



Class: IX AB	184- English Language and Literature	Ref. Book: Footprints without Feet
Question Bank	<b>Topic: The Lost Child</b>	Type: MCQ, SAQ, LAQ

I	MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS
1	<p>"But he half knew as he begged that his plea would not be heeded because his parents would say he was greedy.</p> <p>(a) Who is 'he' in the above extract?</p> <p>(i) Father (ii) Shop owner (iii) <b>Little boy</b> (iv) None of these</p> <p>(b) What was the pleading made by him?</p> <p><b>(i) To buy him sweetmeat burfi</b> (ii) To buy him balloons (iii) To buy him toys (iv) To buy him clothes</p> <p>(c) According to the little boy, his parents were:</p> <p>(i) loving <b>(ii) greedy</b> (iii) selfish (iv) caring</p> <p>(d) The little boy somewhat knew that his request would:</p> <p>(i) be heeded <b>(ii) not be heeded</b> (iii) be granted (iv) be granted later</p> <p>(e) Which word from the following means the same as 'pay attention to'?</p> <p>(i) Plea (ii) Begged (iii) Greedy</p>

	<p><b>(iv) Heeded</b></p>
2	<p>"The poor child struggled to thrust away between their feet but, knocked to and their brutal movements, he might have been trampled underfoot, had he not at the highest pitch of his voice."</p> <p>(a) Where was the child?</p> <p>(i) With his parents</p> <p><b>(ii) Amid a crowd of people</b></p> <p>(iii) Outside the shrine</p> <p>(iv) With his friends</p> <p>(b) The child was desperately looking for his:</p> <p>(i) friends</p> <p><b>(ii) parents</b></p> <p>(iii) neighbours</p> <p>(iv) None of these</p> <p>(c) Who is referred to as 'their' in the above extract?</p> <p><b>(i) Crowd</b></p> <p>(ii) Parents</p> <p>(iii) Customers at the shop</p> <p>(iv) All of these</p> <p>(d) Explain, 'struggled to thrust away between their feet'.</p> <p>(i) To dig the field between his feet</p> <p><b>(ii) To make his way through the feet of the crowd</b></p> <p>(iii) To make his feet through the feet of the parents</p> <p>(iv) To find the way to the toys</p> <p>(e) Which word from the following means the same as 'push suddenly'?</p> <p>(i) Knocked</p> <p>(ii) Brutal</p> <p><b>(iii) Thrust</b></p> <p>(iv) Trampled</p>
3	<p>"Will you have a ride on the horse?" he gently asked as he approached the ring. The child's throat tore into a thousand shrill sobs and he only shouted, "I want my mother, I want my father!"</p> <p>(a) Who is 'he' in the above extract?</p> <p>(i) Father</p> <p>(ii) <b>A kind man</b></p>

	<p>(iii) Horse rider (iv) The little boy</p> <p>(b) In what manner did he ask the child? (i) Angrily (ii) Rudely <b>(iii) Gently</b> (iv) Sarcastically</p> <p>(c) What did the man offer the child? <b>(i) A horse ride</b> (ii) Chocolates (iii) Toys (iv) Snacks</p> <p>(d) What was the reaction of the child? <b>(i) He was crying.</b> (ii) He was happy (iii) He was surprised. (iv) He was angry</p>
II	<b>SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS</b>
1	<p>1. What kind of people were going to the fair? Ans. All kinds of people were going to the fair. It was the spring festival and they were wearing bright clothes for the occasion. Some walked, some rode horses, and others were carried in bamboo and bullock carts. There were children including a little boy who is brimming with fun and laughter.</p>
2	<p>What was the sweetmeat seller hawking? Why didn't the child ask for a burfi loudly? Ans. The sweetmeat seller was selling gulab jamun, rasagulla, burfi and jalebi and a crowd pressed around his counter. The child didn't ask for his favourite sweet, burfi, loudly and only murmured what he wanted as he knew his parents would not buy it and only say he was greedy.</p>
3	<p>What were the child's thoughts when he saw the flower-seller? Ans. When he heard the flower-seller hawking garlands of gulmohur, he went towards him and saw the heap of flowers in his basket. He desired a garland for himself but just murmured, 'I want that garland'. He knew that his parents would not buy the flowers, saying they were too cheap. So, he did not wait for an answer and moved on.</p>
4	How did the child get lost?

