand India study Vivekananda (**Tagore**)
199. Vivekananda said that Expansion is life, _____ is death (**contraction**)
200. India was the building of a wall of _____ (**Custom**)

Great Women Achievers of India

201. At which year the first women's college in India has been established?
A. 1883 B. 1905 **C. 1879** D. 1925
202. Which two womens has became the first Indian female graduates of India and the British Empire?
A. **Chandramukhi Basu and Kadambini Ganguly**
B. Anderton and Isabella Mary and Ballin and Ada Sarah
C. Barlow and Annie Elizabeth Finney D. Benecke Ida Louisa
203. Who has became the first Indian women to be trained in western medicine?
A. Anandhibai joshee and sabat islambooly
B. Kadambini Ganguly and Anandi Gopal Joshi
C. Chandramukhi Basu and Kadambini Ganguly
D. Barlow and Annie Elizabeth Finney
204. Who becomes the first Indian woman to drive a car?
A. Bathsua Makin B. Hertha Ayrton
C. Suzanne RD Tata D. Maria Askew
205. Who was the first Indian woman to be awarded the Kaiser-i-Hind by the British Raj for her distinguished social service?
A. Pandita Ramabai B. Annie Besant
C. Homai Vyarawalla D. Asima Chatterjee
206. At which year All India Women's conference was founded?
A. 1925 B. 1951 C. 1963 **D. 1927**

207. Who was the first Indian woman to be conferred the Doctorate of Science by an Indian university?
 A. **Asima Chatterjee** B. Swapna K.Pati
 C. Yamuna Krishnan D. Kavirayani Ramakrishna Prasad
208. At which year Prem Mathur becomes the first Indian women commercial pilot of the Deccan Airways?
 A. 1966 B.1970 **C. 1951** D. 1927
209. At which year Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit became the first woman (and first Indian) president of the united Nations Genral Assembly?
 A. 1970 B. 1966 **C. 1953** D. 1980
210. Who becomes the first Indian woman pilot of the state airline, Indian Airlines?
 A. Sumantha Chaliha B. Urmila
C. Captain Durga Banerjee D. Nivedita Bhasin
211. At which year Indira Gandhi becomes the Prime Minister of India?
 A. 1969 **B. 1966** C. 1972 D.1958
212. At which year Mother Teresa wins the Nobel Peace Prize, becoming the first Indian female citizen to do so?
 A. 1959 B. 1984 **C. 1979** D. 1968
213. Who becomes the first woman judge of the Supreme Court of India?
 A. R. Banumathi B. Ranjana P. Desai
 C. **M. Fathima Beevi** D. Ruma Pal
214. At which year Pratibha Patil becomes the first woman President of India?
 A. 1994 **B. 2007** C. 1989 D. 1975
215. At which year Bachendri Pal became the first Indian woman to climb Mount Everest?**A. 1984** B. 1989 C. 1985 D. 1992

General Question

216. How many mango trees did Akbar planted in Darbhanga?
 A. 10,000 B. **100,000** C. 50,000 D. 1000
217. Which source of vitamin is rich in mango?
 A. **Vitamin A, C and D** B. Vitamin E
 C. Vitamin D D. Vitamin A
218. Which is our national tree?
 A. Ashoka tree B. Paper Birch C. Hack Berry D. **Banyan**

