**Extract-Based Questions (5 Marks each)**

**Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow by choosing the**

**correct option.**

**1.** Well, it’s time I did some real work, I told myself; I’m out of practice. And if I don’t take the money, he’ll only waste it on his friends. After all, he doesn’t even pay me.

**(a) What is referred to as ‘real work’?**

(i) Writing articles (ii) Cooking (iii) Cleaning (iv) Stealing

**(b) What will he waste on his friends?**

(i) Time (ii) Money (iii) Food (iv) All of these

**(c) Hari wants to steal Anil’s money because:**

(i) he has to pay his debt (ii) he has not stolen anything for a long time

(iii) the money belongs to him (iv) none of these

**(d) Anil is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ man.**

(i) careful (ii) alcoholic (iii) careless (iv) hardworking

**(e) Which word is the antonym of ‘useful’?**

(i) Waste (ii) Pay (iii) Take (iv) Practice

**Ans.** (a)—(iv), (b)—(ii), (c)—(ii), (d)—(iii), (e)—(i)

**2.** I had forgotten about them in the excitement of the theft. Whole sentences, I knew, could one day bring me more than a few hundred rupees. It was a simple matter to steal – and sometimes just as simple to be caught. But to be a really big man, a clever and respected man, was something else. I should go back to Anil, I told myself, if only to learn to read and write.

**(a) Anil taught Hari Singh to:**

(i) cook food (ii) ride a bicycle (iii) write his name (iv) steal money

**(b) In his excitement of the theft, he forgot:**

(i) to take his clothes (ii) about his education (iii) to lock the door (iv) to cook food for Anil

**(c) He realised that education could give him:**

(i) respect (ii) money (iii) both of these (iv) none of these

**(d) He went back to Anil:**

(i) to confess his mistake (ii) to give the money and leave

(iii) to read and write (iv) to thank him

**(e) Which word means the same as ‘smart’?**

(i) Respected (ii) Clever (iii) Simple (iv) Big

**Ans.** (a)—(iii), (b)—(ii), (c)—(iii), (d)—(iii), (e)—(ii)

**3.** Anil was watching a wrestling match when I approached him. He was about 25 – a tall, lean fellow – and he looked easy-going, kind and simple enough for my purpose. I hadn’t had much luck of late and thought I might be able to get into the young man’s confidence. “You look a bit of a wrestler yourself,” I said. A little flattery helps in making friends.

**(a) According to the extract, the young boy was watching the wrestling match because he:**

(i) had been invited there by the wrestlers.

(ii) was supposed to meet someone there.

(iii) was looking for simple people to dupe.

(iv) loved wrestling and followed it very closely.

**(b) ‘I hadn’t had much luck of late’ means that the boy hadn’t:**

(i) ever conned people successfully.

(ii) been successful in duping people lately.

(iii) understood the consequences of thievery till date.

(iv) considered the role of fate in deceiving others.

**(c) ‘I might be able to get into the young man’s confidence.’ Choose the option that DOES NOT display what the statement means.**

(i) He wanted to win his trust.

(ii) He wanted him to share his thoughts without caution.

(iii) He wanted him to feel comfortable revealing more details about himself.

(iv) He wanted to be able to spend quality time with him.

**(d) Anil looked easy-going, kind and simple to the narrator. Which of the given characteristics would NOT fit in this description?**

(i) Compassionate (ii) Suave (iii) Uncomplicated (iv) Carefree

**(e) Based on the line, “A little flattery helps in making friends”, choose the option that displays the quote closest in meaning.**

(i) Imitation is the best form of flattery; people generally understand that my comedy is not intended to hurt anybody.

(ii) I know imitation is the highest form of flattery, but stealing one’s identity is totally different

(iii) Nothing is so great an example of bad manners as flattery. If you flatter all the

company, you please none; If you flatter only one or two, you offend the rest.

(iv) One may define flattery as a base companionship which is most advantageous

to the flatterer.

