

FLUENCY
IN
ENGLISH-II
18K4E4

UNIT –I

HITTING DOWRY FOR A SIX

-Kalpana Sharma

Introduction

"Hitting Dowry for a six " is an article written by former Deputy Editor and chief of Bureau of The Hindu, Ms. Kalpana Sharma. It has been published in The Hindu, 1 st June 2003. The article focuses on Women empowerment and discusses the topic of dowry which is a widespread social evil in India. Written by Kalpana Sharma, the article is based on the anti-dowry movement started by Nisha Sharma in 2003 and compares it to the 1970's movement started by Satyarani Chaddha. This article is an approach by Kalpana Sharma to encourage modern women to fight against such evils and tell the world the importance of women in human society.

Nisha Sharma's and satyarani Chaddha's case.

Nisha Sharma 's case is widely different from Satyarani Chaddha's case but always reminds the public of the anti- dowry movement started by her. Nisha Sharma continued to meet her laws each and every unreasonable demand until they could not afford it so with the help of her parents, Nisha was able to fight those demands. On the other hand, there is Satyarani Chaddha who only took a step when her daughter was killed because her family wasn't able to meet the marital family's demands. Nisha's courage was widely acknowledged by the whole country. The writer says that all the women who have become the target of dowry shouldn't mask their faces as they are not alone and should stand up for themselves against dowry otherwise there would be no use of Nisha's and Satyarani Chaddha's efforts.

Reasonable and Unreasonable Demands

Kalpana Sharma discusses the reasonable and unreasonable demands and that why a bride should meet them . Why are there any reasonable demands that the bride has to pay even after providing the additional domestic help to the martial family. A bride is asked to bring a scooter, drawer , washing machine, TV, fridge, furniture, cupboards to her martial house otherwise she becomes a burden. The article questions this perspective of Indian

mentality that how a women who works all day long to serve the laws family becomes a burden for them. In some cases ,the bride is expected to bring unreasonable amounts of clothes like. 21

1,51 sarees and all with different matching petticoats. All these demands are not reasonable at all and in the end becomes a price for the bride's family which they even have to pay in advance.

Conclusion:

The writer says that if all the women didn't stand against this evil then the cases of Nisha Sharma and Satyarani Chaddha would be eventually forgotten and would remain as a part of school children's textbooks only.

The writer says that if the girl is determined has the support of their parents and there is a change in our third culture then only the dowry would stop in the end it's written that if women can "*Bend It like Beckham*" why they cannot "Hit dowry for a six".

COMPREHENSION PASSAGE

Read the following comprehension passage and answer the questions below

1.Comprehension passage

so has young Nisha Sharma of Noida sparked off a new anti - dowry movement one would like to think that this could happen. After all the anti - dowry campaign of the late 1970s was triggered by one woman, satyarani Chaddha, who decided to raise the banner against the custom when their own daughter was tortured and killed for not bringing a sufficient dowry. so an individual's actions can still have far. reaching repercussions. Any of us who think it is not worth doing something we believe in because we feel we are alone should remember Nisha and Satyarani and many others like them.

Nisha has been widely feted and felicitated. Her courage has to be acknowledged. but the media spotlight on an individual, or several Nisha - like individuals should not mask some of the harder questions that need to be asked. In Nisha's case two issues stand out. One, parental support when she decided that the cash demand was too much. Two, that until that line had been crossed both she and her parents went along with unreasonable demands and even deception in terms of the groom's qualifications.

Questions:

- 1.Who started a new anti - dowry movement?
- 2.Who triggered anti-dowry campaign of the late 1970s?
- 3.Did Nisha become famous after her anti dowry movement?

4.Name any one issue of Nisha’s case?

5.What is said about media?

Answers:

1.Nisha Sharma of Noida started a new anti dowry movement

2.Satyarani Chaddha triggered anti dowry campaign of the late 1970s

3. Yes

4. The parental support when she decided that the cash demand was too much

5.The media spotlight on an individual or several Nisha - like individuals should not mask some of the harder questions that need to be asked.

II. Comprehension Passage

The other puzzle that the Nisha case has not solved is that of whether it is only education that makes a difference. In case, she is a software student. Her education has clearly given some sense of self - worth so that she knew when to yell ‘stop. But since then, the media has highlighted several other cases of women who were not so qualified. Yet, they too took a stand - when parents were prepared to back them. On the other hand, surveys have revealed that even in Kerala, where women are educated and qualified and hold jobs, dowry demand continues to be made and to be met. Nisha probably represents the glimmer of a trend that it has already begun. Others have done it more quietly, perhaps. But the dramatic nature of Nisha's refusal to give in will give others, who are thinking of this some courage.

Questions

1.What is the educational background of Nisha?

2.what is the use of education for Nisha?

3.when did the unqualified women take a stand?

4. what did the surveys in Kerala reveal?

5 what will be the effect of Nisha's refusal to give in?

Answers:

1.Nisha is a software student.

2.Nisha's education has given some sense of self-worth so that she knew when to yell 'stop

3.When the parents were prepared to back them the unqualified women took a stand.

4. The surveys have revealed that even in Kerala where women are educated and qualified and hold jobs dowry demands continued to be made and to be met.

5. Nisha's refusal to give in will give some courage to stand against dowry.

III.Comprehension passage

Yet a girl's ability to say 'no' in our culture depends a great deal on the support .She gets from her family .Parents have to decide that they will not marry their daughters if a dowry is demanded. Directly or indirectly .If there is even a hint of this at any stage.they should have the courage to call off the arrangement. Unless enough parents do this, a change will not take place. Of course, we can hope for a day when boys grow up believing that it is a privilege if they get a bride and they should not ask her to pay for marriage. But such a day is some way off given the son-preference that continues to dominate our culture.

Questions

- 1.On what does the ability of a girl depend?
- 2.What should the parents do on the marriage of their daughters?
- 3.What hope is expected of grown up boys?
- 4.What is dominating in our culture?
- 5.What should the parents to if there is a hint of dowry at any stage of the marriage?

Answers:

- 1.The ability of a girl depends a great deal on the support she gets from her family.
- 2.The parents have to decides that they will not marry their daughters if a dowry is demanded.
- 3.We can hope for a day when boys grow up believing that it is a privilege if they get a bride and they should not ask her to pay for marriage.
- 4.The son preference is dominating in our culture.
- 5.If there is app hint of dowry at any stage of the marriage the parents should have the courage to call off the arrangement.

IV. Comprehension passage.

The only reason it is accepted is because of the belief that in her marital home, the girl should not be here 'burden on the husband's family. How on earth did such a concept come to be accepted ? A 'burden ? A woman who comes in virtually like an additional domestic help in the house who is expected to serve not just the man she marries but his entire household of parents and any siblings? why should she be expected to pay for this Apparent privilege and that too you in advance? there is something very sick and very wrong, in this mentality and that is what we must question.

I am not sure that in the midst of the celebrations and the media hype these questions are being teckled. And if we don't come to grips with Central issue. The dishes will be

forgotten just as Satyarani's campaign was relegated to the history books. And dowry will continue in the present or other forms.