219. Which is the national bird of India?
A. Eagle B. Sparrow C. **Peacock** D. Kingfisher
220. How many olympic matches did India played during Golden Era?
A. **24** B. 35 C. 18 B. 15
221. Who is the first Indian Laureate and also first asian to be honoured?
A. **Rabindranath Tagore** B. Jawaharlal Nehru
C. Mahatma Gandhi D. Vallabhai Patel
222. At which day Padma Awards were announced by Government?
A. Independence day B. **Republic Day**
C. Childrens day D. United Nations Day
223. Which Award was started in 1957 by the Indian Council for child welfare?
A. Bharat Ratna Award B. Padma Awards
C. Gallantry Award D. **National Bravery Awards**
224. Who is the Founder of the world's largest Film industry?
A. Gulzar B. **Dada Saheb Phalke**
C. Prithviraj Kapoor D. Nitin Bose
225. Which award has been given to Sportsperson motivate to highest performance in international events?
A. **Droncharya Award** B. Arjuna Award
C. Sahitya academy award D. Bharath ratna award
226. Which railway platform is longest in the world?
A. Durgapur B. Haldia C. **Kharagpur** D. Medinipur
227. At which year Taj Mahal has been commenced and completed ?
A. 1628 —1639 B. 1610 —1630
C. 1750- 1780 D. **1631—1653**
228. How many workers were gathered from central Asia and India to construct Taj Mahal?
A. 20,000 B. 30,000 C. 10,000 D. 5800
229. _____ was the first person to use the rockets (**Tipu sultan**)
230. Who was designed and built the fort in 1565?
A. Shahjahan B. Akbar C. **Aurangazib** D. Babar
231. Which temple would never cast a shadow at noon, at any time of the year?
A. Meenakshi temple B. **Brihadeeshwara temple**
C. Lepakshi temple D. Rameshwaram temple

232. Where did the Indian Army Conference hall has been located?
A. Nathula B. Sikkim C. Firozpur D. Fazillka
233. Where did the lepakshi temple located?
 A. Gangtok B. Rameshwaram C. **Hindupur** D. Madurai
234. Which temple is closely associated with the Ramayana?
 A. Hoysalas B. Lepakshi
 C. Brihadeeshwara D. **Rameshwaram**
235. Which temple is raised on a low platform is both flat and dwarfish?
 A. Lepakshi temple B. Rameshwaram temple
 C. **Chenna kesava temple** D. Brihadeeshwara temple
236. Where did the Chennakesava temple is located?
A. Belur B. Halebid C. Hindupur D. Gangtok
237. Which temple has built in the middle of the tank which never dries up?
 A. Birla Mandir B. Tejpala temple
 C. **Golden Temple** D. Jain Temples
238. Which temple is one of the Six bahai temple in the world?
A. Lotus temple B. Lepakshi
 C. Brihadeeshwara D. Rameshwaram
239. Who was the great rajput king?
 A. Shivaji B. Guru Gobind Singh
 C. Tilak Manijhi D. **Maharana pratap**
240. At which year shivaji was born in the fort of Shivneri?
 A. 1688 B. **1630** C. 1618 D. 1680
241. Which fort shivaji has captured at the age of 16?
 A. Amber fort B. Jaisalmer fort
 C. Daulatabad Fort D. **Torangadh forts**
242. According to Hindu Mythology which god has took the form of Mohini ?
 A. **Lord Vishnu** B. Shiva C. Muruga D. Ganesha
243. Which was the birth place of the karagattam?
 A. Madurai B. **Tanjavur** C. tirunelveli D. Trichy
244. In Which the dancers gather in a circle and clap their hands as they dance?
 A. Kollatam B. Garba C. **Kummi** D. Odissi

245. Which dance has performed by women around an earthenware pot?
A. **Garba** B. Kuchipudi C. Mohiniyattam D. karagattam
246. Which dance is the most widespread folk dance of assam?A. Chauu
B. **Bihu** C. Bhangra D. odissi
247. In which dance the dancers are dressed in Lungis and Turbans?A.
Bhangra B. Karagattam C. Chauu D. Yakshagana
248. In which dance they also sing of their affectionate with their elders?
A. Ghode Modni B. Kathak C. **Hikkat** D. Bihu
249. Which women was ranked first in corporate America and appointed as CEO of pepsico holdings in 2006?
A. Chitra Ramakrishna B. Renuka ramnath
C. Malika srinivasan D. **Indra Nooyi**
250. Which festival has celebrated on the full moon day of the month of " Shraavan"?
A. Janmashtami B. Ganesha chathurti
C. **Raksha Bandhan** D. Rama Navami
251. Which has made India's largest milk producer in the world?
A. Aavin B. Cavin's C. **Amul** D. Heritage
252. Who was the first Indian manufacturer to displace well entrenched foreign brands from the market?
A. **Ardeshir Godrej** B. Vergese Kurien C. Naresh Goyal D. Pratap reddy
253. At which year Wipro technology has been started?
A. 1975 B. **1980** C. 1982 D. 1985
254. What is the name of the ceremony that introduce the child to food for the first time?
A. Karnavedha B. Jatakarma C. **Annaprashan** D. Garbhadaan
255. Which one is the initiation given to the disciplined student for his studies in the gurukul?
A. **Vedarambha** B. Samavartana
C. Nishkramana D. Simantonayanam
256. Which epic is called as the Adikavyam?
A. Mahabaratham B. Tolkapiyam
C. **Ramayanam** D. Tulasi ramayanam

