

**FLUENCY IN  
ENGLISH 1  
CODE: 18K3E3**

**PART TWO ENGLISH  
SECOND YEAR  
STUDY MATERIAL**

## UNIT -1

### 1. Inzy Lets Things Flow Over Him

**Kadambari Murali**

#### AJ ESSAY

#### Introduction

The essay “Inzy Lets Things Over Him” was written by the sports journalist Kadambari Murali and was published in Hindustan Times, on 27 March 2004. Kadambadi Murali has worked for various media agencies like The Indian Express and The Wall Street Journal and has a profound knowledge about the sports world. The Extract itself is a biography of Pakistan’s iconic cricket team captain Inzamam –UI-Haq and is based on the interaction between Kadambari Murali and Inzamam’s childhood friend Mujtaba .

#### Summary

The story starts with an important note to remember that it focuses mainly on the friendship between two friends, Which are obviously Inzamam and Mujtaba that lasted for twenty years despite having vast differences in distance, status, and money.

As the Indian cricket team was supposed to arrive in Multan, special preparations were being done for the team in hotel where Mujtaba was working as a barber. Here the priority is given to the Indian team instead of Pakistan cricket team which shows that the hotel does not want to leave any scope for mistake in their hospitality. Mujtaba was searching for a right place in the hotel to hang young Inzamam’s large photograph. He has a banner written in English to welcome Inzamam. People could never talk of one without mentioning the other,”this is what people say about Inzamam’s and Majtaba’s friendship.

Mujtaba met Inzamam for the first time at his father’s barber shop where his elder brother Intazaar introduced Inzamam to him. Since then they became very good friends. They were so close the Inzamam only used to be either at his sister’s house or at Mujtaba’s place. Together they used to chat all night and don’t sleep. Inzamam used to make omelets whereas Mujtaba prepared the rotis which they both had during night.

After chatting and eating, they both used to go straight for the first Namaz of the day and sometimes reached even before Inzamam’s father .. Pir Intizam –UI-Haq was very big spiritual leader in the city which shows that he was apparently respected more than mujtaba’s fater.

After being selected by Imran Khan at old Multan Stadium, Inzamam was asked to join the Lahore club, and it was great shock to Mujtaba. Mujtaba knew it was the best thing for him. Therefore, he bore it. Mujtaba even remembers an incident where Inzamam had to play a match straight after being discharged from a hospital as he was suffering from food poisoning. Inzamam played very well and won WorldCup for his country.

Inzamam is not a ashamed of calling, Mujtaba’s father as a barber. But Mujtaba has an outcaste feeling because of his father’s profession. He did not show any jealousy towards Inzamam and always feels proud and motivated by his achievements. When whole Multan came to meet Inzamam at the airport after his World Cup win, Mujtaba was one who didn’t visit him because of the same outcast feeling. Inzamam still stopped his motorcade outside of Mujtaba’s shop and then they both stayed together.

## **Conclusion**

Mujtaba thinks that fame has not changed Inzamam that much. Only during the match-fixing phase, responsibilities of a Captain and other problems made him to feel delicate. According to Mujtaba, Inzamam still does not have anything to say about anyone, and this is the best and worst thing about him that he lets things flow over him. The essay's title "Inzy Lets Things Flow Over Him" reflects the attitude of Inzamam.

## **BICOMPREHENSION PASSAGES**

### Comprehension I

Read the following passages carefully and answer the questions below:

On Thursday evening, even as our hotel in Multan prepares for the arrival of the Indian team (the Pakistan team is not top priority), one man is trying to find a proper place for a big framed photograph of a young, laughing Inzamam-ul-Haq. He is painstakingly going over a banner written in English, welcoming Inzamam home. 'Is this correct English?' he asks. 'More or less', one smiles apologetically. "My friend is coming home", he smiles excitedly. 'And I want it to be perfect.'

#### Questions:

1. Where was the hotel situated?
2. When did the Indian team arrive?
3. Whose photograph was the man trying to hang?
4. What was written on the banner?
5. 'My friend is returning home' – Who is the friend referred here?

#### Answers:

1. The hotel was situated at Multan.
2. The Indian team arrived on Thursday evening.
3. It was the photograph of Inzamam-ul-Haq.
4. Welcoming Inzamam home.
5. The friend who is referred here is Inzamam-ul-Haq.

### Comprehension Passage II

Inzamam met Mujtaba through elder brother Intezaar. "Intezaar brought him to my father's shop one day," says Mujtaba. 'I was 16-17 and he was younger. We hit it off immediately and it's always been that way. Accordingly to Mujtaba, they were a group of four. 'Inzamam has never been one for making many friends. Even as a kid he would either hang out at his only sister's place here or at my home. Night after night, after everyone had gone to sleep, Inzamam would make the omelettes I would make the rotis and we would eat and eat talk.'

#### Questions:

1. How did Mujtaba meet his friend Inzamam?
2. Where did Mujtaba meet Inzamam?
3. Was Inzamam older than Mujtaba?
4. Was Inzamam fond of making friends?

5. What did Inzamam do along with his friend?

Answers:

1. Mujtaba met Inzamam through his elder brother Intezara.
2. Mujtaba met Inzamam at his father's shop.
3. No, he was younger than Mujtaba.
4. No, he was not fond of making friends.
5. Inzamam made omelettes along with his friends.

Comprehension III.

Mujtaba recalls how they would often not sleep at all, just wash up and go straight for the first namaaz of the day and be there even before Inzamam's father. Pir Intizam-ul-Haq, one of Multan's biggest spiritual leaders. 'He would always ask how we were there so early. We never told him the truth. Inzamam, it appears, would spend most of the day at the old Multan stadium practicing with his bat. 'It was Imran Khan, on a visit here, who saw him and said he was asked him to come to Lahore. There was a lot of heartbreak but it was the best thing for him so he went and joined Lahore Club'.

Questions:

1. Where did the friends go on the next day?
2. What is Inzamam's father's name?
3. What was Inzamam's father?
4. What did Inzamam do in the stadium?
5. Whom did he meet in the stadium and where did he want Inzamam to come?

Answers:

1. They went for the first namaaz.
2. Inzamam's father's name is Pir Intizam-ul-Haq.
3. His father was one of the biggest spiritual leader.
4. Inzamam practiced cricket in the stadium.
5. He met Imran Khan and wanted Inzamam to come to Lahore.