Questions:

- 1.What is expected of a girl in her husband’s family?
- 2.What will happen if we don’t come to grips with the dowry issue?
- 3.What is said about the mentality of the people?
- 4.What is the belief mentioned here?
- 5.What is the opinion of the author?

Answers:

- 1.The girl is expected to serve not just the man she marries but his entire family.
2. If we don’t come to grips will the dowry issue the Nisha’s will be forgotten just as Satyarani’s campaign was neglected to the history of books and dowry till continue.
- 3.There is something sick and very wrong in the mentality of the people.
- 4.the belief is that the girl should not be a burden on the husband’s family.
- 5.The author is not sure that in the midst of the celebrations and media Hype these questions are being tackled.

CHOOSE THE BEST ANSWERS

- 1.The anti -dowry campaign of the late.....was triggered by one woman.
a. 1970 b. 1980 c. 1990 d. 2020 (a)
- 2.Satyarani chaddha has raised her voice against the custom of giving
a. Minimum dowry b. Sufficient dowry c. Excess dowry d. Gifts (b)
- 3.Nisha has been widely feted and.....
a. Dejected b. Worried c. Felicitated d. Comforted (c)
4. In some of the culture girls are expected to carry all the..... for a house.
a. Fridge b. car c. Scooty d. equipment (d)
5. The bride is expected to carry not only her wedding Rousseau but an odd no. of.....
a. Saris b. blouse c. slippers d. Bangles (a)
- 6.The belief that in her marital home. the girl should not be a..... on the husband's family
a. Happy b. burden c. demon d. Joker (b)

7.The Nishas will be forgotten just as..... Campaign

- a. Nisha b. bride c. satyarani d. Speech (c)

8.It is only..... That makes a difference.

- a. Sports b. arts c. crafts d. Education (d)

9.Her education has clearly given care some sense of.....

- a. self-worth b. not worth c. pleasure d. Speech (a)

10.....have to decide that they will not marry their daughters if a dowry is demanded

- a. sister b. parents c. friends d. Sons (b)

11.One comes across apparently..... educated young man who will tell you that their future brides are professional with jobs.

- a. ancient b. postal c. modern d. Future (c)

12.Women can work outside the house, if the husband needs the.....

- a. bride b. Tax c. Dept d. Income (d)

13. But to beat at this..... game, girls in India should remember that they have numbers on their side

- a. dowry b. Dept c. credit d. tax (a)

14.It is boys who should be running after girls if they want to get.....

- a. spinster b. married c. bachelor d. in laws (b)

15.Law cannot change..... as has already been demonstrated.

- a. preoccupied b. mental c. mindsets d. Retired (c)

MATCH THE FOLLOWING :-

A) Column –A

Column – B

1.Nisha Sharma

a)1970

2.Satyarani

b) Parental Support

3.First issue

c)Education

4.Girls

d) Burden

5.Second issue

e)Noida

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

Column – A

Column- B

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1.Nisha Sharma | - | a)High Lighted Women |
| 2.Media | - | b) Educated women |
| 3.Kerala | - | c) Dowry Women |
| 4.Educated women | - | d) Not married their Daughters |
| 5.Parents decision | - | e) Software Student |

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

B)Column –A

- Column – B

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1.Courage | - | a)For a six |
| 2. Boy’s privilege | - | b) call off |
| 3. Bend it like Beckham | - | c) to play hard |
| 4. Girls confidence | - | d)movie |
| 5.Hit dowry | - | e)Get pride |

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

FILL IN THE BLANKS :-

- 1.Nisha’s case **Two** issues stand out
- 2.Anti – dowry campaign of the late **1970**’s was triggered
- 3.Late 1970’s campaign was triggered by **Satvarani Chaddha**.
- 4.**Nisha Sharma of Noida** sparked of a new anti – dowry movement
- 5.The girl should not be a **Burden** on the husband’s family.
- 6.Nisha’s **Refusal** will give others some courage
- 7.Parents have to decide that they will not marry their daughters if dowry is **Demanded - directly or Indirectly.**
- 8.The son – preference continues to **Dominate** our culture
- 9.**Bend it Like Beckham** was an English film
- 10.A **Law** can help only to some extent

CHOCOLATE

-Manju Kapur

Chocolate is short story which centres around certain events in the Marital life of Tara. The narrative style of this story is humorous. The story raises some very serious issues concerning marriage and individual self-respect.

Tara is made to go to school and college. It is very clear that her education is not oriented towards any career goal. Education in her case is considered mostly as an ornament that would brighten her chances of getting a good husband. Her family clearly does not expect her to take up a career. Tara, at this stage, still warm from the embraces of her husband does not have the foresight to figure out the importance of economic independence which a career would give her. It is only much later that she realizes the importance of education, but by then it is too late.

Tara got married with Abhay. Tara is unable to bear a child. She suggests her husband Abhay to visit a doctor, but he refuses. The Doctor declares Tara there is nothing wrong with her and says that the problem could be with Abhay. Abhay after a heated discussion he agrees to see a doctor alone. She went to the shrines on her hands and knees.

Abhay starts feeding Tara chocolates and she becomes fat. Tara spies and discovers Abhay has extra marital affair, to hide that he gave chocolates to her. She avoids to eat chocolates and she reduces her weight. She goes to the cookery classes to variety of dishes. She makes her husband fat and obese. However she gave birth to a girl baby and determined to give her daughter a good education to live independent and self-sufficient.

COMPREHENSION PASSAGES

Read the following comprehension passages and answer the questions below

I. Comprehension passage

College: Ages 17 - 20. An all girls college. Her parents don't think it wise to send Tara anywhere else she chooses English honours considered a better option she isn't very clear what to do with their life and English seems a good known purpose subject besides she has always been fond of reading.

English honours turns out to be not such a soft option after all she had never thought reading could be so strenuous. Literature didn't seem to be about stories all the emphasis was

on ideas history, contexts, marxist - feminist interpretations and a pursuit of meaning that went beyond the obvious into the totally obscure.

Questions

- 1.What did Tara chose to study in the college?
- 2.What kind of subject is English for Tara?
- 3.What type of college did the parents choose for Tara?
- 4.Was Tara fond of reading?
- 5.Did literature seems to be about stories.

Answers

- 1.Tara choose English Honours.
2. English seems to be a good no purpose subject.
- 3.The parents choose and all girls college for Tara
- 4.Yes
- 5.No

II. Comprehension passage

Abhay agreed to see the doctor after a somewhat acrimonious discussion. in which he pointed out to Tara how completely wrong she was

'Shouldn't I come too?' asked Tara, as Abhay was going.

'No,' he said briefly. 'I'll deal with it on my own'.

So Tara never knew what happened at the doctor's Abhay came home tight-lipped and cross and refused to comment.

'But what happened. What did she say? She asked several times.'She's a fool. Huh! No point in your going to her either.

Medical consultations were not possible after this.

Questions:

- 1.What is the effect of acrimonious discussion?
- 2.what did Abhay say when Tara wished to accompany him?
- 3.did Tara know what happened at the doctor's?
- 4.what did Abhay say about the doctor?
5. what is the final decision taken?

Answers:

- 1.Abhay agree to see the doctor
- 2.Abhay said no.
- 3.Tara never knew what happened at the doctors.