**Ans.** (a)—(iii), (b)—(ii), (c)—(iv), (d)—(ii), (e)—(iv)

**4.** I think he knew I made a little money this way but he did not seem to mind. Anil made

money by fits and starts. He would borrow one week, lend the next. He kept worrying

about his next cheque, but as soon as it arrived, he would go out and celebrate. It seems

he wrote for magazines – a queer way to make a living. **(*CBSE Question Bank*)**

**(a) Anil made money ‘by fits and starts’ means that he:**

(i) deemed it fit to start investing money.

(ii) started earning money in the recent past.

(iii) received money intermittently.

(iv) put his money to use frequently.

**(b) The information in the extract suggests that Anil could be a:**

(i) salaried professional (ii) freelancer (iii) businessman (iv) volunteer

**(c) If borrow : : lend, then pick the ODD pair from the options below.**

(i) give : : take (ii) lose : : find (iii) hop : : skip (iv) buy : : sell

**(d) The reference to making a little money ‘this way’ refers to a way that is viewed by**

**most people as:**

(i) sensible (ii) inappropriate (iii) charitable (iv) aggressive

**(e) Based on your understanding of Anil in the extract, choose the option that**

**synchronises with his thinking.**

(i) So what if I don’t have much money? Giving it to that person is important as

they could do with a helping hand.

(ii) I better learn how to protect my money. I think I’m being looted.

(iii) I earn money with such tremendous effort. Where does it all go?

(iv) When I become rich. I can begin to help friends then. Right now, I will spend only on myself.

**Ans.** (a)—(iii), (b)—(ii), (c)—(iii), (d)—(iii), (e)—(i)

**5.** “Hari Singh,” I lied. I took a new name every month. That kept me ahead of the police

and my former employers. After this introduction, Anil talked about the well-oiled

wrestlers who were grunting, lifting and throwing each other about.

**(a) Hari Singh often changed his name every:**

(i) day (ii) year (iii) week (iv) month

**(b) He often changed his name to:**

(i) avoid his friends (ii) avoid being caught by police

(iii) avoid his former employees (iv) both (ii) and (iii)

**(c) Hari Singh found Anil to be:**

(i) kind (ii) simple (iii) both of these (iv) none of these

**(d) Hari Singh was an experienced:**

(i) salesman (ii) thief (iii) cook (iv) none of these

**(e) Which word from the following means the same as ‘forward’?**

(i) Every (ii) Former (iii) After (iv) Ahead

**Ans.** (a) (iv), (b) (iv), (c) (iii), (d) (ii), (e) (iv)

**Short Answer Questions**:

**Q1) What did Anil and Hari agree upon to be the mode of payment? [CBSE 2015]**

When Anil stated his inability to pay Hari, Anil questioned Hari if he could feed Hari. Hari realised that he had misjudged his target and moulded the situation for his benefit. Anil then agreed to feed him if he knew how to cook.

**Q2) Did Hari like working for Anil? Give reasons in support of your answer. [CBSE 2014]**

Yes, Hari liked working for Anil. He was happy to carry on the chores for him and was grateful for the education he was receiving. He used to make profit of about a rupee a day as well, which was a decent amount besides being fed.

**Q3) State the events that took place on the night of the theft.**

The night of robbery was quite eventful for Hari Singh. After stealing Anil’s money and leaving Anil’s house, Hari went to the railway station but didn’t board the train to Lucknow. He walked slowly through the bazaar as he did not know anyone who would provide him shelter except Anil, for he didn’t have any friends. He was forced to take shelter under the clock tower later when it started raining heavily. That is where he realised the importance of education and decided to go back to Anil

**Q4) Had Anil really forgiven Hari Singh? Support your answer with evidence. [CBSE 2012]**

Yes, Anil had forgiven Hari Singh. It is evident because Anil handed over to Hari a fifty rupee note as soon as Hari woke up. Though he knew that Hari had robbed the money at first but his subsequent actions gave him hope of change in Hari’s character.