257. Which dancer were first step in Russian ballet and not in Indian dance?
 A. Padma Subramaniam B. Guru gopinath
 C. **Rukmini Devi** D. Guru Pankaj Charan Das
258. In ayurveda which one deals with treatment for disease related to children?
 A. Graha B. **Bala** C. Jara D. Urdhwa
259. In Rig Veda period _____ has already taken the roots. (**Caste System**)
260. _____ was the founder of the Indian system of medicine Ayurveda. (**Sage Bharadwaja**)
261. If the entire Veda compare to the cow which one is the Milk of that cow?
 A. Brahmasutra B. **Bhagawad Geeta**
 C. Kamba ramayanam D. Upanishads
262. Which God ears symbolize attentive listening?
 A. Lord Shiva B. Vishnu C. **Ganesha** D. Muruga
263. How many fundamental ragas in the carnatic music?
 A. 62 B. **72** C. 43 D. 89
264. Name the three saint carnatic composers of the nineteen century _____ (**Tyagaraja, Muthuswami Dikshitar, Shyama Shastri**)
265. Which one is mainly help to study the essence of a raga?
 A. Alankaram B. Taatu varisaigal C. Keertana D. **Varnams**
266. The ascending motions of the ragas is called as the _____ (**aaroha**)
267. The descending motions of a raaga is called as the _____ (**avaroha**)
268. Time measures of Indian music is called as the _____ and the same in instrument playing is called as _____ (**Taala, Paltas**)
269. Which one is the opening part of the carnatic song?
 A. Anu pallavi B. Charanam C. **Pallavi** D. Chittai swaranga
270. Who composed most of the kirtis are reflection of his reverence to goddess Kamakshi?
 A. **Shyama Sastry** B. Thyagaraja
 C. Muthuswami Dikshidar D. Papanasam sivan

271. _____ is the way of singing that is more lyric oriented (**Thumri**)
272. Tarana is similar to the _____ of the carnatic music. (**Tilana**) _____
273. Which composers has composed the Pancha Ratna Kirtis?
 A. Purandara dasar B. Swati Tirunal
 C. **Tyagaraja** D. Papanasam sivan
274. Which instrument is considered as the Queen of the instrument?
 A. Sitar B. **Veena** C. Tabla D. Tambura
275. Which instrument has special significance in India because of its association with Lord Krishna?
 A. **Bansuri** B. Taval C. Mridangam D. Nadaswaram
276. Which instrument is most used in all forms of Indian music except carnatic classical and Drupad?
 A. Sitar B. Shehnai C. **Tabla** D. Sarangi

Chidambara Rahasyam (Secret)

277. After 8 years of R & D, Western scientists have proved that at Lord Nataraja 's _____ is the Centre Point of World 's Magnetic Equator
 A. Leg B. Hands C. **Big Toe** D. Palm
278. Our ancient Tamil Scholar _____ has proved Chidambara Rahasyam Five thousand years ago?
 A. Ramanuja Kavirayar B. Arjun Appadurai
 C. **Thirumoolar** D. Nathamuni
279. _____ is a wonderful Scientific guide for the whole world
 A. Thevaram B. **Thirumandiram** C. Tirupattu D. Tiruvacakam
280. Chidambaram temple is located at the Center Point of world 's _____ (**Magnetic Equator**)
281. Of the "Pancha bootha" i.e. 5 temples, Chidambaram denotes the _____
 A. Fire B. Land C. Water D. **Skies** .
282. Of the "Pancha bootha" i.e. 5 temples Kalahasthi denotes _____
 A. Water B. **Wind** C. Skies D. Agni
283. Of the "Pancha bootha" i.e. 5 temples Kanchi Ekambareswar denotes _____
 A. Wind B. Skies C. **Land** D. Agni