4. Abhay said that the doctor was your fool.

5. Medical consultation were not possible.

III. Comprehension passage

On the divine intervention front Tara was told she should take a trip to Vaishno Devi crawling on her hands and knees. After she had crawled up Vaishno devi on her hands and knees. She decided to do the hands and knees stuff at other shrines. She had thought she would feel embarrassed, but she didn't. This was routine at these places. Her husband thought all this was a great idea. So did her mother in law. 'Poor Tara!' she heard her say once, ' She is trying so hard,' and then in a lowered voice, 'but she is unhealthy from the inside '.

When there were no signs of conception after all these Tara took to wearing certain stones around her neck and fingers and her husband took too to feeding her chocolates.

Questions:

1. To which temple did Tara go?
2. how did Tara go to the temple?
3. What was the Tara's next attempt for conception?
4. what did Tara's husband do all these times?
5. what did Tara's mother in-law say to herself?

Answers:

1. Tara went to the temple of Vaishno Devi
2. Tara had crawled on her hands and knees.
3. Tara took to wearing certain stones around her neck and fingers.
4. Tara's husband took to feeding her chocolates.
5. Tara's mother -in- law pitied her saying that was trying so hard but she was unhealthy from the inside.

IV. Comprehension passage.

She must win him back she thought she decided to join cooking classes the way to a man's heart was through his stomach Abhay hardly at home But now she must cook she would be the source of all things delectable Tara joined Mrs Singhal's cooking classes which guaranteed mastery of Cordon Bleu, Continental, Chinese and indian cuisines in just year. Tara discovered in herself a light hand, and their flair for improvisation. Her teacher praised her too, and that helped. No one had ever praised her learning anything in her life, academics was out of the questions and even her dancing and singing teachers had felt that she needed to apply herself more.

For Mrs Singhal's a meal was not just eating it was an Aesthetic experience. The table, the colours, the setting, the flowers, everything had to be perfect.

Questions:

1. Why did Tara join cooking class?
2. Where did Tara join for cooking class
3. For what was Mrs Singhal's cooking famous?
4. What was the aesthetic experience?
5. Who praised Tara?

Answers

1. Tara joined cooking class in order to win him back
2. Tara joined Mrs Singhal's cooking classes
3. It was famous for the mastery of Cordon Bleu, Continental, Chinese and Indian cuisines.
4. The Aesthetic Experience was the sight of the tables, the colours, the setting, the flowers
5. Tara's teachers praised her.

Choose The Correct Answer:

1. Tara was having jiggling rolls of _____
a. Flesh b. hands c. legs d. Nails (a)
2. Tara wiped away the tears that rolled down her flabby _____
a. eyes b. cheeks c. lips d. Nails (b)
3. Twenty bars of swiss _____ seductively wrapped in green.
a. Tea b. coffee c. chocolate d. Biscuits (c)
4. Even when Tara wasn't eating, she could feel in her mouth the sharpness of the _____
a. wine b. whisky c. mint d. Liqueur (d)
5. Abhay was always _____ in catering to Tara's tastes.
a. assiduous b. chocolate c. saris d. Comfortable (a)
6. A man who is stuffing his wife with _____ must have an ulterior motive
a. dress b. chocolate c. saris d. Salwar (b)
7. Tara's free time is taken with going to dance and _____ classes.
a. song b. speech c. music d. Swim (c)
8. Tara chooses _____ Honours, considered a soft option.
a. Tamil b. maths c. science d. English (d)
9. Literature didn't seem to be about _____
a. stories b. comics c. drama d. Poem (a)
10. She complains to her _____ about how hard her teachers expect her to work.
a. father b. mother c. sister d. Brother (b)
11. The _____ preparations coincide with the preparation leave for the exams.
a. birth b. death c. wedding d. Journey (c)

12. The family then waits for the _____ to come.
 a. ancestors b. animals c. birds d. Childrens (d)
13. Tara started with the _____ intervention front first .
 a. medical b. dance c. music d. faith (a)
14. Abhay agreed to see the _____ after a somewhat acrimonious discussion.
 a. mother b. doctor c. friend d. father (b)
15. Tara was told she should take a trip to _____ crawling on her hands and knees.
 a. tirupath b. palani c. vaishno devi d. siradi (c)
16. It was chocolate that drew her _____ to a certain lack of something on the part of Abhay.
 a. careless b. sleepy c. learning d. attention (d)
17. Abhat had a good _____
 a. memory b. fight c. cheat d. play (a)
18. Tara made up her mind to _____ on him
 a. love b. spy c. console d. fight (b)
19. She felt a burning _____ at the back of her throat and the sour ugly taste of bile.
 a. affection b. emotion c. sensation d. calculation (c)
20. From sari, Tara moved to _____
 a. jeans b. middy c. nighty d. salwar kameez (d)
21. Tara joined Mrs. Singhal's _____ classes .
 a. cooking b. tailoring c. swimming d. grammer (a)
22. Tara dive into the experience like a _____ into the water .
 a. crow b. duck c. dove d. peahen (d)
23. Abhay's _____ did not fit him any more
 a. kerchief b. dhoti c. clothes d. towel (c)
24. Abhay started _____ on Tara
 a. hating b. hugging c. loving d. spying (d)

Match the following:

Column A

1. Tara
2. Abhay
3. 20 bars
4. Tara's Husband
5. Swiss Chocolate

Column B

- a) Tara's husband
- b) Swiss chocolate
- c) Main supplier
- d) Wrapped in green / orange
- e) Fat

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

Column A

1. Rolls
2. Cherrise
3. Dark chocolate
4. School Age
5. College

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

Column B

- a) Two big boxes
- b) Liqueur
- c) Marzipan
- d) 17-20 Ages
- e) 3-17 Ages

Column A

1. Strick Emphasis
2. Tara's free time
3. Tara's subject
4. Cooking class
5. Tara suspects

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

Column B

- a) music /dance classes
- b) English honours
- c) Mrs Singheel
- d) Abhay's illegal relationship
- e) Abhay's illegal relationship

Fill in the blanks:-

1. For Mrs. Singhal's meal was **not just eating**
2. Tara crooned . **lullabies** of brave women warriors.
3. **Education** make independent in their life.
4. Tara dived into the experience like a **duck into the water**
5. **Cooking** was endlessly creative.
6. **Nausea** bovercame her because of over eating chocolates.
7. Tara's has always been fond of **reading books**
8. A man who is stuffing his chocolates have on **motive.**
9. Tara's was told to take a trip **vaishno devi's** temple
10. Tara's Crawled upon on her **hands & Knee.**

UNIT II

SOAPNUT LEAVES

- **Chaaso**

Soapnut leaves summary:

Soapnut leaves is a story written by the famous Telugu writer changanti somayajulu, also known as chaaso. It has been published in the book 'Classic Telugu short stories', in 1991 and has been translated from Telugu to English by chaganti sankar. The story has also been selected as the part of the Delhi University syllabus and is published in the syllabus book 'fluency in English'. The story Soapnut leaves highlights the class differentiation present in small villages that how low-class people suppressed by the upper-class people it also reflects how the next generation learn the habit of discrimination from their previous generation. In this story, two little girls of age eight, Paamma who is the daughter of appala Nadu, a well-respected farmer and Gaviri, the daughter of Chinnademudu, who is just a village labourer. As Paamma is the daughter of a respective farmer. She has been given several privilege whereas Gaviri as being the daughter of the labourer, isn't even allowed to eat freely.