**Q5) Have you met anyone like Hari Singh? Can you think and imagine the circumstances that can turn a fifteen-year-old boy into a thief?**

No, I haven’t met anyone like Hari Singh but the existence of such people is certain. A fifteen year old boy can be forced by circumstances to become a thief. It may be the need to feed the stomach, to satisfy illegal addiction, to maintain health, to fulfil luxurious demands etc

**Q6) Do you think people like Anil and Hari Singh are found only in fiction, or are there such people in real life?**

People like Anil and Hari Singh are found only in fiction. Though exceptions might be there, these people are rarely found. Anil was a kind and considerate person who was concerned, about Hari’s education and future. And Hari was a thief whose heart changes after realising the importance of education for his future. People like these are imaginary in today’s world.

**Q7) How was the morning after the night of the theft?**

The morning after the night of the theft was just like a normal one. Hari woke up late and Anil had made tea for then. Anil gave a fifty rupee note to Hari and told him that he will now be paid regularly. Hari was aware that Anil knew about the theft but he didn’t show anything.

**Q8) How do you think Anil may have come to know about the theft?**

Anil may have come to know about the theft because of the dampness of the notes because of rain. He was a kind but wise man. It wouldn’t have been difficult for Anil to make out the series of events that would have taken place in the night.

**Q9) State the events that took place on the night of the theft. [CBSE 2016]**

The night of robbery vitas quite eventful for Hari Singh. After stealing Anil’s money and leaving Anil’s house, Hari went to the railway station but didn’t board the train to Lucknow. He walked slowly through the bazaar as he did not know anyone who would provide him shelter except Anil, for he didn’t have any friends. He was forced to take shelter under the clock tower later when it started raining heavily. That is where he realised the importance of education and decided to go back to Anil.

**Q10) Did Hari like working for Anil? Give reasons in support of your answer. [CBSE 2014]**

Yes, Hari liked working for Anil. He was happy to carry on the chores for him and was grateful for the education he was receiving. He used to make profit of about a rupee a day as well, which was a decent amount besides being fed.

**Q11. How did the thief (Hari Singh) realise that Anil knew that his money had been stolen?**

The thief realised that Anil knew he had stolen his money because he found some of the notes still wet, as if they were taken out in the rain. He gave a fifty-rupee-note to Hari Singh the next morning, and he promised to give him more money, though he did not have any contract for giving any money.

**Q12. How did Hari Singh know that Anil had forgiven him?**

Hari Singh realised that Anil knew about the theft because he found some of the notes still wet. He gave him a fifty-rupee-note and did not mention anything about the theft. This made him feel that Anil had forgiven him.

**Q13. Why, according to Hari Singh, is it easier to rob a greedy man than a careless person like Anil?**

Hari Singh has correlated theft with the sense of satisfaction, a thief gets pleasure when a person comes to know that he has been robbed. Hari Singh says that a greedy man can afford to be robbed too whereas a careless man at times may never come to know that he has lost something or he has been robbed. This carelessness, on the part of a person robbed, deprives a thief of the pleasure which he gets out of theft.

**Q14. What was the thief s immediate reaction when he stole Anil’s money?**

Hari Singh stole six hundred rupees and crawled out of the room. When he was on the road, he started running. He kept the notes in his waist held there by the string of his pyjama. He felt as if he was an oil rich Arab for a week or two.

**Q15. What made the thief come back to Anil?**

Hari Singh came back to Anil because Anil trusted him. He did not want to miss the chance of being educated. Education could certainly make him a better man. He was fed up with the life of a thief, i.e. stealing and being caught and beaten.

**Q16. What was Anil’s job? What did he usually do with the money he earned?**

Anil was a writer. He used to write articles for magazines. He was a spendthrift and used to spend money on his friends. He did not bother to save money for his future.