284. All the three temple Chidambaram, Kalahasthi, Kanchi Ekambareswar are located in a straight line at _____ 41 minutes Longitude
A. 60 degree **B. 79 degrees** C. 90 degrees D. 120 degrees
285. _____ temple is based on the Human Body having 9 Entrances denoting 9 Entrances or Openings of the body
A. Kalahasthi B. Kanchi Ekambareswar
C. Thiruvanamalai **D. Chidambaram**
286. Temple _____ is made of 21600 gold sheets which denotes the 21600 _____ taken by a human being every day (**Roof, breaths**)
287. The 21600 gold sheets are fixed on the Chidambaram temple ____
A. Walls B. Roof **C. Gopuram** D. Pillar
288. In the Chidambaram temple gopuram they fixed 72000 gold nails which denote the total no. of _____
A. Bones B. Hormones **C. Nadis** D. Muscles
289. Thirumoolar states that man represents the shape of _____ (**Shivalingam**)
290. Chidambaram which represents Sadashivam which represents HIS _____
A. Power **B. Secret** C. Dance D. Potential
291. "Ponnambalam" is placed slightly tilted towards the left. This represents our _____
A. Brain **B. Heart** C. Eyes D. Ears
292. Ponnambalam has 28 pillars denoting the 28 _____ as well as the 28 methods to worship Lord Shiva (**Ahamas**)
293. There are 4 pillars holding the Kanagasabha representing the 4 _____
A. Epics B. Legend **C. Vedas** D. Smritis
294. The cross beams in Chidambaram temple represent the _____ running across the Human body
A. Nerve **B. Blood Vessels** C. Bloods D. Muscles
295. In the Chidambaram temple 9 Kalasas on the Golden Roof represent the 9 types of _____
A. Power B. Grahas **C. Shakthi** D. Vedas
296. In the Chidambaram temple the 6 pillars at the Artha Mantapa represent the 6 types of _____
A. Vedas B. Puranams **C. Sashttras** D. Energies

297. In the Chidambaram temple the 18 pillars in the adjacent Mantapa represents 18 _____
A. Sashtras B. Sakthi C. Energies **D. Puranams** .
298. The dance of Lord Nataraja is described as _____ by Western Scientists (**Cosmic Dance**)
299. Whatever Science is propounding now has been stated by _____ thousands of years ago
A. Jainism B. Buddhism **C. Hinduism** D. Zoroatrism
300. The Sun is the source of _____ was well known to Indians from Vedic period (Energy)
301. The Sun holds the earth and the _____ region
A) Angelic B) Mortal C) Celestial D) Immortal
302. The Sun is the source of _____ was well known to Indians from Vedic period (**Energy**)
303. The Sun holds the earth and the _____ region
A) Angelic B) Mortal **C) Celestial** D) Immortal
304. Ellipse is the path of point that moves so that the sum of its distances from two fixed points Called _____
A) Exterior **B) Foci** C) Surface D) Locus
305. The mean planets move on their _____ and the true planets in _____ circles. (**Orbits, Eccentric**)
306. he Moon covers the sun and the great shadow of the earth covers the _____
A) Sun B) Stars C) Planetoid **D) Moon**
307. There are all _____ satellites in the Solar system.
A) 32 B) 40 C) 30 D) 9
308. The moon is the only satellite of the Earth with a _____ nature
A) Similar **B) Distinct** C) Vague D) Audible
309. All other satellites have sizes below _____ of their mother planet, the earth
A) 1/3 B) 1/5 **c) 1/8** D) 1/2
310. The circumference of the earth is the result of multiplication of its _____
A) Spac e B) Extent **C) Radius** D) Span

