



Class: IX AB	184 – English Language and Literature	Ref. Book: Beehive
Question Bank - 2	Topic: The Sound of Music	Type: MCQ, SAQ, LAQ

I	MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS
1	<p>What was Evelyn not going to give up?</p> <p>(A) Leading a normal life (B) Interest in music (C) Her dream of joining the Royal Academy of Music (D) Both (A) and (B)</p>
2	<p>Why was pungi banned from the court by Aurangzeb?</p> <p>(A) It was inauspicious. (B) It could be used as a weapon (C) It had a very unpleasant sound (D) It caused deafness</p>
3	<p>Where was the Shehnai played traditionally?</p> <p>(A) In temples (B) In wedding ceremonies (C) In auspicious ceremonies (D) All of these</p>
4	<p>From where did the new instrument get its name?</p> <p>(A) By combining the names of King and Barber. (B) It was named by a barber. (C) A king gave its name. (D) It was named by a writer.</p>
5	<p>Pick the option that correctly classifies fact/s (F) and opinion/s (O) of the students below.</p> <p>1. I think Bismillah took the instrument to new heights. 2. I think Bismillah was forced to learn Shehnai as a family heritage. 3. I think Bismillah was prodigal. 4. I think Bismillah was bought up in a rural setting.</p> <p>(a) F-1,2 and O-3,4 (b) F-1,4 and O-2,3 (c) F-1,3 and O-2,4 (d) F-1 and O-2,3,4</p>
6	<p>How did Bismillah Khan students promise to recreate the atmosphere of Benaras?</p>

	(A) By recreating the Indian landscape with the flora and fauna artificially. (C) By creating an artificial river to replicate Ganga	(B) By constructing temples like that in Benaras. (D) All of these
7	In which way did sitting near Ganga benefit Khansaab? (A) He would sit for hours taken by its beauty. (C) He would go into a state of flow.	(B) He would improvise and invent raagas. (D) He would take time to clear his head space.
8	Which of the following were among Khansaab's favourite haunts? (A) Temple of Balaji (C) Vishnu Temple	(B) Temple of Nanda Devi (D) Girija Devi Temple
9	What was so special about the raagas Khansaab invented? (A) They were rare. (C) They were earlier considered beyond the range of shehnai.	(B) They were earlier considered cacophonic (D) They were similar to those of Pungi.
10	What happened when Evelyn turned eleven? (A) Her marks had deteriorated (C) It was discovered that her hearing was severely impaired.	(B) Her headmistress urged her parents to take her to a specialist. (D) All of these
11	How did Evelyn manage her growing deafness? (A) She concealed it from friends and teachers. (C) She used it as an excuse.	(B) She concealed it from her parents. (D) She considered it just another challenge.
12	Why did Evelyn end up becoming deaf? (A) Due to an accident (C) Due to gradual nerve damage	(B) Due to genetic disorders (D) None of these
13	Who had spotted Evelyn's potential? (A) Mother (C) Headmistress	(B) Ron Forbes (D) Teacher
14	What advice did Forbes offer that helped Evelyn? (A) He told her to read lips. (C) He told her to keep trying and working hard.	(B) He told her to sense music instead of hearing. (D) He told her to aspire to attain a state of flow

15	When was Evelyn presented with the Royal Philharmonic Society's prestigious Soloist of the Year Award? (A) 1997 (C) 1995	(B) 1996 (D) 1991
16	What does Evelyn confess to? (A) Being sensitive (C) Being happy	(B) Being workaholic (D) Reading lips
17	What does master percussionist James Blades has to say about Evelyn? (A) What we hear, Evelyn feels (C) God has given her back something extraordinary.	(B) She expresses music so beautifully. (D) All of these
18	While playing xylophone Evelyn senses the sound passing up _____ (A) the stick into her body (C) her gloves	(B) the stick into her hands (D) the stick into her fingertips
19	Ali Bux was employed to play the shehnai at _____ (A) Raghav Temple (C) Vishnu Temple	(B) Shiva Temple (D) Devi Temple
20	What is Bismillah Khan lovingly called? (A) Khaan Saab (C) Bismillah	(B) Guruji (D) Khan
21	Which two cities are Bismillah Khan's favourite? (A) Lucknow and Benares (C) Benares and Mumbai	(B) Benares and Dumraon (D) Mumbai and Delhi
22	The tonal quality of pungi was improved by _____ (A) The court musicians (C) A cobbler	(B) The Emperor (D) A barber
23	The barber played his new instrument in front of _____ and impressed them. (A) the villagers (C) the royalty	(B) his customers (D) his family
24	Besides his family members being his inspiration, Bismillah's creativity was also inspired by (A) the teachings of other famous musicians (C) the flowing waters of the river Ganga	(B) the beauty of the temples where he sang (D) his ambition to be well known
25	When India gained Independence on 15 th August 1947, he	