Comprehension IV

He remembers coming straight off the drip he had some kind of food poisoning and it was decided he could play just hours before the game. And then the World Cup win. 'Multan came out to meet him in full strength at the airport.' Says Mujtaba, I did n't go. He was a superstar and I wasn't sure if I would fit in with his new life now. I didn't want to impose.' When the motorcade carrying Inzamam was passing the shop, the young star got off and brought his friend to be with him the rest of the way. There are pictures of the two waving from the convoy. 'He's always been that kind of person,' says by now emotional Mujtaba.

### Questions:

1. Was Inzamam selected for the 1992 World Cup?
2. Did Pakistan win the World Cup?
3. What happened to Inzamam before the match?
4. Who became the superstar in the Pakistan's cricket?
5. What did Inzamam do when his convoy crossed Mujtaba's shop?

### Answers:

1. Yes, he was selected for the 1992 World Cup?
2. Yes, Pakistan won the 1992 World cup.
3. He had food poisoning.
4. Inzamam became the super star in Pakistan's team.
5. He brought his friend Mujtaba, along with him in the convoy.

### Comprehension V

Time has passed since those days of glory. These are heady days of a different type. On Friday morning. Inzamam comes down to breakfast. A little later, Mujtaba enters and the two embrace. Even as Inzamam leaves for nets with his team, Mujtaba prepares to take introduces Inzamam's beautiful wife and children back home. They are obviously used to it. He introduces Inzamam's beautiful and then refers to his son, attired in a mini-Pakistan uniform, with pride. 'Ehtesham wants to be like his father when he grows up. For me, there can be no better dream.' And then he waves; he's in a hurry. He runs the barber's shop in the hotel.

### Questions:

1. When did Mujtaba meet Inzamam?
2. What did Inzamam do on seeing Mujtaba?
3. What did Inzamaam do when he left for practice?
4. Who is Ehtesham?
5. How was Ehtesham dressed?

### Answers:

1. Mujtaba met him on Friday morning.
2. They both embraced each other.
3. He sent his wife and his son along with Mujtaba.
4. Ehtesham is Inzamaam's son.
5. He was in his mini Pakistani uniform.

**C] Choose the best answers:**

1. "Inzy Lets Things Flow Over Him" is written by \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) Sports Journalist (b) Kadambari Murali  
(c) Esther Morgan (d) Freelance Journalist (b)
2. "Inzy Lets Things Flow Over Him was published on \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) 27 march 2004 (b) 29 march 2004  
(c) 27 march 2009 (d) 28 march 2010 (a)
3. "Inzy Lets Things Flow Over Him is a biography of Pakistan's iconic cricket team captain \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Inzamam-UI-Haq (b) Pirintizam-UI-Haq  
(c) Ehtesham (d) Imran Khan (a)
4. Ghualm Mujtaba's Childhood friend is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Intezaar (b) Imran Khan  
(c) Inzamam-UI-Haq (d) Shuaib Akthar (c)
5. Mujtaba met Inzamam for the first time at his \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Lahore Club (b) New Zealand  
(c) Father's barber shop (d) London Club (c)
6. Inzamam used to make \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Omeletes (b) Roti  
(c) Idlies (d) Samosas (a)
7. Mujtaba prepared the \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Omelets (b) Rotis  
(c) Idlies (d) Samosas (b)
8. Inzamam's father Pir Intizam-UI-Haq was a very big \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Political leader (b) Spiritual leader  
(c) Military leader (d) Religious leader (b)
9. Inzamam was selected by \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Amir Khan (b) Salman Khan  
(c) Imran Khan (d) Intizaar (c)
10. Inzamam was asked to join the \_\_\_\_\_ which he did and created a heartbreak for Mujtaba.  
(a) Cricket Club (b) Lahore Club  
(c) Cham Jaurian (d) Tiger peak (b)

11. Who was Inzamam's son \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) Estesham (b) Intezaar  
(c) Mujtaba (d) Pir Intizam (a)
12. "Becoming an iconic cricketer just like his father" who is referred here? \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) Ehtesham (b) Mujtaba  
(c) Multan (d) Intezaar (a)
13. Whom does the article talk about \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) Mujtaba (b) Inzamam  
(c) Mujtaba father (d) Inzamam's friend (b)
14. How long have Mujtaba and Inzamam known to each other \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) 10 years (b) 15 years  
(c) 20 years (d) 30 years (c)
15. During which crucial match did Inzamam fall ill \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) 1992 World Cup (b) 2002 World Cup  
(c) 1942 World Cup (d) 2012 World Cup (a)

**D] Fill in the blanks:**

1. 'Inzy Lets Things Flow Over Him' is about a friendship between two friends that stood for \_\_\_\_\_ Years.
2. Hotel in Multan prepared for the arrival of the \_\_\_\_\_ cricket team.
3. In the big framed photograph there was the picture of young \_\_\_\_\_ of Pakistan cricket team.
4. The banner welcoming Inzamam was kept by his friend \_\_\_\_\_.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ was Pakistan Skipper's long – standing friend.
6. Inzamam met Mujtaba through his elder brother \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Inzamam prepared \_\_\_\_\_ and Mujtaba made \_\_\_\_\_ in his father's shop.
8. Inzamam's father was a great \_\_\_\_\_ leader.
9. Inzamam spent most of the time practicing with his bat at the \_\_\_\_\_.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ met Inzamam at the Multan stadium.
11. Inzamam joined the cricket club at \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Inzamam was selected for the \_\_\_\_\_ World Cup.
13. Inzamam became a \_\_\_\_\_ after winning the 1992 world cup for Pakistan.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ did not change Inzamam.
15. Ehtesham is Inzamam's \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers:

1. Twenty
2. Indian
3. Inzamam-ul-Haq
4. Mujtaba.
5. Mujtaba.
6. Intezaar
7. Omelettes, Rotis
8. Spiritual
9. Old Multan stadium
10. Imran Khan
11. Lahore
12. 1992
13. Superstar
14. Fame
15. Son

**E]Match the following**

- |             |                                |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. rise     | a) story                       |
| 2. icons    | b) moving from lower to higher |
| 3. despite  | c) image                       |
| 4. tale     | d) 2 decades                   |
| 5. 20 years | e) in spite of                 |

1-b 2-c 3-e 4-a 5-d

- |                   |                                  |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. painstaking    | a) placard                       |
| 2. banner         | b) careful                       |
| 3. apologetically | c) agitated                      |
| 4. perfect        | d) sorry for having done or said |
| 5. excited        | e) the state of being perfect    |