Paamma's and Gaviri's characteristics:-

Knowing that paamma's father is a well-respected farmer. Paamma becomes boastful girl and discriminates between rich and poor people. Just to make Gaviri jealous. Paamma boasts of having good food whereas Gaviri didn't get anything to eat. The whole village knew of Chinnademudu's poverty due to which Gaviri always fell in such uncertainties. The dressing sense of Gaviri and Paamma is very different. Paamma wears a long skirt, cotton towel for upper body and silver bracelet and nose pieces. Gaviri wears a cloutpiece and has to carry a broom and basket. Gaviri is just eight years old but has the responsibility of her whole family on her shoulders. She collects half the water supply of her family daily and collects firewood twigs. Although Gaviri didn't have to boast about but the things in which she was good at were also underestimated by the people due to her father's poverty. For example, Gaviri is more intelligent than Paamma and correctly recites the words sung by school children. But Paamma is the one who has been asked to come to school by the teacher.

Impartial Rules

The rules of village were impartial towards the poor people whereas the crimes of - rich people were always neglected. When Paamma and Gaviri reach the green gram fields Paamma plucks out the green gram pods and starts munching them with ease whereas Gaviri is prohibited to do that otherwise she would have been considered as a criminal and harshly punished.

Seeing paamma munching greengram pods, Gaviri feels hungry as she didn't have anything to eat in the morning and the previous night. Her hunger silences. When she reaches the Soapnut fields and sees the path covered with soapnut leaves. Soapnut leaves were thick and good for lighting the chula, therefore she was happy. She filled basket with Soapnut leaves and with Paamma, left for the Prime landlord Kaambhukta' s field.

Once entering the Kaambhukta's field, Paamma and Gaviri sees huge Tamarind trees with Sickle - like tamarind fruits hanging to them. Paamma flings a stone at the tree and receives three Tamarind fruits. She eats one and tucks the rest into her skirt but do not give any two Gaviri even after her pleading. After being encouraged by Paamma to throw a stone at the tree, hungry Gaviri flings it even after knowing the consequences. No tamarind fruits fell this time, but a dry Tamarind branch comes down and overjoys Gaviri. She could have used it as the firewood, so she breaks it into pieces and puts in her basket whereas Paamma leaves for the greengram fields.

Gaviri' s Enconuter With Kaambhukta

As Gaviri collects Tamarind branch, a voice comes from behind and Prime landlord Kaambhukta enter the field. Gaviri, bows down and shows him the branch and soapnut leaves she had collected in her basket. She tells him that they are for the firewood but Kaambhukta raises the leg and kickes the basket. Gaviri rushes to collect a dropped leaves and pieces of tamarind branch but Kaambhukta, who didn't know the value of those leaves for the Chinnademudu. family, gets irritated and starts abusing gaviri. Gaviri pleads that she will never return into her fields again but Kaambhukta gets a clue and finds cow dung hidden under a brush. (Cow dung is considered as a dirty thing in cities but is considered as a very important fuel in villages.)

She tells him that she didn't do anything but still Kaambhukta hits a blow on her back with his handstick. Gaviri criea with pain but Kaambhukta again delivers her a hit. She tries

to explain him again and shows him her hands and basket which had no cow dung traces. Kaambhukta didn't comply to this and continued to hit her.

Agitated Gaviri starts abusing Kaambhukta who has never been questioned before because of his status Prime Landlord. He removes his wooden sandal and flings it on Gaviri's shinbone. Gaviri falls down hard and starts crying. Satisfied with his final blow, Kaambhukta leaves whereas, after some silence, Gaviri stands up and starts collecting the Sopnut leaves. Though his parents had to provide the food to eat; She had to provide the fuel to cook it. This time, Gaviri leaves Kaambhukta tamarind branch twigs and again abuses him. She tries to go home as it was getting late, the school children were memorizing multiplication tables, and their voices could be heard in the fields. Unfortunately, Gaviri's shinbone hurts very bad and she looks down to see a red split welt on it. Gaviri starts sobbing and the story ends with the voices of school children reciting multiplication table being heard in Unison.

Read the following comprehension passage and answer the questions below.

I. Comprehension passages.

Gaviri was eight years old. But already on her head a mountain of family responsibility had descended. With a little pot on her head, she had to go to the pond and fetch of the supply of water the family needed; basket on hand! She had to go looking along the hedges and orchards for dry leaves, twigs, sticks or thorn bush for firewood. These responsibilities Gaviri had already come to carry out routinely.

In the fields nearby, bunches of tender greengram pods hung from their stems Paamma pulled out a few plants and shelling the green pods started munching the tender grain. Gaviri was famished. She hadn't had her congee that day. The night before too she had nothing to swallow.

Questions

1. What did Gaviri do for firewood?
2. What did Gaviri do to get water for the family?
3. What was the usual food for Gaviri?
4. Did Gaviri eat anything in the night before?
5. How old was Gaviri?

Answers:

- 1.She would go with a basket in hand looking along the hedges and orchards for dry leaves, twigs, sticks or thorn brush for firewood.
- 2.She would go to the pond and fetch water.
- 3.'Congee' was her usual food?
- 4.Gaviri did not eat anything in the night before.
- 5.Gaviri was eight years old.

II. Comprehension passages.

The soapnut tree had dropped its leaves and carpeted the path. At the sight of the soapnut leaves , Gaviri forgot all about her starvation. Among all leaves, soapnut leaves are the thickest; a few will fill a basket. She picked up all the leaves, wiped them clean and pressed them down in her basket. She had fulfilled her Duty for the day. The basket felt heavy now, and their heart felt light. Both the little girls turned homeward. Paamma proceeded yelling at the top of her voice. They made their way along the edge the field, right under the Tamarind tree. Something fell before them with a thud.

Questions:

1. How did gaveri feel when her basket was full of soapnut leaves?
- 2.What was the special quality of soapnut leaves?
- 3.What did gaviri do the soapnut leaves?
- 4.Who accompanied with gaviri?
- 5.Where did the girls finally reach?

Answers

- 1.Her heart felt light.
- 2.The soapnut leaves are the thickest and a few will fill a basket.
3. Gaviri picked up all the leaves, wiped them clean and pressed them down in her basket.
- 4.Paamma accompanied with Gaviri.
- 5.They reached the field of the prime landlord.

III. Comprehension passage

'There, you have the rock to throw', Said Paamma and pushed ahead. Gaviri looked up. Like curved sickles the tamarind fruit hung down from the branches. Her heart palpitating gaviri flung a stone up. The rock fell back with a thud. The sound terrified Gaviri threw another rock. Though no fruit dropped, a big broken and dead -dry twig came rustling down and dropped on the ground.

Gaviri was overjoyed.. With a victory whoop she pounced lightly on the dried twig. She broke the twig into handy bits and put them on top of the basket

Questions:

- 1.What did the girls see on the field?
- 2.Where dis paamma go?
- 3.What did Gaviri do first?
- 4.What happened at Gaviri 's second attempt?
- 5.What did Gaviri do with dried twig?