	(A) was very happy	(B) became the first Indian to greet the nation with his Shehnai
	(C) got a break on All India Radio	(D) became the first Indian to meet Jawaharlal Nehru at Red Fort.

II

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1	<p>Why was Evelyn nervous while going to the Royal Academy of Music?</p> <p>Ans. Evelyn was nervous while going to the Royal Academy of Music as it was her first day at the prestigious Academy. Moreover, she was just a seventeen-year-old teenager at that time and felt nervous.</p>
2	<p>How did Evelyn become able to sense different notes?</p> <p>Ans: Evelyn became able to sense different notes by making her body and mind receptive to sounds and vibrations. She could sense the sounds of music flowing into her body. She used to stand barefoot on a wooden platform so that she could sense the vibrations easily.</p>
3	<p>What did Evelyn say about sensing the music?</p> <p>Ans. Evelyn said that she could sense the music through every part of her body. It creates a tingling sensation in her skin, cheekbones and hair. She could sense the xylophone's sound passing up stick into her fingertips. Her legs could feel the vibrations of the drum.</p>
4	<p>What special achievement did Evelyn have in the history of the Royal Academy?</p> <p>Ans. The special achievement that Evelyn had in the history of the Royal Academy was that she scored one of the highest marks in the history of the Academy. Further, at the end of her course in the Academy, she got most of the top awards.</p>
5	<p>Why did Evelyn use to remove her shoes on a wooden platform?</p> <p>Ans. On a wooden platform, Evelyn used to remove her shoes so that she could sense the vibrations passing through her bare feet. With shoes, she could not get the vibrations properly and therefore she would not be able to feel the music.</p>
6	<p>How was Evelyn able to express music so beautifully?</p> <p>Ans. Evelyn was able to express music so beautifully because she was able to feel it far more deeply than others. Others could only hear music by ear, Evelyn could sense music through her body but Evelyn could sense music through her body.</p>
7	<p>Where did the shehnai get its due place and why?</p> <p>Ans: The shehnai got its due place in temples and weddings, as its sound was considered auspicious. In the past, it had a place in the traditional group of nine musical instruments at the royal courts. It is an indispensable part of any North Indian wedding.</p>