1-b 2-a 3-d 4-e 5-c

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 1. long-standing | a) say or write something about somebody |
| 2. mention       | b) long lasting                          |
| 3. effort        | c) to remember from the past             |
| 4. hit it off    | d) something done with difficult         |
| 5. recall        | e) get on well                           |

1-b 2-a 3-d 4-e 5-c

- |               |                        |
|---------------|------------------------|
| 1. spiritual  | a) fact                |
| 2. truth      | b) religious           |
| 3. heartbreak | c) falling in drops    |
| 4. incredible | d) making you feel sad |
| 5. drip       | e) unbelievable        |

1-b 2-a 3-d 4-e 5-c

- |                  |                               |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. full strength | a) making a law or rule       |
| 2. impose        | b) moving                     |
| 3. waving        | c) energetic                  |
| 4. convoy        | d) feelings                   |
| 5. emotional     | e) group of vehicles or ships |

1-c 2-a 3-b 4-e 5-d

- |                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| 1. fame           | a) honour  |
| 2. responsibility | b) famous  |
| 3. glory          | c) duty    |
| 4. obviously      | d) dress   |
| 5. attire         | e) clearly |

1-b 2-c 3-a 4-e 5-d

## 2.It's only a Game, Enjoy

Tarun Tejpal

### AI ESSAY

Tarun Tejpal is an Indian Journalist, Publisher, Novelist and former editor-in-chief of Tehelka Magazine.

Tejpal's article begins with general observations on the game of cricket and moves on to Indo-Pak cricket. He accepts that a good game of cricket can be enjoyable as it is an opportunity for the players to display their physical strength. It can be both entertaining and exciting as it encourages a healthy sense of competition.

Tejpal extends his discussion to talk about sports lovers, people for whom cricket symbolizes a lot of serious things. According to them cricket teaches them moral, religious and philosophical lessons; it is a metaphor for life, 'a morality play' and a 'surrogate battle'. This group of inter-related metaphors reinforces Tejpal's argument that cricket-lovers associate their favourite game with a lot of things. They identify themselves the players loss and victory which is reflected in the game. Belief in certain values is reaffirmed through the operative rules of the game.

Tejpal says that games exist primarily to amuse the audience. Using insights from psychology, he asserts that games provide a safe outlet for the aggression that is a natural part of a man's physiological make-up. He sums up his discussion in this line "The game exists to take the violence out of us, to drain us of real blood thirst". If instead it generates violence, it loses its purpose, remaining neither amusement nor catharsis.

Tejpal switches to criticizing Indo-Pak cricket encounters. He strongly believes that political troubles should not be allowed to affect sporting ties. Underlining the common regional identity of the two countries, he is critical of all those people who contribute to the entanglement of sports with politics, whether politicians or sports commentators. A misplaced sense of patriotism can make players feel that they have let their country down if they lose a match. Echoing the sentiments of may he feels that cricket should become a unifying factor instead of divisive force.

One should appreciate good cricket. Tejpal concludes the article by "a game is fun only if it remains a game. We must not make it anything more".

### B] COMPREHENSION PASSAGES

Read the following passage and answer the following questions

1. A Good match of cricket – or any other game – is really only about these things. It doesn't help cure disease; it doesn't add to the fund of human knowledge; it unearths no secrets of existence. But if you choose to do so – and lovers of sport do it all the time – you can imbue it with a hundred deep meanings. Make a game a metaphor for life – and in its exertions and pirouettes find the meanings of struggle, morality, loss and triumph. The fact is more vaulting prose is written on a single hard – fought game than in all the praise of seers and scientists.

#### Questions

1. Which game is referred to here?
2. Does games add fund to human Knowledge?
3. What could be made a metaphor for life?
4. Why is it a metaphor?

5. Does games help to cure diseases?

### Answer

1. Cricket.
  2. No, Games doesn't add fund to human knowledge.
  3. Game could be made a metaphor for life.
  4. Because it exerts the meaning of struggle, morality, loss and triumph.
  5. No, Games dosen't help cure diseases.
- 2.) Men need a morality play, a controlled setting with rules and boundaries on which they can test fair and foul conduct, principles of reward and punishment, emotions of quickened exhilaration and despair. Where they can feel the heat and thrill of battle – expend their pumping testosterone – without losing a limb or two. We all know that a man with a cold bottle of beer and a buzzing television set is a modern warrior in full cry.

### Questions

1. What kind of play does men need?
2. Why does he need the morality play?
3. Who is called a modern warrior in full cry?
4. What is does the author try to say in this passage?
5. What does the games provide people?

### Answer

1. Men need a morality play.
  2. The game is a place to test fair and foul conduct, principles of reward and punishment, emotions of happiness and despair.
  3. A man with a cold bottle of beer and a buzzing television set is a modern warrior in full cry.
  4. Games are useful ways of working out people aggression.
  5. Games provide people with safe out lets for their aggression.
3. Indo-Pak cricket encounters are, as it is, too overloaded with baggage, so much so that the sport can barely even carry it-making it impossible, years on end, for the two countries to play against each other. It's a tragic waste, for continual sporting ties-between a people united by history, culture and genes and divided by political quirk-could prove a great palliative. The bloodlust could be sated in the living room with the beer and possibly never taken to the battlefields of Chamb-Jaurian and Tiger Peak.

Shoaib's thunderbolt is as much a thing of beauty as Sachin's straight drive. Let not some crudeness of emotion mar either. A game. And a game is only fun if it remains a game. We must not make it anything more.

### Questions

1. Which are the countries referred here?
2. Why does the match between India and Pakistan is a tragic waste?
3. What is said as a thing of beauty?

4. Name the two batsmen who are mentioned here?

5. How Tejpal concludes the article?

Answer

1. India and Pakistan

2. Because people united, by history, culture and genes are divided by political quick.

3. The great strokes played by the great batsmen on both sides of the game.

4. Pakistan's Shoaib Akthar and India's Sachin Tendulkar.

5. A game is fun only if it remains a game.

**C]Choose The Best Answer:**

1. The aim of the game is to provide \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) revolt (b) fun  
(c) serious (d) comedy (b)

2. Game doesn't help cure \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) laugh (b) anger  
(c) pain (d) disease (d)

3. Make a game a \_\_\_\_\_ for life.

- (a) smile (b) pun  
(c) metaphor (d) example (c)

4. The game exists to take the \_\_\_\_\_ out of us.

- (a) fun (b) violence  
(c) war (d) game (b)

5. Tejpal's article begins with observations on the game of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) hockey (b) cricket  
(c) tennis (d) badminton (b)

6. The games exist primarily to \_\_\_\_\_ us.

- (a) amuse (b) entertain  
(c) anger (d) pride (a)

7. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are the two battlefields.