311. The value for the circumference of the earth is _____
(4.008×10^7 meters)
312. Massive celestial bodies are attracted powerfully towards the earth by her own _____ force
A) **Gravitational** B) Planetary motion
C) Tendency D) Allure
313. _____ is simple astronomical instrument of Hindu origin commonly used by ancient astronomers. (**Nadivalaya Yantram**)
314. The multi coloured rays of the sun being dispersed in a cloudy sky are seen in the form of _____ which is called the _____
(**Bow, Rainbow**)
315. Motion is the cause of conjunction, disjunction, and _____
(**Velocity**)
316. Motion against gravity is due to _____ and conjunction is the _____ (**Effort, Effect**)
317. Magnets are categorised in _____ varieties.
A) 80 **B) 90** C) 70 D) 60
318. The Circumference of the earth is calculated by multiplying the _____ by _____ (**Radius, 10**)
319. There are 16 types of _____ for the construction of Airplanes (**Alloys**)
320. _____ is obtained by melting 8 parts of copper and 2 parts of tin together. (**Bronze**)
321. _____ was chiefly mined in Rajasthan, Bihar, and Andhra Pradesh (**Copper**)
322. One should _____ the non-square place by twice the square root of the square place.
A) Add **B) Divide** C) Multiple D) Subtract
323. The invention of _____ is an important gift of Bharat to the world of Mathematics
(**Trigonometry**)
324. Blood flow from the heart and then to all places through _____ (**Veins**)

325. Walking during night causes _____ in the body, sleep in the day causes _____ in the body (**Stiffness, Softness**)
326. In Ayurveda the task is to attain the _____ of primary fluids in the body. (**Equilibrium**)
327. The _____ discolours the barks, leaves and flowers of trees (**Heat**)
328. A paste prepared out of madhuyashti, sugar, kushtam, madhupushpam together applied to the root of a tree produces _____ (**Seedless Fruits**)
329. The plants that bear fruits without flowers are called _____ (**Vanaspathi**)
330. The plants that bear fruits after flowering are called _____ (**Druma**)
331. The plant with many branches are called as _____ (**Gulmah**)
332. By the sound of wind, fire and lightening the _____ and _____ perish. (**Fruit, Flower**)
333. Sound is perceived by the ear hence _____ hear. (**Trees**)
334. A sudden croaking of _____ are also indications of sudden rains. (**Frogs**)
335. Water should be drained off from the field in the month of _____ to keep the crop Disease free
A) August B) October C) **September** D) July
336. Indian _____ strongly based on episodes in forest, portrayed wildlife as holy (**Epics**)
337. _____ led their life in ashrams made of leaves and meditated under the trees.
A) Angel B) **Saints** C) Glorified Soul D) Pietist
338. The art of painting that bestows the four fold objectives of human beings viz, _____ , _____ , _____ , _____ (**Dharma , Artha , Kama , Moksha**)
339. As _____ is the best among the mountains
A) Nanda Devi B) Kamet C) **Sumeru** D) Mana

340. _____ is the best among the birds
A) Garuda B) Parrots C) Canaries D) Pigeon
341. _____ is the God of medicine (**Dhanvantri**)
342. _____ is a famous astronomer and a contemporary of vikramaditya (**Varahamihira**)
343. The Cleansing techniques in Yoga are called _____ (**Kriyas**)
344. Mudras are used in _____ Yoga
 A) Vinyasa B) Kundalini **C) Hatha** D) Anusara
345. Clay bricks and _____ must be free from gravels, pebbles, roots and bones and must be soft to _____ touch. (**Tiles**)
346. The _____ are made according to the measurements of humans. (**Weapons**)
347. As a tigress carries her cub by her _____ with a balanced touch. (**Teeth**)
348. Bhaskaracharya was the head of the observatory at _____ (**Ujjain**)
349. The law of _____ was propounded by Bhaskaracharya about 500 years before Newton (**Gravitation**)
350. There are _____ types of salts
 A) Eight **B) Six** C) Ten D) Four
351. _____ Salt formed in the hearth by burning wood
 A) Samudhram B) Romaka C) Bida **D) Cullika Lavana**
352. _____ is respected as the propounder of Sankhya School of Indian Philosophy
 A) Aryabatta B) Abhas Mitra **C) Kapilamuni** D) Harish Chandra
353. The Ancient Indians had a _____ view of the entire world
 A) Integrated B) Salubrious **C) Holisitic** D) Mystic
354. Bhoja says that no _____ should be used in joining the planks in the bottom of a ship
 A) Aluminium **B) Iron** C) Copper D) Zinc
355. _____ thinkers invented zero (**Indian**)
356. Zero is the basis for the _____ number system (**Binary**)