8	<p>Mention the event that used to take place regularly when Bismillah was five years old.</p> <p>Ans: When Bismillah was five years old, he would go to the nearby Bihariji temple in Dumraon regularly to sing the Bhojpuri Chaita'. At the end of this, he used to get a big laddu as a prize from the local Maharaja which weighed 1.25 kg.</p>
9	<p>Describe the family members of Ustad Bismillah Khan.</p> <p>Ans: The family members of Bismillah Khan were well-known musicians. His grandfather, Rasool Bux Khan, played the shehnai in the Bhojpur king's court. His father, Paigambar Bux and other paternal ancestors were also great shehnai players.</p>
10	<p>How did Bismillah get the first lesson in the playing of the shehnai?</p> <p>Ans: Bismillah got the first lesson in playing the shehnai by accompanying his maternal uncle Ali Bux, who visited the Vishnu temple at Benaras to play the shehnai. In his company, young Bismillah was captivated and inspired to practice the instrument.</p>
11	<p>What did Ustad Faiyaz Khan say to Bismillah?</p> <p>Ans: Ustad Faiyaz Khan patted Bismillah on his back and asked him to work hard. He encouraged Bismillah by saying that he could succeed in the field of music.</p>
12	<p>Where was Bismillah's first journey abroad? What impact did it leave there?</p> <p>Ans. Bismillah's first journey abroad was to Afghanistan. Bismillah's performance there impressed the king of Afghanistan so much that the king gifted him many of his priceless Persian carpets and other things.</p>
13	<p>Despite being successful, why did Bismillah not take to the celluloid world?</p> <p>Ans. Despite being successful in the celluloid world (film world). Bismillah did not take to it because he did not like the artificiality and glamour of the film world.</p>
14	<p>What did Bismillah say after getting the Bharat Ratna award?</p> <p>Ans. After getting the Bharat Ratna, Bismillah said that Indians should value their music and teach it to their kids. Indian music is so rich that the West is now learning this art. This was a word of encouragement for the youngsters.</p>
15	<p>Which were the most beautiful towns for Bismillah Khan? Why?</p> <p>Ans. The most beautiful towns for Bismillah Khan were Benaras and Dumraon. Bismillah grew up in these two towns and developed a life-long attachment towards them, particularly to the Ganga and the unique 'Mattha' of Dumraon. He learnt music in these places, therefore these towns remained the most beautiful towns for him.</p>
16	<p>Why and how was Bismillah a perfect example of India's cultural heritage?</p>

	<p>Ans. Bismillah was a perfect example of India's cultural heritage because he was a symbol of its secularism. Despite being a Muslim, he played the shehnai at the temples. He reflected India's core principle of 'Unity in Diversity.'</p>
17	<p>How did Evelyn's deafness come to light?</p> <p>Ans. Evelyn's loss of hearing had been gradual. Her mother noticed that there was something wrong when Evelyn was only eight years old. When her name was called, she didn't move. Her mother suddenly realised that she hadn't heard. Moreover, for quite some time, Evelyn managed to conceal her deafness from her friends and teachers.</p>
18	<p>Who helped Evelyn to continue with music? What did he do and say?</p> <p>Ans. Evelyn was a girl of strong determination. Ron Forbes discovered her talent in music. He helped her to continue with music. He asked her not to listen through ears but in some other way. Suddenly she realised the tunes from the waist up and down. Forbes repeated the exercise. Then Evelyn sensed certain notes flowing in different parts of her body.</p>
19	<p>How was Evelyn able to get admission to the Royal Academy of Music?</p> <p>Ans. Ron Forbes created Evelyn's interest in music. She never looked back from that point. By the time she was sixteen, she had decided to make music her life. She auditioned for the Royal Academy of Music and scored the highest marks in the history of the academy.</p>
20	<p>What does Evelyn say about music?</p> <p>Ans: According to Evelyn music pours through every part of her body. It tingles in the skin, her cheekbones and even her hair. When she plays the xylophone, she can feel the sound passing up the stick into her fingertips. By leaning against the drums, she can feel resonances flowing into her body. On a wooden platform, she removes her shoes so that the vibrations pass through her bare feet and up into her body.</p>
21	<p>What was Evelyn's main achievement?</p> <p>Ans: Evelyn has accomplished more than most people twice her age. She has brought percussion to the front of the orchestra. She has given inspiration to those who are handicapped. Besides this, she has brought great pleasure to millions.</p>
22	<p>What was the challenge that Evelyn faced on her first day at the Royal Academy of Music in London?</p> <p>Ans. Evelyn was a small and thin girl of seventeen. She was nervous yet excited. It was her first day at the prestigious Royal Academy of Music in London. She was a teenager fresh from a Scottish farm. But she faced a bigger challenge than most. She was deaf.</p>
23	<p>How was Evelyn determined to lead a normal life?</p>