- (a) Chamb-Jaurian (b) Tiger Peak  
(c) Kargil (d) Trojan war (a, b)

8. Games also provide \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) excitement (b) entertainment  
(c) sad (d) happy (a, b)

9. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ must never become real.
- (a) Surragate Warrior (b) Surragate Battle  
(c) Surragate war (d) game (a, b)
10. \_\_\_\_\_ thunderbolt is a thing of beauty.
- (a) Sachin (b) Inzamam  
(c) Imran (d) Shoaib's (d)
11. \_\_\_\_\_ straight drive is a thing of beauty.
- (a) Sachin (b) Inzamam  
(c) Imran (d) Shoaib's (a)
12. A man with \_\_\_\_\_ of beer is modern warrior.
- (a) water (b) hot bottle of beer  
(c) cold bottle of beer (d) cold water (c)
13. The \_\_\_\_\_ could be sated in the living room.
- (a) blood (b) lust  
(c) thirst (d) blood lust (d)
14. Tarun Tejpal is an \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) Freelance (b) Sports  
(c) Indian journalist (d) American Journalist (c)
15. It's only a Game Enjoy was written by \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) Tarun J Tejpal (b) Kadambari Murali  
(c) Salman Rushdie (d) Mrinal Pande (a)

**D]Fill in the blanks**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are some of the good things we gain through playing games.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ doesn't help to cure disease.
3. Men need a \_\_\_\_\_ play.
4. Make a game a \_\_\_\_\_ for life.
5. Exertions and pirouettes denotes \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
6. We do not become better people if we win, or \_\_\_\_\_ if we lose.
7. A game is only \_\_\_\_\_ if it remains a game.

**Answer:**

1. Strength, Skill                      2. Game  
3. Morality                              4. Metaphor  
5. Strees, Strain                      6. Worse  
7. Fun

**E]Match the Following**

- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1. display       | a) amusement  |
| 2. outstanding   | b) exhibition |
| 3. co-ordination | c) cleverness |
| 4. skill         | d) excellent  |
| 5. entertainment | e) regulating |

1-b 2-d 3-e 4-c 5-a

- |                |                         |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| 1. enchantment | a) disaster             |
| 2. combat      | b) existing             |
| 3. unearth     | c) fighting             |
| 4. existence   | d) dig out of the earth |
| 5. cataclysmic | e) magic                |

1-e 2-c 3-d 4-b 5-a

- |               |                         |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| 1. imbue      | a) figure of speech     |
| 2. metaphor   | b) moral behaviour      |
| 3. exertion   | c) quality              |
| 4. pirouettes | d) apply                |
| 5. morality   | e) spinning on one foot |

1-c 2-a 3-d 4-e 5-b

- |                 |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| 1. triumph      | a) complete            |
| 2. vaulting     | b) success             |
| 3. blood thirst | c) roof like arch      |
| 4. seer         | d) pleasure in killing |
| 5. entirely     | e) one foresees future |

1-b 2-c 3-d 4-e 5-a

- |                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. morality play | a) lively                       |
| 2. battlefield   | b) award                        |
| 3. reward        | c) absence of hope              |
| 4. exhilaration  | d) place where battle is fought |
| 5. despair       | e) presenting a moral lesson    |

1-e 2-d 3-b 4-a 5-c

- |                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. testosterone | a) steroid hormone   |
| 2. expend       | b) suction of liquid |
| 3. pumping      | c) spend             |
| 4. warrior      | d) exactly           |
| 5. precise      | e) conqueror         |

1-c 2-a 3-b 4-e 5-d

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 1. wielding   | a) playing a role of another           |
| 2. surrogate  | b) hold and use                        |
| 3. catharsis  | c) peculiar habit                      |
| 4. quirk      | d) relieving from pain but not curable |
| 5. palliative | e) release of pent-up emotion          |

1-b 2-a 3-e 4-c 5-d

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. battle      | a) enemy         |
| 2. blood-lust  | b) war           |
| 3. thunderbolt | c) violence      |
| 4. crudeness   | d) thunder       |
| 5. foe         | e) natural state |

1-b 2-c 3-d 4-e 5-a

## UNIT -II

### 1.HAROUN AND THE SEA OF STORIES

Salman Rushdie

#### A] EASSY

Sir Ahmed Salman Rushdie was born on June 19, 1947, Bombay(now Mumbai, India), an Indian-born British writer. His novels examine historical and philosophical issues by means of several characters, brooding humour and melodramatic prose style. His treatment of religious and political subjects made him a controversial figure.

Haroun was a young boy who lived with his parents, Soraya and Rashid Khalifa in the country of Alifbay, a sad city. Rashid was a storyteller and Soraya loved to sing. Things take a turn for the worse when Soraya stopped singing. Rashid travelled around the city to tell the stories. While Soraya stayed at home, and Haroun went with his father and he thought that he was a juggler, because, his stories were really filled with lots of different tales juggled together.

The khalifa's lived in the downstairs is the part of a small concrete house with pink walls lime-green windows and blue-painted balconies. In Haroun's view, it looked more like a cake than a building. In the sad city, people mostly had big families. Still, Haroun wanted to know why his parents hadn't had more children. The Sengupta's lived upstairs. Mr.Sengupta was a clerk at the offices of the city corporations. He was a sticky-thin and whiny-voiced and mingy as his wife. Oneeta Sengupta was generous. They had no children and as a result she paid more attention to Haroun.

Mr.Sengupta ignored Haroun, but he was always talking to Soraya, which Haroun didn't like particular while he made criticism about Rashid. When the rains came to the sad city, life became a little easier to bear. The air was cool and clean because the rain washed away most of the black smoke billowing out of the factories. Miss Oneeta was standing on her upstairs balcony and started crying. Haroun went indoors and found Rashid stuck his face out of the window. His eyes and cheeks were soaking wet, even though his clothes were dry. Haroun's mother, Soraya has run off with Mr. Sengupta. Actually, at 11 am, she had sent Rashid into Haroun's room in order to search for some missing socks and while he was busy with the hunt, Rashid heard the front door storm, An instant later, the sound of the car in the lane. He stood up with a hammer and smashed the clock to bits.

