

LITERATURE READER

1. ATTILA

UNDERSTANDING THE STORY

- A. 1. (a) 2. (b) 3. (a)
- B. 1. False 2. False 3. True 4. True 5. False
- C. 1. If anyone smiled at Attila, he would lower his head, curve his body, tuck his tail between his legs, roll his eyes and moan till he was patted on the head, stroked and told that he was forgiven.
2. Some people were against him because he ate an enormous amount but was a very poor watchdog. He did not even bark at night if he saw a stranger entering the premises.
3. Attila became a hero entirely by mistake. He ran away with Ranga, a thief, who did not want him as a companion at all. When Ranga was going to dispose of some jewellery he stole from the house, the eldest son of the house saw him with Attila following along. Ranga was frightened and began to run. Attila got under his feet and so he tripped. As he fell a piece of stolen jewellery flew out of his hand which was recognised by the son. The crowd collected there and Ranga was arrested. Everyone thought Attila had been heroic in catching the thief.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- D. Any reasonable sentences are acceptable.
- E. 1. pup 2. foal 3. roar 4. reptile

WRITING SKILLS

- F. Any reasonable answer which gives the real incident is acceptable.

DISCUSS

- G. For discussion (Hint: love, care, feed, walk, get them vaccinated, train, etc.)

2. CHILDHOOD DAYS

UNDERSTANDING THE STORY

- A. 1. (b) 2. (b) 3. (c) 4. (b) 5. (a)
- B. 1. (d) 2. (c) 3. (a) 4. (e) 5. (b)
- C. 1. The author (narrator) was never bored because he enjoyed reading. He had ten volumes of 'The Book of Knowledge' and later four volumes of 'The Romance of Famous Lives' to read when he was alone.

2. The carnival was like the fairs we have today in some ways. It had giantwheels much larger than the present ones. Those were as high as a five-storey building. There were merry-go-rounds, dodgems, an alpine railway and many other things.
3. Simon Legree, the cruel master of the black slave, Tom, in Uncle Tom's Cabin whips him and Tom is killed falling down a flight of stairs. Later, haunted by Tom's ghost, Legree continues to whip the ghost. Watching this depicted in the film, Kalu Mama, who had watched the film with so much interest, got emotionally involved, jumped up from his seat and shouted, "That man still whipping him? Wait, you devil, you'll soon get your just deserts!"
4. Taking the family photo must have been a big event. Informing the studio beforehand, collecting the eighteen family members, walking up to Edna Lorenz, the studio, organising the people in rows, getting the baby to look into the camera with the help of a toy—all of this would have taken a lot of thought, effort and organisation.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- D. 1. autobiography 2. travelogue 3. journal 4. reminiscences 5. ghostwrite

WRITING SKILLS

- E. Any relevant answer is acceptable.
- F. Information may be collected from books or the internet by the students—Satyajit Ray's life and work—as writer, director and fiction writer (creator of Feluda and children's stories).

DISCUSS

- G. Any relevant answer is acceptable.
- H. Any relevant answer is acceptable.

[Hint: Being able to take photographs any place, any time; formal–informal; pictures of nature, etc. video; being able to adjust pictures, colours, etc., to compose a photograph as you wish, etc.]

3. MORE ABOUT PEOPLE

UNDERSTANDING THE POEM

- A. 1. (a) 2. (b)
- B. 1. irking 2. working 3. Ford; Edison 4. breath
- C. 1. Firestone—American industrialist and inventor of pneumatic car and truck tyres.

Ford—American industrialist: invented/developed the Ford Model T car in 1908; assembly line mode of production.

Edison–Extraordinary inventor–phonograph; developed the incandescent electric light bulb; electricity generating system and efficient distribution, developed kinetophones, used in motion pictures; about 1000 patents for inventions.

2. According to the poet, if you work it is to earn enough money so that you reach a stage where you don't need to work anymore and can spend a life of leisure.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- D. 1. dis 2. im 3. tri 4. semi 5. bi 6. un 7. dis 8. ex 9. mono 10. tele

ACTIVITY

- E. The theme of this poem is to show up the folly of lazy people. Even for leisure, you need to work.

DISCUSS

- F. Debate can be organised on the pros and cons of the topic 'Money Makes the Mare Go': does money make everything that is worthwhile happen or are there worthwhile things in the world which do not depend on money.