**Q17. What does the thief say about the reactions of different types of people when they were robbed? How did he think Anil would react when he discovered the theft?**

The thief had robbed all kinds of people. According to him, the greedy men were scared of being robbed. The rich men showed anger. The poor men accepted their fate after being robbed. He thought that Anil would show only a touch of sadness. He would not be sad for the loss of money, but for the loss of trust.

**Q18. What made him a successful thief?**

He always changed his name after stealing. He even managed to change the place. He tried his best to appear pleasing and innocent so the employers never suspected him to be a thief.

**Q19. Why was he about to be dismissed? What made Anil reinstate him?**

He cooked very terrible meal which infuriated Anil. He gave the food to the stray dog and asked him to be off. But he got his job back by flattering Anil who was a simple and large-hearted man.

**Q20. What made Hari Singh follow Anil after watching the wrestling match?**

Hari Singh knew by his experience that Anil was an easy-going and simple man who could trust even a stranger. He decided to rob him as it was quite easy. Therefore, he followed Anil to win his confidence and get a job there.

**Q21. Why did Hari not make friends?**

Hari Singh was a thief. He did not believe in making friends as they were more trouble than help. He did not stay at one place for a long time so he could not make friends.

**Q22. Where and how did Anil meet Hari Singh?**

Anil met Hari Singh when he was watching a wrestling match. Hari Singh flattered him by saying that Anil looked like a wrestler himself.

**Q23. How do you know that Hari Singh lied about his cooking abilities?**

He lied about cooking because the meal that he cooked was terrible and Anil could not eat it. He gave it to a stray dog.

**Q24. Why did Hari Singh feel that writing books was a queer way to make a living?**

Hari Singh was not an educated person, so he could not understand what Anil wrote. He was surprised to know that people paid him for writing books.

**Q25. Why did Anil forgive Hari Singh?**

Anil was a large-hearted man. He knew that Hari Singh was a thief. But he forgave him because he wanted to give him another chance.

**Long Answer Questions**

**Q1) Money can’t make a man as much as education can. Elucidate the statement. [CBSE 2013]**

The statement stands true in almost all the aspects of life. Money may buy us all the luxuries and fulfil our needs but it cannot buy us knowledge, civilised thinking, skills and abilities to achieve our dreams. Education lays the platform for all to act upon our goals according to our abilities. Education enables us to keep up with the fast moving world. It opens the door to opportunities we do not know even exist. Money, on the other hand, can assist us to a certain level. It can buy us a plan but education gives us the knowledge of its execution. Just as in the story ‘A Thief s Story’, Hari Singh prioritised the chance of being literate over a few hundred rupees, we must understand that education can help us to achieve whatever we desire.

**Q2) Why does not Anil hand the thief over to the police? Do you think most people would have done so? In what ways is Anil different from such employers?**

I feel that Anil is a large-hearted person. First, he does realise that he has been robbed. But he reviews the whole situation. He thinks that if he gives the thief to the police, he may become a criminal. He decides to reform the thief differently. It is showing grace, kindness and sympathy.

Most people could not do so like Anil. They could have handed over such persons to the police after first beating them themselves. Anil is different because he decides to reform the thief through kindness and sympathy.

**Q3) State the events that took place on the night of the theft.**

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**Q5) Hari Singh didn’t board the express and returned to Anil. Why did he return? On what values does this incidence put light on?**

Hari Singh was a thief and he had stolen Anil’s money. After the theft, he realised that he had robbed not only Anil but also himself of the chance of being literate and having a bright future. His conscience pricked him to think what all he could have got had he not done this. It was difficult for him to rob Anil but it was tougher for him not to back. He realised that he could not make tea, buy daily supplies and learn how to read and write then. His inner self did not agree to bypass this and forced him to return.

Hari’s return to Anil shows that despite indulging in criminal acts, he still had a practical and positive attitude towards life. It is the awakening of Hari’s conscience and Anil’s love and care that reformed Hari’s character. It teaches us that love alone can change a person. Anil’s understanding nature and care changed Hari’s thinking to mend his ways for good.