Soraya had left a note full of all the nasty things. Mr.Sengupta used to say about Rashid. When Haroun saw the pathetic situation of Rashid, he lost his temper and shouted, "Whats the use of stories that aren't even true?". Rashid hid his face in his hands and wept. An unexpected thing happened. Rashid Khalifa, the legendary Ocean of Notions, the fabled Shah of Blah, stood up in front of a huge audience, opened his mouth and found that he had run out of stories to tell.

#### **B] Comprehension passage**

Read the following comprehension passages and answer the questions below:

##### I. Comprehension passage

There was once in the country of Alifbay a sad city, the saddest of cities, a city so ruinously sad that it had forgotten its name. It stood by a mournful sea full of glumfish, which were so miserable to eat that they made people belch with melancholy even though the skies were blue. In the north of the sad city stood mighty factories in which (So I'm told) sadness was actually manufactured, packaged and sent all over the world, which never seemed to get enough of it. Black smoke poured out of the chimneys of the sadness factories and hung over the city like bad news.

Questions:

1. What was the name of the sad city?
2. Where was the sad city situated?
3. What was the quality of glumfish?
4. What did the factories manufacture?
5. What was the colour of the skies over the sad city?

Answers:

1. The name of the sad city was Alifbay.
2. It was situated by a mournful sea of glumfish.
3. They were miserable to eat that they made people belch with melancholy.
4. The factories manufactured sadness.
5. The skies were blue.

II. Comprehension passage

The Khalifas lived in the downstairs part of a small concrete house with pink walls, lime-green windows and blue-painted balconies with squiggly metal railings, all of which made it look (in Haroun's view) more like a cake than a building. It wasn't a grand house, like the skyscrapers where the super-rich folks lived; then it was nothing like the dwellings of the poor, either. The poor lived in tumbledown shacks made of old cardboard boxes and plastic sheeting, and these shacks were glue together by despair. And then there were the super-poor, who had no homes at all. They slept on pavements and in the doorways of shops, and had to pay rent to local gangsters for doing even that. So the truth is that Haroun was lucky; but luck has a way of running out without the slightest warning. One minute you've got a lucky star watching over you and the next instant it's done a bunk.

Questions:

1. Where did the Khalifas live?
2. How did the house look like according to Haroun?
3. Where did the super-rich folks live?
4. Where did the poor live?
5. What were the local gangsters doing?

Answers:

1. The khalifas lived in the downstairs part of a small concrete house.
2. The house looked like a cake.
3. The super-rich folks lived in skyscrapers.
4. The poor lived in tumbledown shacks made of old cardboard boxes and plastic sheeting.
5. The local gangsters were collecting rent from the super-poor.

### III. Comprehension passage

The Senguptas lived upstairs. Mr.Sengupta was a clerk at the offices of the city corporation and he was as sticky-thin and whiny-voiced and stingy as his wife Oneeta was generous and loud and wobbly-fat. They had no children at all, and as a result oneeta Sengupta paid more attention to Haroun than he really cared for. She brought him sweetmeats (which was fine), and ruffled his hair ( which wasn't), and when she hugged him the great cascades of her flesh seemed to surround him completely, to his considerable alarm.

#### Questions:

1. What was Mr.Sengupta?
2. Was Mr.Sengupta a generous person?
3. How many children did the Senguptas have?
4. Did Mr.Sengupta pay attention to Haroun?
5. How did Oneeta look after Haroun?

#### Answers:

1. Mr.Sengupta was a clerk at the offices of the city corporation.
2. No, he was a stingy person.
3. The Senguptas have no children.
4. Mr.Sengupta did not pay attention to Haroun.
5. Oneeta brought him fine sweetmeats and ruffled his hair.

### IV. Comprehension passage

What's the use of stories that aren't even true? Haroun couldn't get the terrible question out of his head. However, there were people who thought Rashid's stories were useful. In those days it was almost election time, and the grand panjandrums of various political parties all came to Rashid, smiling their fat-cat smiles, to beg him to tell his stories at their rallies and nobody else's. It was well known that if you could get Rashid's magic tongue on your side then your troubles were over. Nobody ever believed anything politico said, even though they pretended as hard as they could that they were telling the truth. (In fact, this was how everyone knew they were lying.) But everyone had complete faith in Rashid, because he always admitted that everything he told them was completely untrue and made up out of his own head. So the politicians needed Rashid to help them win the people's votes. They lined up outside his door with their shiny faces and fake smiles and bags of hard cash. Rashid could pick and choose.

#### Questions:

1. What was the question that troubled Haroun?
2. What was the opinion of the people about Rashid's stories?
3. Who begged Rashid to tell stories?
4. Why did everyone have complete faith in Rashid?
5. How did the politician approach Rashid?

### Answers:

1. The question that troubled Haroun was 'What's the use of stories that aren't even true?'
2. People thought Rashid's stories were useful.
3. The grand panjandrums of various political parties begged Rashid to tell stories at their rallies .
4. Everyone had complete faith in Rashid, because he always admitted that everything he told them was completely untrue and made up out of his own head.
5. They lined up outside his door with their shiny faces and fake smiles and bags of hard cash.

### V. Comprehension passage

On the day that everything went wrong, Haroun was on his way home from school when he was caught in the first downpour of the rainy season.

Now, when the rains came to the sad city, life became a little easier to bear. There were delicious pomfret in the sea at that time of year, so people could have a break from the glumfish; and the air was cool and clean, because the rain washed away most of the black smoke billowing out of the sadness factories. Haroun Khalifa loved the feeling of getting soaked to the skin in the first rain of the year, so he skipped about and got a wonderful warm drenching, and opened his mouth to let the raindrops plop on to his tongue. He arrived home looking as wet and shiny as a pomfret in the sea.

Miss Oneeta was standing on her upstairs balcony, shaking like a jelly; and if it hadn't been raining, Haroun might have noticed that she was crying. He went indoors and found Rashid the storyteller looking as if he'd stuck his face out of the window because his eyes and cheeks were soaking wet, even though his cloths were dry.

### Questions:

1. Name the different kinds of fish mentioned here.
2. Which fish did the people prefer?
3. What did the rain do on the factories?
4. How did Haroun enjoy the rain?
5. How did Haroun look like when he arrived home?

### Answers:

1. Pomfret and glumfish.
2. The people preferred pomfret.
3. The rain washed away most of the black smoke billowing out of the sadness factories.
4. He opened his mouth to let the raindrops plop on to his tongue.
5. He arrived home looking as wet and shiny as a pomfret in the sea.