Answers

- 1.They saw the tamarind fruit hung down from the branches.
- 2.Paamma went into the green fields.
- 3.Gaviri flung a stone up.
- 4.A big broken and dead - dry dropped on the ground.
- 5.She broke the twig into handy bits and put them on top of her basket.

IV. Comprehension passage

After weeping bitterly for a long time, Gaviri opened her eyes. It was getting late. The school children memorizing the multiplication tables.

Three sevens are twenty - one,' they will all bawled the in a sing - song voice, memorizing them. Gaviri looked into the threshing field. No one was there. She gathered the soapnut leaves that lay scattered all over. If she were to leave them behind, their would be nothing to light the cooking fire that day. Though her parents may fetch something to cook, she must provide the fuel to cook with.

'You - son -of -bitch! No one needs your tamarind twigs,' she said and left the tamarind sticks behind. She lifted the basket on to her head. The shinbone smarted and sharply. She bent down to take a look. The wooden sandal had a welt on the leg; the welt had spilt and looked red.

Questions

1. What did the school children do?
2. What we do in the threshing field?
3. What would happen if gaviri had not gather the soapnut leaves
4. Did Gaviri take with her tamarind twigs?
5. What made gaviri's leg look red?

Answers

1. The school children memorizing the multiplication tables .
2. She gathered the soapnut leaves that lay scattered over there.
3. There would be nothing to light the looking fire that day
4. No
5. The wooden sandal had raised a welt on her leg the welt had spilt and looked red.

Choose the best answers:

1. Two little girls Appala naidu's daughter.....and Chinnademudu's daughter Gaviri
a. paamma b. kaviri c. gaviri d. padma
2. Paamma was dressed in a ragged.....
a. frock b. parikini c. pyjama d. jeans
3. Gaviri had little on except a.....
a. jacket b. saree c. cloutpiece d. dhoti
4. A string of corals hung around.....neck.
a. gaviri's b. naidu's c. papa's d. paamma's
5. I had.....for relish,said Gaviri.
a. prawns b. fish c. crabs d. snails

6. Meaning for congee

a. Buttermilk b. water boiled with rice c. Leftovers d. porridge

7. Both the girls had soup of..... fish

a. whale b. shark c. munelam d. star

8. In the village school, the children started their.....

a. teaching b. play c. games d. prayer

9. On one side of the.... stood a sweet - scented pandanus.

a. gorge b. pond c. lake d. river

10. The teacher asked paamma's father to send her.....

a. work b. school c. forest d. field

11. Grief surged into gaviri throat and tears.....in her eyes.

a. welled up b. end up c. build up d. make up

12. Paara picked up a few..... and tucked them in her hair

a. twigs b. leaves c. sticks d. flowers

13. The school children were..... at the top of their voices.

a. bawling b. blarring c. telling d. triumphating

14. I must go and pick up some.....said gaviri

a. wet twigs b. dry twig c. dry leaves d. bundles

15. Gaviri was..... years old.

a. six b. seven c. eight d. nine

16. In the fields nearby, bunches of tender..... Pods hung from their stems.

a. bengalgram b. blackgram c. redgram d. greengram

17. The night before too..... had nothing to swallow.

a. gaviri b. parama c. naidu d. peasant

18. If the poor indulge in such petty thefts, they will be treated as.....

a. minor crime b. major crime c. mean crime d. wrong crime

19. Gaviri's stomach tried out in.....

a.pain b.pain c.agony d.soar

20.The..... tree had dropped it's leaves and..... the path.

a.canopied b.flowered c.matted d.carpeted

21. The name of the prime landlord is.....

a.kaambhukta garu b.naidu garu c.coolie d.panditji

22.The tops of the tamarind trees where packed with.....birds

a.wheat b.paddy c.rye d.barley

23.Like curved sickness.....fruit hung down from the branches.

a.mango b.jack c.tamarind d.lemon

24.The soapnut leaves were..... for a day's fuel in the cooking fire.

a.abundant b.demand c.sarce d.sufficient

25.From weeping gaviri moved to asserting her.....

a.self respect b.self reliance c.self pity d.selfish

26.The school children were.....the multiplication tables.

a.reciting b.memorizing c.singing d.dancing

27.Children were all bawled in a.....voice.

a.sing a song b.sung c.sing- song d.song

(Paaramma, parikini, cloutpiece, paramma's, prawns, water boiled with rice, munelam, prayer, gorge, school,welled up, flowers, bawling, dry twigs, eight, greengram, gaviri, major crime, agony, carpeted, kaambhukta garu, paddy, tamarind, sufficient, self-respect, memorising, sing -song, lamb to the slughter- roald Dahl)

I. Match the following.

- | | | |
|------------------|---|-------------|
| 1. AppalaNaidu | - | a)Chasso |
| 2. Chinnademudu | - | b) Canthium |
| 3.Balusu | - | c) Paaramma |
| 4.Munelum fish | - | d)Gaviri |
| 5.Soapnut Leaves | - | e)Wolf fish |

Ans: 1.c) 2.d) 3.b) 4. e) 5.a)

2.

1. Parikini - a) a broom
2. Besom - b) a long skirt
3. Bugata Garu - c) Water boiled rice
4. Congee - d) School children
5. Multiplication tables - e) prime landlord

Ans: 1.b) 2.a) 3.e) 4. c) 5.d)

3.

1. Saraswathi - a) curry boiled until the water has evaporated
2. Iguru - b) long skirt
3. Loin – cloth - c) Sanskrit prayer
4. Gaviri - d) Sprouted white lotus
5. Tamarind tree - e) eight years old

Ans: 1.c) 2.a) 3.b) 4. e) 5.d)

4.

1. Respectable - a) boasting
2. Wretched - b) foot
3. Wooden sandaled - c) farmer
4. Dead - dry - d) coconut fibre
5. Gaviri' s hair - e) twigs

Ans: 1.c) 2.a) 3.b) 4. e) 5.d)

Fill in the blanks:-

1. Soapnut leaves is a story written by the famous Telugu writer changanti somayajulu.
2. Gaviri is a daughter of **chinnademudu**.
3. **Paaramma** is the daughter of appala Naidu
4. Paaramma becomes **boastful** girl.
5. **Gavri** is more intelligent than paramma.

6. Paamma and Gaviri take the same **oleander** flowers in their hair.
7. Gaviri is just **eight** years old.
8. She collects **firewood** twigs.
9. Paamma wears a **long skirt** and **silver bracelets**.
10. Gaviri wears a **cloutpiece** and has to carry a broom and baskets.
11. When Paamma and Gaviri reach the **greengram** fields.
12. **The prime landlord kaambhukta** was a more respected person than Paamma.
13. **Soapnut leaves** were thick and good for lighting the chula.
14. Gaviri collects the **tamarind** branch.
15. Kaambhukta removes his **wooden sandal** and **flings** it had on Gaviri's shinbone.
16. Gaviri leaves Kaambhukta's tamarind branch **twigs** and again abuses him.
17. The school children memorizing **multiplication tables**.
18. Gaviri starts **sobbing**.
19. The poorer one is Gaviri whose duty is to daily collect **fuel and water** for her family.
20. The story **Soapnut leaves** highlights the class differentiation present in small villages.
21. Low - class people are suppressed by the **upper - class people**.