357. Research at _____ confirmed that the structured grammar of Sanskrit is most suited for Artificial Intelligence (**NASA**)
358. There are _____ arteries that carry blood.
A) 24 B) 12 C) 25 D) 8
359. The arteries take _____ blood to different parts of the body for nourishing the body
 A) Fiber B) Vitamin **C) Nutrients** D) Minerals
360. In the modern notation Vikasha is a _____
 A) Hour **B) Second** C) Minute D) Both Second and Hour
361. It is indeed remarkable that ancient system of measurement of _____ is identical to the present system.
 A) Corner B) Turning point C) Bend **D) Angles**
362. The World is due to the _____ god (**Sun**)
363. The fact that sun is the source of _____ was well known to Indians from Vedic period (**Energy**)
364. _____ ply on water, vehicles moving on the ground are _____ (**Ships, Chariots**)
365. _____ the salt mixture which produces aqua-regia on heating
A) Bida B) Saindhavam C) Romaka D) Sauvarca
366. _____ is the process to remove the Naaga and Vanga-Doshas from Paarada (mercury)
 A) Barrier B) Restraint **C) sublimation** D) Liberation
367. _____ is a property by virtue of which bodies resist deformation force applied on them.
 A) Plasticity B) Rigidity **C) Elasticity** D) Fluidity
368. The tool of _____ was the sharpness of intelligence and Vision (**Investigation**)
369. The colour of the flame for Tin is _____
 A) Black B) brown **C) Ash** D) Blue
370. The colour of the flame for Mica is _____
 A) Pale white B) Yellow C) Black **D) Brown**
371. _____ is an instrument used for purifying metals (**Musha**)

372. The materials used to make the crucible are _____ and _____ (**Iron, Clay**)
373. When strongly heated in fire the loss of weight for _____ is Nil.
A) Gold B) Tin C) Iron D) Silver
374. Experts know the health or disease of the body through testing the life – indicating _____ (**Pulse**)
375. Waking during the night causes _____ in the body
 A) Tension **B) Stiffness** C) Flexibility D) Limpness
376. By the sound of wind, fire and lightening the fruit and flower _____
 A) Vanish B) Improve **C) Perish** D) Bear
377. There are _____ types of musical instrument according to the nature
 A) Five **B) Four** C) Ten D) Eight
378. All sorts of seeds should be _____ in February or March
 A) Annex B) prevent C) Sell **D) Procured**
379. _____ increases strength, Virility and longevity
A) Iron B) Calcium C) Vitamins D) Minerals
380. The term Ayas (the iron) is mentioned in the _____ Veda
 A) Yajur B) Atharva **C) Rig** D) Sama
381. Wind the healer of wounds has medicinal properties and capable of _____
 A) Reconstruct **B) Rejuvenating**
 C) Restitute D) Damage
382. There is no equivalent to iron which is so favourable to _____ (**Human Species**)
383. The _____ theorem had its origin in the “Sulba Sutras of Baudhayana and Apsatamba”
A) Pythagoras B) Rationality
 C) H-theorem D) Bayes
384. The area of _____ is the product of $\frac{1}{2}$ of one side and the perpendicular to it. (**Triangle**)