**C]Choose the best answer:**

1. Haroun and the Sea of Stories was written by \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Tarun J Tejpal (b) Salman Rushdie  
(c) Mrinal Pande (d) Payal Kapadia (b)
2. Haroun is a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) protagonist (b) playwright  
(c) novelist (d) essayist (a)
3. Alifbay is a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) saddest city (b) happiest city  
(c) dull city (d) frozen city (a)
4. Rashid is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) uncle (b) cousin  
(c) nephew (d) Haroun's father (d)
5. Soray is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Aunty (b) Fiancee  
(c) Oneeta's sister (d) Haroun's mother (d)
6. Rashid's vocation is a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) story teller (b) writer  
(c) essayist (d) novelist (a)
7. How many brothers and sisters do Haroun have? \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) None (b) 2  
(c) 3 (d) 4 (a)
8. \_\_\_\_\_ is also known as "Shah of Blah".  
(a) Rashid (b) Oneeta  
(c) Soraya (d) Sengupta (a)
9. Who is Mr.Sengupta? \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Haroun's Neighbour (b) father  
(c) mother (d) sister (a)
10. Who is Oneeta? \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) wife of Sengupta (b) Sengupta's firend  
(c) sister of Rashid (d) sister of Soraya (a)

## DI Fill in the blanks

1. A city, the saddest of cities was in the country of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ is the nickname given to Rashid Khalifa by his admirers.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is the nickname given to Rashid Khalifa by his jealous rivals.
4. Rashid was always busy with \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Haroun's mother's name is \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Mr. Sengupta had \_\_\_\_\_ children
7. Mr.Sengupta was a \_\_\_\_\_ at the offices of the city corporation.
8. Mr.Sengupta was a clerk at \_\_\_\_\_.
9. 'What's the use of stories that aren't even true' – this is the remark by \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Haroun's mother, Soraya had eloped with \_\_\_\_\_.
11. The time when Haroun's mother ran away with somebody is \_\_\_\_\_.
12. When Rashid found that his wife had run off, he smashed \_\_\_\_\_.
13. During the rainy season there were delicious \_\_\_\_\_ in the sea.
14. In those days the politicians needed Rashid to help them to win \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Mr.Sengupta hated stories and \_\_\_\_\_.
16. The Super-poor slept on pavements and in the \_\_\_\_\_ of shops.
17. 'Haroun and the Sea of Stories' is written by \_\_\_\_\_.
18. Rashid's son Haroun is a \_\_\_\_\_.
19. Rashid Khalifa was a cheerful \_\_\_\_\_.
20. Haroun \_\_\_\_\_ frequently with his father.
21. "What is the use of stories that aren't even \_\_\_\_\_.
22. The Khalifa's house in the Haroun's view looked more like \_\_\_\_\_.

### Answers:

- |                                 |                            |                 |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Alifbay                      | 2. Ocean of Notions        | 3. Shah of Blah |
| 4. Story telling and travelling | 5. Soraya                  | 6. No           |
| 7. Clerk                        | 8. The offices of the city | 9. Mr.Sengupta  |
- Corporation
- |                  |                    |                        |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 10. Mr.Sengupta  | 11. 11 Am          | 12. The clock          |
| 13. Promfret     | 14. The election   | 15. Story tellers      |
| 16. Door ways    | 17. Salman Rushdie | 18. Happy young fellow |
| 19. Story teller | 20. Travelled      | 21. True               |
| 21. A cake       |                    |                        |

**E] Match the following:**

- |                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Rashid Kalifa | a) Rashid's wife      |
| 2. Sengupta      | b) Son of Rashid      |
| 3. Oneeta        | c) Story teller       |
| 4. Soraya        | d) Sengupta's wife    |
| 5. Haroun        | e) Rashid's neighbour |

Answer: 1-c 2-e 3-d 4-a 5-b

**II. Match the following:**

- |                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Shah of blah      | a) Sad city |
| 2. Oceans of Notions | b) Admirers |
| 3. Juggler           | c) Officer  |
| 4. Sengupta          | d) Jealous  |
| 5. Alifbay           | e) Rashid   |

Answer: 1-d 2-b 3-e 4-c 5-c

**III. Match the following:**

- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Water Genies     | a) Upstairs     |
| 2. Sengupta         | b) Sengupta     |
| 3. City Corporation | c) Crying       |
| 4. Oneeta           | d) Rashid       |
| 5. Haroun           | e) Losing socks |

Answer: 1-d 2-a 3-b 4-c 5-e

## 2.GIRLS

Mrinal Pande

### AI/EASSY

Girls is a short story written by Mrinal Pande. It was first published in the Hindi weekly Dharmyug in 1983, and in English language translation in the weekly Magazine in the same year.

#### **Summary of the story “Girls”**

“Girls” is told from the view point of an eight-year-old girl, and highlights how Indian Society takes women for granted and conditions them to accept a secondary role in the family. It also shows that many a times, women inferior. In the story, the narrator’s father has been shown as a kind man. He wants his daughters to get educated and become something in their lives. The narrator’s mother, Lali, has three daughters and is expecting fourth child, fervently hoping that it is a boy so that she will be rid of the nuisance of going through another pregnancy. Throughout the stay there, the narrator notices how the members of the house consider women inferior, and is fed up of the elders’ hypocrisy. There occur many incidents that keep reminding the narrator of a girl’s subjugative position in orthodox Indian society. Only the grandson is allowed to sit on Nani’s lap whereas the girls are sent away from Nani and all the elders of the house pray to the family goddess that the baby born be a son so as to uphold the ‘family honor’. The narrator overhears her aunt complaining in whispers to her mothers of the problems she has to endure as a woman. Such incidents leave a lasting impact on the already insecure mind of the narrator, who is curious to know why the elders consider women and girls to be inferior. Her innocent curiosity greatly angers Lali, Nani and the others. Lakshmi, the narrator’s elder sister, advises her not to ask the elders such questions. Then comes the holy day when kanyakumaris or young girls are to be worshipped as goddesses. Nani, who earlier shows herself to be a woman who agrees that women are inferior, now calls her granddaughters lovingly to partake of Prasad and participate in the rituals. The elders’ hypocrisy shocks the narrator and is too much for her to bear. She bursts into tears, shouting angrily that if they did not love girls, why did they pretend to worship them?