	<p>Ans. He got lost as he was distracted by a roundabout which was in full swing. Men, women and children, carried away in a whirling motion, shrieked and cried with dizzy laughter. The child was so intent on watching them that he did not realize that his parents had moved ahead. He could not locate them in the crowd and got lost.</p>
5	<p>How did the mother distract the child's mind from the toy seller?          Ans. The child's mother distracted the mind of the child from the toy seller by pointing toward a flowering golden mustard field. It was pale like melting gold as it spread across a large area of flat land.</p>
6	<p>What happened when the 'lost child' entered the grove and how did he enjoy it there?          Ans. When the lost child entered the grove a shower of flowers fell upon him. He forgot all about his parents and began to gather the petals. Then, he heard the cooing of doves and he ran excitedly to his parents, dropping the flowers that he had gathered.</p>
7	<p>What were the things which fascinated the child as he entered the fair?          Ans. As the child entered the fair, he was fascinated by the sweetmeat seller selling burfi, the flower seller selling garlands of gulmohar, a balloon seller, the snake-charmer's enchanting music and people riding on the roundabout.</p>
8	<p>What did the child know when he wanted garland and burfi and why did he make no request for the balloons?          Ans. When the child wanted garland and burfi, he knew that his parents would refuse him to buy them. For the garland, he would be told by his parents that it was a cheap thing and he would be called greedy if he asked for burfi. The child did not request balloons as he knew that for the balloons, his parents would say that he was too old to play with balloons.</p>
9	<p>How can you say that the child was scared of his father?          Ans. The child was tempted by many things but he asked for them only in slow murmurs. This shows that he was scared of his father and could not express his demands as rightfully as some other children do.</p>
10	<p>What was the condition of the child when he lost his parents?          Ans. When the child realised that he had lost his parents, he ran here and there to search for his parents. He had lost all his happiness and excitement. He was filled with panic and fear and started crying. He wanted nothing but only his parents.</p>
11	<p>What happened when the lost child reached the shrine?          Ans. When the lost child reached the shrine, men were pushing each other. The child struggled to make his way through but was knocked down. He might have been injured if he had not shouted loud for his parents.</p>
12	<p>Who rescued the lost child?</p>

	<p>Ans. A kind-hearted man in the shrine rescued the lost child. He lifted him up in his arms and tried to comfort him. He offered to take him to the roundabout and also offered to buy him flowers, balloons and sweets. He did his best to make the child happy but the child was refusing all those things.</p>
III	<b>LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS (5 MARKS)</b>
1	<p>Justify the title, 'The Lost Child' or How did the child get lost in the fair?</p> <p>Ans. The story revolves around a small child who is taken by his parents to a fair where he gets lost. Like any small child, he was curious and attracted to the colourful stalls selling different items. He lingered at the stalls even as his parents walked ahead, His parents had to periodically call out, 'Come, child, come!' as he was not keeping pace with them. It was not only the stalls that attracted him. At one place it was a group of dragonflies that mesmerized him, at another a shower of spring flowers that fell on him. He was drawn towards a snake-charmer, a garland seller and a balloon vendor. Finally, he stopped at a roundabout to gaze at the merrymakers, and when he turned to ask his parents if he could have a ride, he saw that they were not there. He looked for them everywhere in the crowd but to no avail. He was lost. It was then that the child realized his priority - he did not want anything at the fair, he only wanted his parents.</p>
2	<p>Comment on the parent-child relationship in the story.</p> <p>Ans. The parent-child relationship is beautifully and sensitively shown. The story is about a small child who is taken by his parents to the spring festival. The focus of the story is the child who is irresistibly drawn to the myriad colourful stalls at the fair. He wishes his parents would buy him something. Yet he knows even before asking for a toy that he will only see their cold hard stare of refusal. He does ask anyway and is denied the toy. After that, whatever he wants he only murmurs his wish and does not wait for an answer knowing the different reasons they will have for denying him. Yet their presence is enough to make him feel secure and happy - he gathers flowers, tries to catch a dragonfly, and is thrilled to hear the cooing of a dove. When the child gets lost, he is inconsolable. He is panic-stricken and full of fear. The fair has no charm, no meaning for him. A man who saves him from the crowd offers to buy him a toy, a balloon, or a sweet, but the child only cries for his parents. This shows the immense love the child has for his strict parents, his vulnerability and his sense of deep insecurity without them.</p>
3	<p>How did the child try to find his parents?</p> <p>Ans. The child was filled with fear when he realized that he was lost. He ran from where he stood by the roundabout and called out for his parents. Then he ran in different directions looking for them, not knowing where to go. Though his eyes were filled with tears, he tried to look intently among patches of bright</p>