LAMB TO THE SLAUGHTER

ROALD DAHL

The short story **Lamb to the Slaughter** is a finely narrated detective story. It begins with a happy contented Mary Maloney loyal and wife. Mrs. Mary is waiting for her husband to return from work six months pregnant. She glows with contentment and security, ready to welcome Mr. Maloney familiar with his habit. She reveals in his almost silent company. She knows he will not speak much till the first drink is finished. Their description of their sitting together is an interesting one. She is aware of what is going on in his mind and is ready to do anything to make him comfortable, please him. He, on the other hand, is trying to bring himself to break the news of his intention to abandon her. He empties his glass of whiskey, refuses to have anything to eat, and then tells her what he intends to do. Mr. Maloney plans to leave her for another woman. Of course, he'll give her money and she will be looked after. Maloney simply tells Mrs. Maloney of his intent to leave her unaware of the fury of emotions released within her, by his declaration.

Still in a state of shock, she realizes they will be not going out for dinner. So she gets up to prepare the supper. Almost in a dare, she goes down to the cellar to fetch something to cook. The first thing she lays her hands on is a leg of lamb still standing by the window with his back to her. Mr. Maloney tells her that he is going out and she shouldn't make supper for him. In one angry reflex, Mary Maloney simply walks up behind him and hits him on the

back of his head with the frozen leg of lamb. The blow is fatal he falls to the carpet. The crash the noise of the small table overturning brings her out of shock.

Her mind starts racing she realizes the enormity of what she has done then she plans to out, he evening she puts the lamp in the microwave to cook. Then she goes out to the green grocer and returns with stuff to be cooked for supper. Then she kneels by the body of her dead husband, finds him dead and calls the police..

The policeman arrive they examine the scene of the crime they do not find the weapon of offence they ask Mary about her movements in the last couple of hours. when she tells them about her visit to the greengrocer, they go and ask him several questions about her behaviour back in the Maloney household, they resume their search for a heavy weapon .As it gets late Mary asks them to have supper. She offers them whatever is ready in her kitchen and that is the leg of lamb. They hungrily consume it and thus destroy the weapon of offence. Mary Maloney has the last laugh.

Read the following comprehension passages and answer the questions below
I.Comprehension passage

All right, she told her self. So I've killed him. It was extraordinary. now how clear her mind became all of a sudden. she began thinking very fast. As the wife of a detective. she knew quite well what the penalty would be. That was fine. It made no difference to her. In fact, it would be a relief. On the other hand, what about the child? what were the laws about murderers with Unborn children? Did they kill them both - mother and child? Or did they wait until the tenth month. What did they do? Mary Maloney didn't know. And she certainly wasn't prepared to take a chance. She carried the meat into the kitchen, placed it in a pan, turned and the oven on high and shoved It Inside. Then she washed her hands and ran upstairs to the bedroom. She sat down before the mirror, tidied her face, touched up her lips and face. She tried a smile it came out rather Peculiar she tried again.

Questions:

- 1.What was the child mentioned here?
- 2.Whatwas her husband?
- 3.What did she knew quite well?
- 4.What was her doubt?
- 5.What crime did she do?

Answers:

- 1.The child mentioned here was yet to be born.
- 2.He was a detective.
- 3.She knew quite well what the penalty would be.
- 4.She doubted whether they would kill both mother and child or would wait for ten month.

5.She killed her husband.

II. Comprehension Passage

'I want some potatoes, Sam. Yes, and I think a can of peas '.

The men turned and reached up behind him on the shelf for the peas.

'Patrick's decided he's tried and doesn't want to eat out tonight she told him we usually go out Thursdays, you know, and now he's caught me without any vegetables in the house'.

'Then how about meat, Mr. Maloney

'No, I've got meat, thanks. I got a nice leg of lamb, from the freezer'.

'Oh'.

'I don't much like cooking it frozen, Sam, but I 'm taking a chance on it this time. You think it'll be all right?'

'Personally ',the grosser said ',I don't believe it makes any difference. You want these Idaho potatoes?'

'Oh yes, that'll be fine. Two of those.'

Questions:

- 1.What is the name of Mrs. Maloney's husband?
- 2.What do they do on Thursdays?
- 3.Where did Mrs Maloney keep the meat in her home?
- 4.What was the brand of the potatoes mentioned here?
- 5.How many potatoes did Mrs Maloney require?

Answers:

- 1.His name is Patrick.
- 2.They usually go out.
- 3.She kept the meat in the freezer.
- 4.The brand was Idaho.
- 5.She required to potatoes.

III. Comprehension Passage.

The car came over quickly, and when she opened the front door two police man walked in. She knew them both -She knew nearly all the men at that precinct and she fell right into Jack Noonan's arms, weeping hysterically. He put her gently into a chair, then went over to join the other one, who was called O' Malley, kneeling by the body.

'Is he dead?' she cried.

'I'm afraid he is. What happened?'

Briefly, she told her story about going out to the grocer and coming back to find him on the floor. While she was talking, crying and talking, Noonan discovered a small patch of congealed blood on the dead man's head. He showed it to O' Malley who got up at once and hurried to the phone.

Questions:

1. Did the woman know the policeman of that area?
2. What is the name of the policeman who knelt by the dead body?
3. On whose arms the lady fell over?
4. Where did the lady go and come back?
5. How many policeman walked in?

Answers:

1. Yes
2. O' Malley knelt by the dead body.
3. She fell right into Jack Noonan's arms.
4. She went out to the grocer and came back.
5. Two policeman walked in.

Sometimes she saw the flash of a torch through a chink in the curtains. It began to get late. Nearly nine she noticed by the clock in the mantel. The four men searching the rooms seemed to be growing weary, or thrift exasperated.

'Jack.' She said, the next time Sergeant Noonan went to 'Would you mind giving me a drink?'

'Sure I'll give you a drink. You mean this whiskey?'

'Yes, please. But just a small one. It might make me feel better.' He handed her the glass.

Questions:

1. What did the woman see through the chink in the curtains?
2. Till what time did the policeman search?
3. How many men involved in the search?
4. Whom did the woman ask for a drink?
5. What was the name of the drink that she drank?

Answers:

1. She saw the flash of a torch.
2. They searched till late nine o'clock.
3. Four men involved in the search.
4. She asked Jack Noonan for a drink.
5. It was whiskey.