#### **Critical Summary of the story Girls**

The story Girls by Mrinal Pande is narrated from the point of view of a little girl. It explores the issue of gender-bias towards the girl-child. The young narrator is the second of the three daughters of her parents. The three daughters represent three different attitudes of victims of gender bias. The eldest daughter is quiet and submissive and plays the role that a girl in a male-dominated society is docilely expected to fulfil even though she is keenly conscious of the bias against her and her sisters. The second daughter (the narrator of the story) is rebellious. She raises her voice against the unfair discrimination and constantly questions it and revolts against it even at such a young age to understand what is going on, and represents innocence and ignorance on the part of a victim of gender injustice.

The grandmother’s statement that if one is born a girl one has to bend for the rest of one’s life is significant because it depicts the conditioning of women and also the discriminatory attitude towards females in a male-dominated society. It is a direct reference to the subjugation of women in Indian households. The old lady from the neighbourhood as well as the grandmother wish and pray that a boy would be born to Lali (the children’s mother) this time. Clearly, there is no welcome for another girl child in such a set-up. It is not only men who discriminate against women, even women themselves frown upon girl-children and are indifferent to their tender feelings, the author suggests in this story. The children are ignored in a world of grown-ups, where women are engrossed in their own problems and preoccupations.

Seeing the Dhruv star in the sky the narrator recalls a fond conversation with her father who had told her that if she worked hard she could become whatever she wanted.

The story reaches its climax here when things fall into perspective. All along in the story girls have been treated as secondary to boys. The three sisters are only a 'nuisance' and a 'problem.' The desire for a male child dominates all discussions of Lali's pregnancy. Yet on the day of Ashtami they are suddenly seen as goddesses. The narrator is deeply hurt at the hypocrisy of it all. She rejects a part in the charade. A single day cannot undo years of injustice that girls like her face daily in their homes.

### **B1 Comprehension passage**

Read the following comprehension passages and answer the questions below:

#### I. Comprehension passage

When we reached the station, I scrambled on to the train, fought my way through people and luggage and secured a place next to the window. Triumphantly I stuck my tongue out at everyone and went 'Eee...Eee'. But when I noticed Ma's gaze turning towards me, I immediately started chanting the alphabet, 'E for Eml, E for Eekh'. Ma was not actually looking at me though, because she was preoccupied with all her problems. She had to mind the luggage, the wobbling surahi, the three of us, and cope with the exhaustion of pregnancy as well. At one of the stations we bought a lot of samosas filled with chillies. Just when we are buying them, a woman was making her child pee through the next window. The sight made me feel quite nauseous and I couldn't eat my samosa, so I gave it Ma instead. Meanwhile I crushed a piece of potato which was lying on the seat into the shape of an insect to frighten my younger sister. She screamed; Ma smacked me and I started to cry as well. My elder sister was irritated and said, 'Oh what a nuisance you are!' Despite her irritation, I know that it is only my elder sister who really loves me, everyone else is horrible.

#### Questions:

1. Where did the narrator secure a place in the train?
2. What did the mother have to mind in the train?
3. What scene did the narrator and others see while buying samosa?
4. What did the narrator do with the potato?
5. Who really loved the narrator?

#### Answers:

1. She secured a place next to the window.
2. She had to mind the luggage, the wobbling surahi and her three daughters.
3. They saw a woman was making her child pee through the next window.
4. She crushed a piece of potato into the shape of an insect to frighten her younger sister.
5. The elder sister really loved the narrator.

#### II. Comprehension passage

Maama was waiting to receive us at the station. On the way to Naani's I sat next to maami and noticed the rubies in her earlobes bobbling up and down while she chewed paan. Every time, the driver pressed the jeep's horn, my sisters and I would scream in unison, 'poo-poo'. The driver was amused at our screaming, and had a huge moustache, smelt of tea and bidis, and wore a uniform made of coarse wool which tickled me and made me feel sleepy. When the surahi was lifted out of the jeep it overturned, and once again there was water everywhere. This incident reminded me so much of Baabu that, absent-mindedly, I trod hard

on my younger sister's sandal, nearly tripping her up. 'You are the cause of all my problems!' Ma hissed at me through tightly clenched teeth so that no one could hear. She then grabbed hold of my arm as if to prevent me from falling over but actually pressed it so hard that my shoulder hurt.

Questions:

1. Who received the narrator and others at the station?
2. Where did the narrator sit in the jeep?
3. How did the jeep driver look?
4. Why was water everywhere?
5. What did the mother do with the narrator?

Answers:

1. Maama received the narrator and others at the station.
2. She sat next to Maami.
3. The driver had a huge moustache and wore a uniform made of coarse wool.
4. When the surahi was lifted out of the jeep, it overturned. So there was water everywhere.
5. The mother grabbed hold of the narrator's arm and pressed it hard.

III. Comprehension passage

I entered the house along with the dog and saw Naani sitting with Maama's son on her lap. As soon as she saw the dog, she shooed it away because to her all animals are as untouchables. The dog, used to being reprimanded, tucked its tail between its legs and went out. I was told to bend down and touch Naani's feet. Someone from the family said, 'Not like that... bend properly. You are born a girl and you will have to bend for the rest of your life, so you might as well learn.' Naani blessed waving her hand over my bowed back and said, 'This girl hasn't grown taller. Who would believe she is eight years old?'

Questions:

1. What did the narrator see when she entered the house?
2. Who felt that all animals are untouchables?
3. What was the instruction given to the narrator when she entered the house?
4. What was the advice of someone in the family to the narrator?
5. How old was the narrator?

Answers:

1. The narrator saw Naani sitting with Maama's son on her lap.
2. Naani felt that all animals are untouchables.
3. The narrator was told to bend down touch Naani's feet.
4. Someone in the family advised the narrator that she was born a girl and she would have to bend for the rest of her life.
5. She was eight years old.

#### IV. Comprehension passage

The next morning, when everyone is having breakfast I ask Ma what 'endure' means. I remind her by asking, what does chhoti Maasi have to endure? I get one 'Let it be. She's only a child, after all.' 'She's no child, she's a witch,' says Ma as her stomach wobbles in anger. 'She's always listening on the sly to elders talking. Heaven knows what will become of her.' When I go into the garden, my elder sister shakes the flowers she has gathered at me. 'Oh... you! I have told you a hundred times not to question grown ups. If you keep on like this, one day these people will best you so hard you will die.' 'I will ask questions. I will. I will.' I answer crying. 'Then go and die,' says my elder sister, and continues to thread a garland for Nanni's Gopalji.

#### Questions:

1. "Then go and die"-whose remark was this?
2. Who saved the narrator from the slaps of her mother?
3. Who is referred to as witch?
4. What was the elder sister doing?
5. What was the advice of the elder sister to the narrator?