	<p>clothes at men and women but there was no sign of his mother and father. He ran towards a shrine to which people seemed to be crowding. It was a congested area, but he ran through people's legs, crying and sobbing for his parents. People were pushing and jostling each other, and he almost got trampled under their feet.</p>
4	<p>What all things did the child get attracted to and wanted to possess when he entered the fair? Was he able to get all the things he desired? Was his love for them affected in any way?</p> <p>Ans. When the child entered the fair, he got attracted to many things and desired to possess all of them. He wanted the burfi. Next, he was attracted to a garland of gulmohar flowers and wanted a garland. He was also fascinated by the rainbow glory of coloured balloons and wanted all of them. He was even attracted to the snake charmer's flute. The child knew that if he asked for these things, his parents will refuse, so he did not ask for any one of them. Thus, he was not able to get anything that he desired. Although, he was denied everything that he asked for, his love for his parent was not affected in any way. His love for them did not lessen and he followed them obediently. The child's love for his parents can be seen when he gets separated from them. As soon as he realises that he is lost, he gets panic-stricken. He starts crying for his parents. All that he had wanted earlier lost significance and his only concern were to get back to his parents.</p>
5	<p>How do you know that the 'lost child' was a nature-lover?</p> <p>Ans. In the story, the lost child was a nature lover because of his fascination and attraction toward all aspects of nature. On the way to the spring fair, when his mother diverted his attention toward the golden mustard fields, he was immediately fascinated by the young flowers in the field. Then, he saw a group of dragonflies interfering in the flight of a butterfly or lone black bee. The child wanted to catch it but couldn't. He was also attracted to the insects and worms that were coming out to enjoy the sunshine. Later, when he entered the grove, a shower of flowers fell on him and he forget about his parents. He had begun collecting the raining petals. when he heard the cooing of doves with which he immediately ran towards them. In his innocence, he was so engaged in the beauties of nature that he always lagged behind his parents.</p>
6	<p>The man who had rescued the child was compassionate and kind. Discuss</p> <p>Ans. The man who had rescued the child was compassionate and a kind-hearted man. He had a heart full of goodness which could not ignore the painful cries of the boy who was shouting, screaming and crying for his parents. As soon as he heard the cry of the child, he picked up the child in his arms and saved him from getting walked over by the people. He risked his own safety to make sure that the child was safe. He forgot his own purpose of visiting the</p>

	<p>shrine and did his best to comfort the scared and anxious child. He very kindly inquired about his parents. Even when the boy did not reply he did not lose his patience. Instead, he tried to make him feel better by offering him things that children generally love and desire. The strange man also tried to distract the child so that he could help him find his parents. The strange man showed that he loved children and handled the boy with love and care which reflects his compassion and kindness.</p>
7	<p>What did the child do when he realised that he had got separated from his parents?</p> <p>Ans. When the child realised that he had got separated from his parents, he was panic stricken. He got anxious and started crying. He started running here and there, in all directions with the hope of finding his parents. His yellow turban came untied and his clothes were all dirty. After looking for his father and mother, he stood at the corner. He looked through the patches of yellow but his parents were not there. Ultimately, he ran towards the shrine where a huge crowd had gathered. He entered the crowd, crying loudly for his father and mother. He struggled to move forward in the crowd and would have been trampled if a kind man had not saved him. The fear of loss and separation had affected him so deeply that he only cried for his parents. Even when the kind man offered him all the things at the fair, his only concern was to get back his parents.</p>
8	<p>Compare the attitude of the child before and after his separation from his parents.</p> <p>Or "A child longs for toys, sweets and other things but not at the cost of his parents." Comment.</p> <p>Ans. Before separation from his parents, the child was happy and excited. On the way to the fair, he was attracted and enjoys the beauties of nature. In the fair, he was fascinated by the sweets, the colourful balloons, the garland of gulmohar among many things. While moving in the fair, the presence of parents made him feel secure and so he does not even wait for them when he demands those things. However, all his cheerful and playful mood was converted to anxiety and fear as soon as he realised that got separated from his father and mother. He started crying continuously and got lost in the large crowd gathering near the shrine to search for his parents. When a kind man rescued him and tried to comfort him, his only concern was his parents. All the things such as toys, sweets, balloon lose value in his eyes in the absence of his parents. He refused all those things that he wanted earlier and wanted only his parents.</p>