Choose the best Answers:

1. Fresh ice cubes in the..... bucket
a. thermos b. cello c. flask d. oven
2. was waiting for her husband to come home from work
a. policeman b. Mary Maloney c. lawyer d. grocer
3. The drop of the head as Mary bent over her.... was curiously tranquil
a. drawing b. stitching c. sewing d. weaving
4. When the clock said..... to five, Mary began to listen.
a. 5 mts b. 2 mts c. 8 mts d. ten minutes.
5. When the husband came back, Mary noticed that the ring was dark Amber with the quantity of..... in it
a. whisky b. wine c. gin d. brandy
6. Mary watched him as he began to sip the..... drink.
a. mild yellow b. dark yellow c. dark brown d. light brown
7. Each time he lifted the drink to his lips she heard the ice cube..... against the side of the glass
a. stinking b. baffling c. clinking d. drinking
8. There's plenty of meat stuff in the
a. oven b. stove c. bureau d. freezer
9. Mary said. "I'll get you some..... first.
a. cheese and crackers b. butter c. bread d. milk and cracker.
10. Mary said, we can have..... chops or pork.
a. chik b. lamb c. mutton d. prawn

11. Her husband had finished the second drink and was starting down into the glass.....
 a. smiling b. laughing c. frowning d. crying
12. Mary noticed that there was a little muscle moving near the.....of his left eye
 a. centre b. down c. up d. corner
13. When she walked across.....the room she couldn't feel her feet touching the floor.
 a. walk across b. criss cross c. ziczag d. roundabout
14. They would have lamp for.....
 a. breakfast b. supper c. lunch d. dinner
15. Mary went through the living - room she saw him standing over by the.....
 a. door b. steps c. window d. twigs
16. Mary has killed her husband with a frozen.....
 a. boneless b. bone marrow c. mutton soup d. leg of lamp
17. She washed her hands and ran.....to the bedroom
 a. upstairs b. downstairs c. steps d. room
18. She sat down before the..... tidied her face touched upon her lips and face
 a. cot b. bed c. mattress d. bed sheet
19. Mary was returning home to her husband back as if he was waiting for his.....
 a. breakfast b. lunch c. supper d. brunch
20. When she opened the front door, two.....walked
 a. lawyer b. grocer c. poacher d. policeman
21. She told her story about going out to the.....and coming back to find homon the floor
 a. grocer b. police c. lawyer d. daughter
22. A police.....arrived and took pictures.
 a. grocer b. photographer c. lawyer d. police
23. There was a great deal of.....and murmuring beside the corpse.
 a. shouting b. screeching c. whispering d. chuckling
24. "which grocer", one of the.....asked
 a. police b. lawyer c. grocer d. detective
25. Sometimes.....spoke to her gently as he paused.
 a. jack Noonan b. policeman c. lawyer d. grocer

26.Sometimes she saw the flash of a torch through a..... in the curtains.

- a.hole b.chink c.stich d.thread

27.One by one the others came in and we're persuaded to take a little nip of.....

- a.brandy b.wine c.whisky d.gin

28.When the sergeant returned the second time, she looked at him with her large, dark..... eyes

- a.fearful b.harmful c.stomachful d.tearful

29. There was a good deal of his hesitating among the four.....

- a.policemen b.lawyer c.governor d.grocer

30. The woman stayed where she was,listening to them through the.....

- a.closed door b.open door c.vent d.window

31.Their voices thick and sloppy because their mouths were.....

- a.steak b.lamb c.full of meat d.chicken

32.The doc says his skull was smashed allot pieces just like from a.....

- a.sickle b.knife c.stick d.sledgehammer

33.In the other room Mary Maloney began to.....

- a.giggle b.laugh c.smile d.cry

(thermos, Mary Maloney, sewing, ten minutes, Whisky,dark yellow,clinking,freezer,cheese and crackers,lamp,frowning,corner,walked across,supper>window,leg of lamb,upstairs, bed, supper, policeman, open door, full of meat, sledge hammer, giggle)

Match the following:

- 1.Sam - a)Dead man's head
2.Congeaed blood - b)grocery shop
3.Mary Maloney - c)right under our noted
4.Leg q lamb - d)Patrick Maloney
5.Murder weapon - e)supper

Answers: 1.b) 2.a) 3.d) 4.e) 5.c)

2.

1.Sledge -hammer - a) giggle

2.Mary Maloney - b) skull was smashed all to pieces

3.Metal vases - c)

detective 4. Patrick - d)

Spanner 5. Lamb of to slaughter - Harper's Magazine e)

Answers: 1.b) 2.a) 3.d) 4.c) 5.e)

3.

1.Two policemen - a)evidence of the murder

2.Destroy - b)Jack noonan and o malley

3. Detectives - c)Frogmen leg of lamb

4. Weapon - d)two

5.Mary Maloney - e)mistress of Patrick Maloney

Answers : 1.b) 2.a) 3.d) 4.c) 5.e)

Fill in the Blanks:-

1.Lamb to the slaughter is a Roald DahI short story published in **Harper's Magazine** in **1953**.

2.**Mary Maloney** is a devoted housewife.

3.Her husband **Patrick** is a detective.

4.Mary cares for her home and is **heavily pregnant** with her first child.

5.Patrick is **aloof** and acting strangely.

6.Patrick wishes for a **divorce**.

7.Mary hits him over the head with the **frozen leg of lamb**.

8.**Patrick** dies instantly.

9.Mary prepares the **leg of lamb**, she had used as a weapon and puts it in the oven.

10.Mary needs an **alibi**.

11.The police believe that Patrick was killed by an **intruder**.

12.**Mary** invites the officers to dinner.

13.Mary **giggles** to herself.

14. Two policeman Jack Noonan and o' Malley both former colleagues and friend of Patrick.
15. The man destroy the evidence of the murder.
16. The title of the story includes the word lamb.
17. Mary is the lamb.
18. Lamb to the slaughter is written by Roald Dahl.

UNIT III

The Lost Word

- Esther Morgan

This short poem written by the British poet Esther Morgan was born in 1970, This poem is taken from her first collection of poems called Beyond calling Distance, published in 2001. This poem, as the title tells us is about a lost word, We often lost things but a word is not a thing. In the first stanza, a woman is in search of a word she has lost. And she is searching for it in places which are hidden from view are places where we keep our rubbish. The poet suggests that the woman has lost this word in the world of her domesticity. this domestic world is not just a physical world it also is a mental world. The woman is so preoccupied in this world that she fails to remember this word which is certainly an important word.

The thing lost is not a think at all but a world. Like this physical spaces which are hidden because we do not choose to speak about them, Often we are afraid to speak about them, after and we are afraid to speak about to speak about things that are not a acceptable to the people and Society we live in a and so we push these thoughts to the back of our minds. the back of the mind is a place to hide thoughts like the back of a sofa to hide things. this is especially true in case of women in traditional societies.

In the second stanza the same theme of the Lost word is continuous we see her looking under the carpet and there she finds many other words that she had swept under the carpet but not the one she was looking for. the phrase 'swept under carpet' used to indicate that something was hidden deliberately. We tend to hide or suppress things when we are not very confident about them. The woman here seems to be in the habit of sweeping many words under the carpet.

It shows that she is not a very confident person, She has hidden and suppressed or forgotten to use many words because she is not confident about using them. In the third stanza she takes a break from the frantic search to think about the word. She tries to remember the last time. She had used this word. This is a very common way of remembering about things which are lost or misplaced. But this attempt also ends in a failure. She can hardly remember the last time she used it. The only thing she remembers now is not the use of the word but the failure to use it, though she had tried several times. And she had failed to

use it because her mouth was full of someone else's tongue. When the poet says that her mouth was full of someone else's tongue it does not mean that she did not a tongue of her own. Tongue here is used in the sense of a voice. When the woman tries to remember the word she has lost she is unable to do so because she had been using not her own but someone else's language. She was saying what others wanted her to say.