	<p>Ans. Evelyn's deafness didn't hamper her determination. She was not going to give up. She was determined to lead a normal life. She wanted to pursue her interest in music. One day when she saw a girl playing the xylophone, she decided to play it too. While most of her teachers discouraged her, Ron Forbes spotted her talent and potential. From then she learned to open the mind and body to sounds and vibrations.</p>
24	<p>How could Evelyn go right to the top?</p> <p>Ans: Evelyn defied her handicaps in life. She was determined to pursue her interest in music. Ron Forbes taught her how to open her mind and body to sounds and vibrations. Her determination and hard work led her to capture most of the top awards in music. She became the world's most famous percussionist with a mastery of thousands of instruments.</p>
25	<p>"God may have taken her hearing but He has given her back something extraordinary, says James Blades. Do you also think so?</p> <p>Ans. Evelyn never allowed deafness to come in her way. No doubt, God had taken her hearing. However, He had given her back something extraordinary. What others heard, she could feel far more deeply than any of them. This was the reason she expressed music so beautifully. Yes, God more than compensated for what he had taken away from her.</p>
26	<p>What was the thought about the sound of shehnai?</p> <p>Ans. The sound of shehnai began to be considered auspicious. This is why it is still played in temples. It has become an essential part of any North Indian wedding. Till recently was used only in temples and weddings. The credit for bringing this instrument up to the classical stage goes to Ustad Bismillah Khan.</p>
27	<p>How did Bismillah Khan take to music early in life?</p> <p>When he was three-year-old, his mother took him to his maternal uncle's house in Benares. Bismillah Khan was fascinated watching his uncle practice the shehnai. Soon Bismillah began to accompany his uncle to the Vishnu temple of Benares. Meanwhile, he started getting lessons in shehnai and did a lot of practice also.</p>
28	<p>Give an account of Bismillah Khan's memorable performances abroad.</p> <p>Ans. Bismillah Khan gave many memorable performances abroad. His first trip was to Afghanistan. King Zahir Shah was so impressed by his performance that he gifted him priceless Persian carpets and other souvenirs. Then Bismillah Khan became the first Indian to be invited to perform at the Lincoln Centre Hall in the U.S.A. He also took part in the World Exposition in Montreal, the Cannes Art Festival and the Osaka Trade Fair.</p>
29	<p>What was Bismillah Khan's tenure in the film world? Why did he leave the world of films?</p>

	<p>Ans. Bismillah Khan made compositions for two films. His composition, "Dil ka Khilona Hai Toot Gaya" in Vijay Bhatt's film 'Goonj Uthi Shehnai' was a huge success. But his film journey was for a short time. He could not come to terms with the artificiality and glamour of the film world.</p>
30	<p>Why did emperor Aurangzeb ban pungi? Ans. Emperor Aurangzeb was a puritan. He had little taste for music and fine arts. He banned the playing of 'pungi' in the royal residence. Due to its shrill and unpleasant sound, 'pungi' became infamous. It was considered 'reeded noisemakers'. The fortune and prestige of 'pungi' were revived by a barber. He belonged to a family of professional musicians. Later on, it came to be known as 'shehnai'.</p>
31	<p>What did Evelyn do after the advice of percussionist Ron Forbes? Ans. Evelyn followed Forbes's advice strictly. She realised that she could feel the higher drum from the waist up. She could feel the lower one from the waist down. She also discovered that she could sense certain notes in different parts of her body. She learnt to open her mind and body to sounds and vibrations.</p>
32	<p>What was so 'magical' about Evelyn's getting to the top? What did she achieve? Ans. Evelyn's determination and hard work proved 'magical' for her. She told that if one worked hard and knew one's goal in life, one would get there. And she got to the top. She became the world's most sought-after multi-percussionist. She has the mastery of some thousand instruments</p>
33	<p>"Men with bushy beards give me trouble", says Evelyn. Why? Ans. Evelyn says that men with bushy beards give her trouble. She says so because she wants to read the lips. But to do so she has to look at the whole face. The face of the bearded man hides the lips. So, she can't read the lips.</p>
34	<p>What does master percussionist James Blades say about Evelyn? Ans. In 1991, Evelyn was awarded the 'Soloist of the Year Award'. It is the most famous award of the Royal Philharmonic Society. Master percussionist James Blades said, "God may have taken her hearing, but he has given her more than that." He also said that what people heard Evelyn felt more deeply. That is why she expressed music so beautifully.</p>
35	<p>What message do you get from the life of Evelyn Glennie? Ans. The message we get is never to allow adversity to come in the way of your pursuit of success. If one sense organ is damaged, make good use of the other sensory organs but never give up hope. Life is a precious gift; it should not be wasted. We should not give up just because we don't know how to face challenges. Work towards success.</p>
III	LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS
1	<p>How was Evelyn Glennie able to become the world's most wanted percussionist? What are her achievements?</p>