4. A SOUND OF THUNDER

UNDERSTANDING THE STORY

- A. 1. (a) 2. (b)
- B. 1. True 2. False 3. True 4. False
- C. 1. The path was made of anti-gravity metal because if it was not, it would stick to the earth, thereby, returning to the present time. The need was to move back in time; therefore, it was necessary for the path to be made of anti-gravity metal.
2. Only certain animals, which had been in existence at the time and not later, could be shot. If any animal which had existed later had been shot, it would have disturbed the food chain.
3. The tourists had to put on oxygen helmets because firstly, the speed of time travel must have been immense and secondly, there would be a change in the air over a period of time causing fluctuation in the level of oxygen. This could cause the tourists to lose consciousness.
4. Tyrannosaurus Rex towered thirty feet above the trees. It had great striding legs and teeth like daggers. Its eyes looked hungry.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- D. 1. Please put everything **except** the keys into this bag.
I think we should **accept** the invitation.



2. The people living in the Yamuna bed were **affected** by the floods.

What was the **effect** of the flood in South Delhi?

3. A large **wave** hit the surfer suddenly.

The bank decided to **waive** the loan it had given.

4. I like to wear **loose** clothes.

Did you **lose** the papers I gave you?

5. The **reign** of Emperor Akbar was peaceful.

The rider held the **rein** to stop the horse.

6. The **hare** runs very fast.

He is the **heir** to the throne.

7. Ramesh is my **dear** friend.

The **deer** is a herbivore.

WRITING SKILLS

E. Any reasonable answer is acceptable.

[Hints: The food chain has a pattern where one species becomes the food for another. Destruction of any species would disturb the chain. Hunting destroys it by causing imbalance.]

DISCUSS

F. Any reasonable answer is acceptable.

G. Any reasonable answer is acceptable. On Science Fiction: fiction based on imagined future worlds and showing scientific or technological changes.

H. Discuss this topic in the classroom.

5. PERMANENT HELPERS

UNDERSTANDING THE STORY

A. 1. (a) 2. (c) 3. (c)

B. 1. (c) 2. (d) 3. (a) 4. (b)

C. 1. Shraavan was self-reliant, hardworking, helpful and cheerful. He was also good at his studies, truthful and intelligent.

2. Ravi wanted to make fun of Shraavan because he was arrogant and that morning he had been unable to answer questions whereas Shraavan had answered all the questions. So, Ravi wanted to put him down in front of others.

3. The teacher scolded Shraavan because he thought Shraavan had lied when he said he had ten helpers; and the teacher did not approve of lies.
4. We learn that it is always good to be self-reliant and not depend on others for one's work. We should do our chores and our work with a cheerful and helpful attitude, without sulking or grumbling.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

D. 1. on 2. at 3. for 4. is

WRITING SKILLS

E. Any reasonable answer is acceptable.

[Hints: Makes you confident and strong; independent; helpful to others; disciplined; able to use time wisely; priorities, tasks.]

F. Any reasonable answer is acceptable.

[Hints: Date; incident details; feeling hurt; examine whether to speak to teacher about it or to ask the person actually responsible to come with you to teacher.]

DISCUSS

G. **Discussion:** Need for good health; to be able to function well in all fields; how to maintain good health—food, exercise, work, rest, recreation—balance.

6. THE PAPER BOAT

UNDERSTANDING THE POEM

A. 1. (c) 2. (c) 3. (b)

B. 1. True 2. False 3. False

- C. 1. The boat sank because it was made of paper, a material too frail to withstand water for long, let alone a torrent of rain.
2. The poet was bitter because he thought that the storm had purposely come to spoil his happiness by sinking his little boat.
3. We often blame fate for the bad things that happen in our lives, as if it is a maliciously directed at us in particular. In fact, it is better to take adversities in life in the right spirit without blaming fate or others.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