#### Answers:

1. This was the remark of the elder sister.
2. Maami saved the narrator from the slaps of her mother.
3. The narrator is referred to as witch.
4. The elder sister gathered flowers and threaded a garland for Naani's Gopalji.
5. The elder sister advised the narrator not to question the grown-ups.

#### V. Comprehension passage

'Where are you? Girls?' calls Naani with a tray of crimson powder in her hands. In front of her there is a dish of halwa and a plate filled with puris. She has prepared those as offerings to the devi on Ashtami day. A mat has been spread in front of her for us to sit on. 'Come on girls, let me put the tikka on your forehead.' She lights the camphor for aarti. 'Come now, let me do aarti to all of you.'

My two sisters and Maama's beautiful daughters sit cross-legged in front of Naani. Nanni puts a tikka on each forehead and then rings a bell. Exactly like the guard on the train. After the bell rings, she blows the conch. 'Poo-ooo.' I am suddenly transformed into a railway engine and race around the ledge of the courtyard. Inside, the room is filled with smells of camphor, halwa, ghee and flowers. I shout, 'Come on, pay your fares to go to Calcutta. Poo-ooo.'

#### Question:

1. What were the things prepared as offerings to devi?
2. What was the festival day referred to here?
3. Who were the persons sitting in front of Naani for aarti?
4. To what did the narrator associate the ringing of the bell?
5. What was the room filled with?

Answers:

1. A dish of halwa and a plate of puris were prepared as offerings to devi.
2. The festival day was Ashtami.
3. The two sisters of the narrator and Mamma's daughter sat in front of Naani for aarti.
4. She associated the ringing of the bell to the guard on the train.
5. The room was filled with smells of camphor, halwa, ghee and flowers.

**C]Choose the best correct:**

1. Girls written by \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Mirnal Pande (b) Kadambari  
(c) J.P. Tejpal (d) Salman Rushdie (a)
2. Babu broke \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) jug (b) Surahi  
(c) vessel (d) plate (b)
3. Mirnal Pande's family left with Ma for \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Mother's house (b) Aunty's house  
(c) Nani's house (d) Father's house (c)
4. The Narrator's mother is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Lali (b) Nani  
(c) boby (d) houuie (a)
5. Lali has \_\_\_ daughters.  
(a) 3 (b) 4  
(c) 5 (d) 6 (a)
6. \_\_\_\_\_ is the Narrator's elder sister.  
(a) Neelu (b) Boby  
(c) Lakshmi (d) Mrinal (c)
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ is allowed to sit on Nani's lap.  
(a) father (b) mother  
(c) grandson (d) grand daughter (c)
8. \_\_\_\_\_ are worshipped as goddess on the holiday.  
(a) grandson (b) young girls  
(c) grand daughter (d) young boy (b)
9. \_\_\_\_\_ shocks the narrator.  
(a) anger (b) laughter  
(c) pride (d) elder's hypocrisy (d)

10. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ give us money to buy sweet-sour golis.
- (a) Lali (b) Nani  
(c) Bari mami (d) Ma (c, d)

**D]Fill in the blanks**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the narrator of the events of 'Grils'.
2. To Ma everything in life is a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Baabu broke a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. This time Ma will be at her parent's house at least for \_\_\_\_\_ months.
5. At one of the stations Ma and the girls bought a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ filled with chillies.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ was waiting to receive us at the station.
7. The number of sisters who travelled with Ma is \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The narrator of the events of the story 'Grils' is \_\_\_\_\_ years old.
9. Maama's son was \_\_\_\_\_ years old.
10. "You are born a girl and you will have to \_\_\_\_\_ for the rest of the life".
11. The story 'Girls' focuses on \_\_\_\_\_ towards girl child.
12. The author of the story 'Girls' is \_\_\_\_\_.
13. The name of the maid servant in the story 'Girls' is \_\_\_\_\_.
14. The youngest girl said, "I cannot become a \_\_\_\_\_ can I?"
15. On the festival of ashtami, little girls are worshiped as \_\_\_\_\_.
16. You mustn't hit a \_\_\_\_\_ it is a sin.
17. I thought of \_\_\_\_\_ whenever we came to Naani's house.
18. 'Oh what a \_\_\_\_\_ this is,' Ma kept complaining.
19. \_\_\_\_\_ dog came near and sniffed at me.
20. The children follow me all over the house like mice following.

**Answers:**

- |                       |                 |                  |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. The second girl of | 2. Problem      | 3. Surahi        |
| Family                |                 |                  |
| 4. Three              | 5. Samosas      | 6. Maama         |
| 7. Three              | 8. Eight        | 9. Five          |
| 10. Bend              | 11. Gender bias | 12. Mrinal pande |
| 13. Tulsa dai         | 14. Boy         | 15. Devis        |
| 16. Kanyakumari       | 17. Baabu       | 18. Nuisance     |
| 19. Mongrel           | 20. Pied piper  |                  |

### **E]Match the following**

I Match the following

- |                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 1.Mrinal pande  | a) Lali's servant        |
| 2.Lali          | b) Mrinal Pande's mother |
| 3.Baabu         | c) Narrator              |
| 4.Sarlis Mother | d) Mrinal pande's father |
| 5.Girls         | e) Feminism              |

1.c , 2.b , 3.d, 4.a, 5.e

II Match the following

- |                |                           |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| 1.Mrinal pande | a) Workshif of Goddess    |
| 2.Naani        | b) Servanil of Naani      |
| 3.Chotta Massi | c) Mrinal Pande's grandma |
| 4.Jeep Driver  | d) 2 nd Daughter          |
| 5.Durgashtani  | e) poo –poo horn          |

1)d , 2) c , 3) b , 4) e , 5) a

III Match the following

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 1.Girls           | a) Raises voice against gender injustice |
| 2.Eldest Daughter | b) 5 yrs old                             |
| 3.Mrinal pande    | c) Life is a problem                     |
| 4.Mama son        | d) Mrinal pande                          |
| 5.Lali            | e) Quite and submissive                  |

1) d ,2) e, 3) a , 4) b , 5) c

IV Match the following

- |                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.Lali              | a) Surahi                |
| 2.Young Girls       | b) Shocks the narrator   |
| 3.Elder's hypocrisy | c) Worshipped as goddess |
| 4. Bari Mami        | d) 3 Daughters           |
| 5.Babu broke        | e) Narrator's mami       |

1) d , 2) c ,3) b , 4) e , 5) a