	<p>Ans. Evelyn Glennie was able to become the world's most wanted percussionist through her hard work and determination. It is hard to believe how a deaf person like her could become a great musician. Evelyn did not let her hearing disability become a hurdle/hindrance in achieving her goal of making music her life. Her determination and willpower helped her to learn the xylophone. She tuned her mind and body to be receptive to the sound and vibrations as she was unable to hear from her ears. She joined the orchestra and then moved on to become a solo player. Evelyn has achieved a lot in her life, she scored the highest marks in the audition for the Royal Academy of Music in London. She had received most of the awards at the end of her three-year course at the Academy. She has a mastery over thousand instruments and is the world's most sought-after multi-percussionist. In 1991, she was given the Royal Philharmonic Society's Soloist of the Year award. She works very hard and performs at many places. She gives free concerts in prisons and hospitals and has become a source of inspiration for disabled people.</p>
2	<p>How does Evelyn's life become a source of inspiration for the handicapped? Ans. Evelyn has become a source of inspiration for the deaf because she did not let her deafness come in the way of becoming a world-famous musician. She had become completely deaf at the age of eleven due to gradual nerve damage. Despite this disability, she was determined to lead a normal life and pursue her interest in music. She was discouraged by most of the teachers when she went to learn music. However, Ron Forbes (a percussionist), spotted her potential and urged her to sense the sounds through different parts of her body. With time, Evelyn discovered that she could sense certain notes in the different parts of her body. She learnt to open her mind and body to different sounds and vibrations. Evelyn has won many prestigious awards and performed around the world. She is the most popular multi-percussionist in the world. She has already accomplished more than most people twice her age. With all these achievements, she is surely a symbol of success and a source of inspiration for the handicapped.</p>
3	<p>The naming of the shehnaí has a story behind it. What values are associated with this naming? Ans. Emperor Aurangzeb banned the playing of the pungi in his royal court because it had a very loud and unpleasant sound. After some time, a barber from a family of professional musicians decided to revive the pungi. He chose a longer and broader pipe and made a few holes in its body. When he played on this pipe by opening and closing the holes, it produced a very melodious sound. As it was invented in the court of the shah (king) by a nai (barber), it got the name 'shehnai'. Therefore, the barber revived a musical instrument that was considered a noisemaker. This reflects the idea that with a positive mindset</p>

	<p>even noisemakers can be turned into melodious instruments. It is all about creativity, determination and understanding. The barber had all those values and therefore, we still have the pungji with us in the form of the shehnai.</p>
4	<p>Describe the importance of shehnai in India. How did Bismillah contribute to its development?</p> <p>Ans. The shehnai's sound is considered very auspicious. It is played in temples and has become an indispensable part of North Indian weddings. In earlier times, it was a part of the traditional group of nine instruments (naubat) found at the royal courts. Any North Indian wedding is incomplete without the shehnai. Therefore, it can be said that shehnai was very important in Indian music. Bismillah contributed to the development of the shehnai by bringing it out of temples and weddings to the classical stage. He changed how the shehnai was played by inventing ragas that were earlier considered to be beyond the range of the shehnai. He made it a global instrument and took it to the world stage. Bismillah Khan pioneered the journey of the shehnai and made it a huge success. Without his contribution, it would not have reached its current place in Indian classical music.</p>
5	<p>Justify Bismillah Khan as a true Indian.</p> <p>Ans. Undoubtedly, Bismillah Khan was a true Indian. Despite being a devout Muslim, he used to play the shehnai in the temples. He loved his country, India very much. When one of his students offered him to head a shehnai school in the USA, he refused the offer by saying that he wouldn't find the river Ganga there. He once said that whenever he was out of India, he kept on thinking of his motherland and missed the Ganga River. On getting the Bharat Ratna, he said that the parents of India should teach their children music and supported it by saying that even the West was coming to learn music from India now. He was the true representative of India and the core Indian values. He never believed in glamour and the world of artificiality. He always believed in simplicity which is the epitome of Indian civilisation. Hence, he was a true Indian.</p>
6	<p>How was Bismillah Khan associated with the film world?</p> <p>Ans. Film director Vijay Bhatt heard Bismillah Khan at a festival. He was so impressed by Bismillah Khan that he named a film after the instrument 'Gunj Uthi Shehnai'. The film was a huge hit. One of Bismillah Khan's compositions "Dil ka khilona hai toot gaya", turned out to be very popular. Despite his great success in the film world, Bismillah Khan's film music was limited to two films, Vijay Bhatt's 'Gunj Uthi Shehnai and Vikram Srinivas's 'Sanadhi Apanna'. But Bismillah made it clear that he could not come to terms with the artificiality and glamour of the film world.</p>