The ending of this poem does not give us any definite clues about the word She is looking for. The woman it seems has never been able to use the word because she has never used her own voice. We know that voice, or in other words the freedom to choose and Express ideas and opinions, gives us an identity. That we can guess that the word she is looking for would be a word which could give her an identity. Words like "me", " am", "no ", assert one's individuality. The woman here is looking for the word "no", so that she can regain her voice. But her attempt ends in Failure once again because when we lose our voice we have nothing more to say. Thus the poem ends on this abrupt note to suggest that when we adopt the tongue of others and speak in their voice, it is very difficult to break free and find one' s own tongue. So we end up having very little to say and the only option that is open is silence.

Choose the best Answers:

1.She has lost.....

a.a word b.two words c.three words d.four words (b)

2.She searches for a word.....

a.nowhere b.everywhere c.allover d.elsewhere (b)

3.It was searched behind the.....

a.chair b.stool c.sofa d.bench (c)

4. It was searched at the back of dusty..... and.....

a. table and chair b.stool and cup c.fruit and basket d.cupboards and drawers (d)

5.She picks through the..... sacks

a. rubbish b.waste c.paper d.wrapper (a)

6.Under the..... she finds lots of others.

a.pillows b.carpet c.mat d.mattress (b)

7.Its a small only..... letters

a.one b.four c.two d.three (c)

8.She stands.....her brain.

a.cracking b.blinking c.surfing d.racking (a)

9. All that comes to her mind are..... attempt

a.failed b.success c.tried d.vain (a)

10. Her mouth was full of someone else's.....

a.teeth b.tongue c.gum d.throat (b)

Match the following:

A) Column A

Column B

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. The lost word | - | a) Confused |
| 2. The two letters | - | b) Universal |
| 3. Forgetting word | - | c) The lost word |
| 4. Forgetfulness | - | d) Esther Morgan |
| 5. Poem end | - | e) Abrupt |

Ans: 1-d; 2-c; 3-a; 4-b; 5.e

B) Column A

Column B

- | | | |
|----------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Forget word | - | a) Cupboard, drawers |
| 2. Search | - | b) Strange |
| 3. Difficulty | - | c) Importance of mother tongue |
| 4. Reason | - | d) Choosing right word |
| 5. Message | - | e) Using foreign language |

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

Fill in the Blanks

1. The poem "The last word" revolves around a **two letter word**
2. Losing a word in the poem means a **great deal**
3. The poem shows a relationship between society and **language**
4. The poem talks about the position of **women**
5. The phrase losing a word discusses the **condition of women**
6. In our society women kill their **desires**
7. Women forget their own **identity**

8. Women are not allowed to speak in the society

9. The poem begins with a women

10. She searches for a two-letter-word

SOME PEOPLE

RITA ANN HIGGINS

Introduction

The poem "Some people" is written by the Irish poet and playwright Rita Ann Higgins and is based on the problems faced by some people in modern society who have become the target of upper - lower class discrimination

The struggles of poor women

The poem some people written by Rita Ann Higgins showcases the struggles of a poor woman who is considered as a backward person in her society. That woman is also a mother and feels pathetic when humiliated in front of her kids but says that humiliation for her and people like her is never going to stop and no one can understand their feelings. To stop that humiliation their children also make excuses.

Here the mother is saying that some people know no how it feels To be called a 'characterless' women in front of their kids how it feels to be too poor to afford the rent and inability to pay for electricity to not be able to buy books for their kids all these things have been faced by the mother who has also been tortured during the financial and medical need she and people like there have to wait in a hospital waiting room that is full of smoke for two long years to get your tooth checked and for another two years to get that tooth medicated they have to feel the pain in their swollen legs before getting checked but their number, unfortunately comes in hundreds on the list.

Excuses of poor:

Banana is a term used in earlier time to call the people who help job seekers in finding jobs over a phone call here the mother is saying that people like her know how it feels to fall in schemes such bananas that make you lose confidence but still get you jobs in your dreams some people know that how it feels to live without any work, money, clothes and friend such people has to go to Charity service for living and their children make several excuses to save themselves from getting humiliated an example is given of the milkman that how when he arrives to collect the payment of milk the children make silly excuses.

The mother is saying that once such people start making excuses the streak of their excuses continues and sometimes the excuses need to be so strong that their children even lie about their mother's death. Another example of excuses given in the poem is the children telling the rent man that their mother is lying unconscious in the hospital. The term "St Judes ward 4th floor" refers to the financial supporter of the poorest people.

Conclusion

Here the mother is expressing the humiliations faced by poor people who are considered as second hand second class and characterless in society and or walk on by the wealthy people those will the people never have to face such humiliation in their lives that's why they don't know how these poor people feel.

Choose the best Answer:

1. Some people are called as.....in front of their children.
a.cunt b.blunt c.slant d.trump (a)
2. People are short for the.....,.....and.....
a.cash,bulb,paper b.rent,light,books c.catch,books,dark d.rent,cash,trash (b)
3. Some people are to wait in.....welfare waiting rooms full of smoke.
a.religion b.caste c.community d.race (c)
4. People are to wait nearly two years to have a.....out
a.gum b.tongue c.teeth d.tooth (c)
5. People are to be half strangled by their.....
a.varicose veins b.muscular veins c.vascular d.veins (a)
6. People are to talk into a.....on a job search scheme.
a.guava b.banana c.pine d. Jack (b)
7. Sometimes people are to be out of..... and.....
a.eat,sleep,work,run b.work,cash,jogging,friend c.work,Money,fashion and friend
d.friend work. (c)
8. Some are to be in.....for the blanket man
a.rodorico b.getorico c.chipko rico d.puerto rico (d)
9. People are to be.....for the coal man.
a.dead b.birth c.breath d.live (a)
10. Some are to be in.....unconscious for the rent man.
a.house b.hospital c.school d.college (b)

Match the following:

A)Column A		Column B
1.Some people	-	a)Narrator
2.1988	-	b)Part of West Indies
3.Irish poet	-	c)Some people
4.St Jude's Word	-	d)RitaAnn Higgins
5.Puerto Rico	-	e)4th Floor

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

B) Column A		Column B
1.Banana	-	a)Provides charity
2.Vincent de paul man	-	b)Two
3.Years	-	c)Having swollen legs
4.Vericose veins	-	d)Coal man
5.Dead	-	e)Train Jobseekers

Ans: 1-e; 2-a; 3-b; 4-e; 5-d

Fill in the Blanks

- 1."Some people" poem is written by Irish poet **Rita Ann Higgins**
- 2.In "Some people" the poet has tried to draw an authentic picture of **human society**
- 3.Rita says that life is **Pathetic**
- 4.Poor people have to suffer humiliation from **rich and powerful people**
- 5.The poet express the **pain** of the poor people
- 6.Rich people call poor women as a **sexual object**
- 7.The poor cannot get **medical** aid
- 8.The children of poor women have to make strange excuses to **lenders**
- 9.The poet has presented a grim picture of the **poor women**
- 10.The poem raises a voice so call for **justice** and **reform**