385. _____ medicines developed through centuries of knowledge on the medicinal effects of plants, trees and herbs (**Ayurvedic**)
386. Ancient Scholars educated and trained their younger generations at their homes situated in the _____ (**Forest**)
387. The present method of extracting the square and cube root by division was invented by _____ (**Aryabhata**)
388. In India from the time of _____ very large and small numbers were computed
A) Upanishads **B) Vedas** C) Smritis D) Epics
389. The _____ came to know the Zinc Distillation process only in 1748 A.D
A) Australians B) Indians **C) Europeans** D) Greek
390. The _____ in 18th century A.D. preferred Indian iron for manufacturing steel of good quality (**British**)
391. The Kosti Yantra is used for extracting pure metal content from _____ and _____ (**Ores, Minerals**)
392. There is no _____ possible without a cause
A) Waves **B) Effect** C) Origin D) Fruit
393. There are _____ types of iron
A) Three B) Five C) Ten D) Seven
394. Modern golden ornaments were used in _____ 3000 B.C (**Mohenja Daro**)
395. Indians knew the extraction of _____ from ore by distillation as early as 400 B.C
A) Bronze B) Copper C) Silver **D) Zinc**
396. Bharatiya languages have more than _____ percent Samskrit words.
A) Fifty **B) Sixty** C) Ten D) Twenty
397. The universal law of gravitation was propounded by _____ (**Issac Newton**)
398. The fundamental unit of length is called _____ (**Paramanu**)

399. The circumstance of the _____ in the Rigveda and the-Suryasidhantha are the same.
A) Stars B) Sun **C) Earth** D) Moon
400. _____ investigations may be carried out in the north. (**Metallic**)
A) Electronics **B) Metallic** C) Science D) Plastic
401. Roger Bacon's another invention was _____
A) Button B) Shampoo **C) Lens** D) Ruler
402. Shivaji was among a handful of Indian rulers to realise the importance of _____ (**Sea Power**)
403. _____ is an independent sphere of the State (**Navy**)
404. Which day is celebrated as the shivaji jayanti?
A. December 20 **B. February 19** C. January 6 D. October
405. The public attention and popular memory is disproportionately focused on Shivaji his exploits against the _____ or _____ (**Bijapur Sultanate , The Mughals**)
406. Indians had extensive trade links to _____ (**South East Asia**)
407. The _____ and _____ kings of south India virtually ruled the seas to the east and south (**Chola, Pallava**)
408. India had extensive trade with the Middle East as well as Europe, especially during _____ (**Roman times**)
409. Dry docks and ship construction sites at _____ in Gujarat indicate that Indians were fairly advanced in the art of ship building (**Lothal**)
410. The ports of Bharoch, Kalyan, Chaul and _____ were well known all over the Middle East. (**Sopore**)
411. The Indian share in sea trade and ships declined from the _____ century onwards (**14th**)
412. The Indian share in sea trade and ships declined due to the invasion of western India by the _____ from the north. (**Muslim sultans**)

413. The colonies of Arab traders sprang up in most of the important ports on the _____ (**western coast**)
414. Shivaji appointed _____ and _____ as the joint chiefs of his navy. (**Daulat Khan, Maynak Bhandari**)
415. Shivaji cited his main base at a place 150kms south of _____ (**Mumbai**)
416. The rock on which the _____ fort is situated was about two kms out at sea near Malwan.
A. Adoni B. Warangi **C. Sindhudurg** D. Chandragiri
417. The work on the Sindhudurg fort began on November 10, 1664 and was completed in ____ (**1667**)
418. Shivaji enrolled the local _____ in his navy and gave them generous grants. (**Fisherfolk**)
419. At which year Shivaji decided to test the preparedness of his fledgling navy?
A. 1660 B. 1690 **C. 1665** D. 1662
420. By 1680 the _____ navy had become a formidable force and had 45 large ships 150 small ships and over 1,100 Galbats (**Maratha**)
421. The Siddi was nominally under _____ but faced with the Maratha threat (**Bijapur Sultan**)
422. Due to Maratha threat Siddi sought the help of the _____ at Surat (**Mughal governor**)
423. The British, with commercial interests in _____ were inclined to keep the Mughals in good humour (**Surat**)
424. When faced with the Maratha naval threat Siddi ships took shelter in _____ harbour (**Mumbai**)
425. Shivaji realised that the only way he could check the foreign powers and the Siddi was by establishing strong forts to _____ Mumbai
A. Infract **B. Blockade** C. Snag D. Support
426. In April 1672, Shivaji planned to occupy the small island of _____ south of Mumbai
A. Kalpeni B. Car Nicobar **C. Khanderi** D. Majuli