7	<p>“Evelyn confesses that she is something of a workaholic”. What do you think are the advantages and disadvantages of becoming a workaholic?</p> <p>Ans. There is no doubt that there are many advantages of being a workaholic. In fact, most great people of the past and the present are said to be workaholics. These people are determined to achieve a goal for which they work day and night with full dedication. No doubt, they get a name and fame and if they so want a lot of wealth. However, it does not mean that there are no disadvantages to being a workaholic. First and foremost, their life often suffers from a lack of variety. They concentrate on one goal. In fact, the ideal situation is one when a workaholic is devoted not just to one big goal but to a variety of goals even if they are not so big.</p>
8	<p>How Evelyn Glennie in “The Sound of Music’ becomes a great xylophone-playing musician shows up the value of determination and devotion despite being deaf. Explain the statement.</p> <p>Ans. Evelyn Glennie truly describes how despite being unable to hear she became a great musician. Behind this achievement lie her determination and devotion. She became a great percussionist. The moment she saw a girl playing the xylophone she decided to become one. She decided to make music her life. She rightly said, "If you work hard and know where you are going, you'll get there." She senses music through every part of her body. She removes her shoes to let the vibrations pass through her bare feet and up her legs. Through the values of determination, devotion and hard work she inspires the handicapped to achieve high. She has also given pleasure to millions.</p>
9	<p>In The Shehnai of Bismillah Khan', the author says, “Awards and recognitions came thick and fast”. Mention the important rewards and recognitions got by Ustad Bismillah Khan.</p> <p>Ans: Bismillah Khan was born on March 21, 1916, at Dumraon in Bihar. He moved to Benaras at the age of six. His maternal uncle Ali Bux taught him all the nuances of 'shehnai' playing. He would practice for hours at the banks of the holy Ganga in solitude. The flowing waters of the Ganga inspired him to invent many 'raagas'. He was invited by Jawaharlal Nehru to play the 'shehnai' for free India on 15th August 1947. He participated in the Osaka Trade Fair and Cannes Art Festival. An auditorium in Teheran is named after him "Tahar Mosiquee Ustaad Bismillah Khan.' He was honoured with the highest national award-the ‘Bharat Ratna’ for his contribution to music. He had also received Padmashri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan.</p>
10	<p>It was eight years old when Evelyn gradually began to lose the ability to hear. Write a paragraph, expressing the feelings that might have gone through her mind.</p>

Ans. It was on the day of the piano recital. My mother was in the audience. She noticed that something was seriously wrong when I was not responding when my name was being announced to play the piano. My mother suddenly realised that I was not able to hear. I was too young to realise the predicament (difficult situation) I was in. Gradually, the seriousness of my impairment began seeping into my mind, and I began to cry bitterly. My love for music! If I can't hear, it would be impossible to enjoy or play music. My world seemed to come crashing down, everything suddenly looked black. She could not spot even a faint glow at the end of the tunnel. She folded her little hands and looked at the stars, that shone in the sky, and cried with a heavy heart, "Why me oh! Lord!"