D. 1. sweet 2. winner 3. forget 4. swam/floated 5. sad 6. for

ACTIVITY

E. It can be done by students on their own.



7. THE MODEL MILLIONAIRE

UNDERSTANDING THE STORY

- A. 1. (a) 2. (b) 3. (c) 4. (b)
- B. 1. False 2. False 3. True 4. True 5. False
- C. 1. Hughie Erskine was lovable but not very intelligent or clever. He was never unpleasant. He was very good-looking, with a handsome face, curly hair and grey eyes.
2. The Colonel did not want his daughter to marry Hughie Erskine because Hughie was poor.
3. Hughie Erskine felt sorry for the old man because he looked so miserable.
4. The old man must have smiled because he realised how genuinely he looked like a beggar to be able to fool Hughie Erskine to give him alms.
5. Alan was speaking about Baron Hausberg who had modelled himself as a beggar. He uses 'model' as a pun saying that the Baron was a 'model' or ideal millionaire. Many millionaires model for photographs, paintings, etc. But very few are ideal.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- D. 1. (d) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (a) 5. (f) 6. (e) 7. (h) 8. (g)

WRITING SKILLS

- E. Any reasonable answer is acceptable.

[Hints: Surprise; happiness at successful disguise; curiosity about the generous person; wonder at his generosity when he himself is so poor; wanting to give something in return.]

DISCUSS

- F. Based on the story, discuss with your own examples.

8. NEVER QUIT

UNDERSTANDING THE POEM

- A. 1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (b)
- B. 1. True 2. False 3. True 4. False
- C. 1. When we are going to fail in some task we have to stick it out and not give up; then it is likely to turn into success, perhaps with just another effort.
2. The message of this poem is that, no matter how difficult or adverse circumstances are, we must never give up. Because sometimes success might just be waiting for that last effort we make.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- D. 1. I 2. D 3. I 4. D 5. I

ACTIVITY

E. (This is illustrative)

1. 'Tis a lesson you should heed/try, try again.

If at first you don't succeed/try, try again.

William Edward Hickson

2. The universe is transformation; our life is what our thoughts make it.

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus

3. To thine own self be true, then you can't be false to anyone.

William Shakespeare

4. If you cannot mould yourself as you would wish, how can you expect other people to be entirely to your liking?

Thomas à Kempis

5. To give and not to count the cost;

To fight and not to heed the wounds;

To toil and not to seek for rest;

To labour and not ask for any reward

Save that of knowing that we do Thy will.

Saint Ignatius Loyola

DISCUSS

F. 'If' by Rudyard Kipling; 'Hope is a Thing with feathers' by Emily Dickinson; 'Daffodils' by William Wordsworth, etc., can be points of discussion.

9. ESCAPE FROM PARIS

UNDERSTANDING THE STORY

A. 1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (b)

B. 1. True 2. False 3. False 4. False

C. 1. Scarlet Pimpernel would send a piece of paper signed with a tiny, red, star-shaped flower called the Scarlet Pimpernel. Soon after the warning, the sergeants at the gates would hear that some high-class family had succeeded in escaping to England.

2. The market carts going through North Gate had been laden with barrels and driven by an old man. GrosPierre looked into some of the barrels and finding them empty, let the carts pass through. Half an hour later, a captain of the guard with a dozen soldiers asked about the cart and, on hearing it was gone, shouted at GrosPierre that he had let the Duke of Chalis and his family escape. Then they set off in pursuit. Actually the captain



was the Scarlet Pimpernel and the soldiers were the Duke and his family.

3. Bibot was fooled by an old woman who said she had a grandson with smallpox in the wagon. Since smallpox was infectious, Bibot kept away and the old woman went away. She was actually the Scarlet Pimpernel helping the Countess of Tournay and her family to escape.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- D.
1. To become nervous about doing something.
 2. Do something on impulse, without preparation.
 3. Fight or argue with full conviction and force.
 4. Escape from someone who is looking for you.
 5. Realise that there is something not quite right or something hidden.

WRITING SKILLS

- E. Any reasonable answer is acceptable.

[Hint: Shivaji escaped concealed in fruit baskets from Agra.]

DISCUSS

- F. Discuss—social and economic causes; the disparity between the rich and poor; king and queen of France, etc.