427. The English claimed that the _____ was part of the Mumbai group of islands and belonged to them. (**island**)
428. The Siddi and the English threatened to launch a joint operation against the _____ (**Marathas**)
429. During the operations against the Marathas Shivaji was involved in an expedition to the _____ (**South**)
430. After _____ years later Shivaji found time to pay attention to Marathas area (**Seven**)
431. To bring effective pressure on the English, Shivaji decided to menace the _____ itself with a land threat (**Mumbai harbour**)
432. Shivaji assembled the _____ strong force in the vicinity of Kalyan to attack Mumbai. (**4000**)
433. Shivaji needed permission from the Portuguese for passage through _____ which the Portuguese _____ (**Sashti, refused**)
434. The memories of Shivaji's devastating attack on _____ fresh in their minds, there was panic in Mumbai. (**Surat**)
435. The Maratha navy landed a force of 500 men on Khanderi to start work on the _____
A. Baricade B. Defence **C. Fortifications** D. Opening
436. The English decided to _____ the garrison into submission by launching a blockade of the island
A. Quit **B. Starve** C. Refrain D. accept
437. The Marathas, under cover of night, managed to send _____ to the garrison in small ships.
A. Furnishing B. Plan **C. Provisions** D. Groundwork
438. On _____ the English attempted to land on the island.
439. A. June 19 B. March 18 C. August 20 **D. September 19.**
440. _____ large ships of the Marathas were sunk and nearl _____ maratha sailors died in the fighting (**Three, 300**)
441. At which year the English sent a message to the garrison asking them to surrender?
A. 1770 **B. 1779** C. 1792 D. 1810

442. In January 1680, Shivaji took action against the English factory at _____ and imprisoned the Englishmen there (**Rajapur**)
443. The Marathas had begun trade with _____ (**Muscat**)
444. The main trading commodity between Marathans and Muscat was _____ (**Salt**)
445. Shivaji also attempted to establish a monopoly in the _____ trade (**Betel nut**)
446. Shivaji was obviously eyeing the lucrative trade in _____ (**spices**)
447. After Shivaji's expedition to the _____ he dominated most of the western coast. (**south**)
448. _____ death gave a totally different direction to Indian history (**Chhatrapati Shivaji**)
449. Shivaji death was a signal for the ambitious _____ to come south to finish off the Marathas. (**Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb**)
450. As the country and Maharashtra plan to build a memorial to Chhatrapati Shivaji in the _____ (**Arabian Sea**)
451. We owe it to Shivaji who revived the navy on the _____ (**western coast**)
452. In the life and death struggle against the Mughal empire the _____ had no time to spare for the threat posed by the English (**Marathas**)
453. Indians had extensive trade links to South East Asia and Indian culture spread far and wide through its _____ (**Traders**)
454. The _____ at Vijaydurg and Kulaba near Alibag were the most prominent
A. Acropolis B. Camp C. **Forts** D. Station
455. As the Indians lost their land base _____ declined (**Shipping**)
456. At 1779 Shivaji had given strict instruction to his men to _____ to the last (fight)
457. Shivaji was also one of the few contemporary Indian rulers who understood the _____ on India (**British designs**)

Notes

Notes

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IMCTF Co-ordinators

Sri. Thyagaragan

Member, Core Team
Mobile : 7299069730

Sri. Swamy

Member, Core Team
Mobile : 7299069731

Sri. Venkat

Member, Core Team
Mobile : 7299069732

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I revere "Snakes" as symbol of Wild Life

I revere "Cows" as symbol of all Living Beings

I revere "Ganga" as symbol of Nature

I revere "Mother Earth" as Symbol of Environment

I revere my "Parents" as symbol of Human Values

I revere my "Teachers" as symbol of Learning

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Initiative for Moral and Cultural Training Foundation [IMCTF]

Head Office: 4th Floor, Ganesh Towers, 152, Luz Church Road, Mylapore, Chennai - 600 004.

Admin. Office : 2nd Floor, "Gargi", New No: 6 (Old 20), Balaiah Avenue, Luz, Mylapore, Chennai - 600 004.

E-Mail: imcthq@gmail.com Website : www.imctf.org.in