10. THE MAN WHO DREW FACES

UNDERSTANDING THE STORY

- A. 1. (b) 2. (a) and (b) 3. (a)
- B. 1. True 2. False 3. True 4. True
- C.
1. The artist was popular among children because he drew pictures for them of animals, toys, children, engines, ships and aeroplanes.
 2. The artist's drawings of faces were special because he drew the faces and also what was in the faces.
 3. The lines on people's faces suggest the happiness, sorrow, anger, hurt and other feelings which have been caused to them by people and by life, according to the artist.
 4. Yes, children's actions and behaviour have an effect on their parents' faces.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- D. 1. (d) 2. (c) 3. (a) 4. (b) 5. (f) 6. (e)

WRITING SKILLS

E. Any reasonable answer is acceptable.

[Hints: study; help; obey; eat properly; be kind; do chores; be polite, etc.]

F. Any reasonable answer is acceptable.

DISCUSS

G. Faces reveal what a person's mind is like-discuss.

11. ENGLISH

UNDERSTANDING THE POEM

A. 1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (c)

B. 1. The poet says that English grows with words just like a garden grows with flowers.

2. The poet tells schoolchildren that some of the things they say are bright and clear as the day, and some as wise and deep as a pool.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

C. Any reasonable sentences are acceptable.

WRITING SKILLS

D. Any reasonable answer is acceptable.

[Hint: Straightforward, clean and clear language; the other person must be able to understand.]

DISCUSS

E. Base on: need in education; higher education; computer application; competition; work; interviews; international.]

12. THE NIGHT WE WON THE BUICK

UNDERSTANDING THE STORY

A. 1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (a) 4. (b) 5. (a)

B. 1. The family was poor. The house was mortgaged. The salary of the father was also used for the support of poor and ill relatives. Mother was economical in running the house. The family had no car; it only had a two-wheeled basket cart drawn by an ancient Shetland pony.

2. Mother consoled the family by saying that if we had character we had the better part of wealth.

3. The author's father did not want to keep the car because he had bought the winning ticket in the name of his boss and his conscience asked him to do what was morally correct and give his boss the car.



4. He says that because he realised the fine character of his father which made him feel more wealthy than a millionaire. He was so proud of his father.
5. The author's father showed more character because he could have retained the car for two reasons. He had bought even Kendrick's ticket in his own name and with his own money. Secondly there was no one apart from his wife and family who knew that he had marked one ticket for Kendrick. So no one would think it incorrect or immoral if he retained the car. But he was morally clear that he must give the car away. Kendrick took the car revealing his greed and selfishness.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- C. 1. Buick 2. Chauffeur 3. Millionaire 4. Mortgaged 5. Beginning

WRITING SKILLS

- D. Any reasonable answer is acceptable.
E. Any reasonable answer is acceptable.

[Hint: cheerful, kind, strong, loyal, generous, economic, hardworking]

DISCUSS

F and G: Discuss as directed and as learnt by the students.

13. THOMAS ALVA EDISON

UNDERSTANDING THE PLAY

- A. 1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (b) 4. (a) 5. (c)
- B. 1. Thomas Alva Edison never bothered much with any childish toy.
2. Edison's teacher thought that he couldn't learn and sent him from school. But Tommy's mother knew for sure he wasn't any fool.
3. The way Edison concentrated made some people laugh.
- C. 1. The poet praises Thomas Alva Edison in the poem.
2. Edison's teacher thought that Edison was a dull boy and couldn't learn anything.
3. Thomas Alva Edison discovered electric light, a super storage battery and movies. These discoveries make our life easy and comfortable. That is why, the poet says that our life would be dull if there were no Edison.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- D. 1. (d) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (a)

ACTIVITY

- E. Any reasonable and correct inventions of 21st century are acceptable.
F. Any reasonable answer is acceptable.

14. THE HAPPY MAN'S SHIRT

UNDERSTANDING THE PLAY

- A. 1. (a) 2. (b) 3. (a)
- B. 1. False 2. True 3. False 4. False
- C. 1. The King's councillors and courtiers were worried because he was not getting well in spite of having tried all medicines.
2. The doctors could not cure the King because they were not able to find out the cause of his disease.
3. The old man suggested to the King that he should sleep just one night in the shirt of a happy man.
4. The man with no shirt was happy because he worked hard and had no time to worry unnecessarily. He lived a simple and carefree life.
5. The King was cured when he understood that he needed to work hard and lead a simple life to become healthy.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- D. 1. green with envy 2. blue 3. white with fear 4. purple with rage

WRITING SKILLS

- E. Fill in the blanks in the following order: well; alright; best

DISCUSS

- F. For discussion in the classroom.