

SSC BOARD EXAMINATION
ENGLISH (H.L.) N - 004 (04)

QUESTIONNAIRE

Q.I [A] Answer any two of the following in about 10 lines each.

1. The lesson, "Neither a song nor fiction", reveals the working of a housewife's tormented mind. Justify.
2. "Neither a song nor Fiction' has a romantic beginning but ends on a realistic note. Justify.
3. How did Ramanujan, an otherwise little known clerk, make his way to Cambridge to pursue his mathematical research ?
4. How does C.P. Snow portray Ramanujan's simplicity and humility of heart inspite of being a genius ?
5. Why does A.G. Gardiner stress on the importance of good manners and civilities ?
6. "Bad manners probably do more to poison the stream of general life than all the crimes in the calendar". Explain.
7. What are the dangers posed by incivility to the society ?
8. "For a boy of fourteen, his home is the only paradise". What message does the author convey through this statement.
9. Why does Phatik's mother agree to send him to Calcutta with her brother ?
10. Give an account of Carnegie's early struggles until he reached the top in the field of the iron industry.
11. What was the secret of Carnegie's success ?
12. Why did Prospero wish to bring Ferdinand and Miranda together ? How did he wish to accomplish his wish ?
13. How was Prospero reconciled to his brother and the King of Naples ?
14. Bring out the element of suspense in "After Twenty Years'.
15. Give an account of Vikram Sarabhai's dedication in the field of science.
16. How does Parke Cummings struggle to cope with his quizzical family ?
17. What is Smirnov's experience and opinion of women ?
18. How does Popova want to prove her loyalty towards her husband ?
19. How according to Vivekanand is a man's character formed ?

20. How does Schatz's father remove his misconceptions about the types of thermometers ?
21. Justify the title "A Day's Wait".
22. What common cause have Nehru and Patel expressed about in their letters to each other ?
23. Describe the relationship between Sardar and Nehru in the last quarter of 1950.
24. Explain how being good has something to do with civilization.
25. Why did Ranga feel like a condemned man ?
26. You must pay me four rupees otherwise I can't risk my life. Explain.

Q.I [B] Explain with reference to context any two of the following.

1. "It is shallow to display your private feelings in public."
2. "How can you be so foolish ?"
3. "It is a very interesting number".
4. "It is an unusually uncouth person who can be disagreeable with sunny people".
5. "It is a very vulgar mind that would wish to command where he can have the service for the asking".
6. "His gaiety was not a wasteful luxury but a sound investment."
7. "If you don't get down this minute, I'll thrash you."
8. "Beyond this never earn but spend the surplus each year for benevolent purposes."
9. "Believe me, sir, it is a beautiful creature."
10. "It seems to me like the recollection of a dream".
11. "All my vexations were but my trials of your love, and you have nobly stood the test."
12. "Thank you my dear master".
13. "It sometimes changes a good man into a bad one".
14. "Above all he was a warm human personality."
15. "You can't say I don't try."
16. "The Lord have mercy on us !"
17. "Tell them not to give Toby any oats at all today."

18. "A man of character is safe forever."
19. Good and evil will both have their consequences."
20. "Whatever your differences with Panditji, do not leave him."
21. "But I know nothing about wells".
22. "You can't come in."
23. "Go, go, learn contentment."
24. "This business of thinking new thoughts is a sign of being civilised."

Q.I [C] Answer any one of the following in about 10 lines.

1. How does Mrs. Loisel's vanity lead to misery in her life ?
2. Why would Mrs. Loisel weep with grief regret and misery after visiting her rich, old school friend ?
3. What does the story, "The Diamond Necklace" teach you about life ? Illustrate with examples from the story.
4. How did life turn out to be strange or fickle for Madame Loisel ?
5. How do the Mulla stories teach us to laugh at our follies ?
6. How would one change one's outlook of life after reading the Mulla stories ?
7. On what conditions did Ganga agree to marry Santanu ?
8. How did the Vasus incur the curse of Vasishtha ?
9. How did Devavrata make it possible for Santanu to marry the fisher maiden ?
10. How did Amba take her revenge on Bhishma ?
11. Give a brief account of Bhishma's heroism.
12. What moral lessons do you learn from "A Mad Tea Party" ?
13. How was Alice treated at the party ?
14. Why did the party keep on moving round the table ?
15. How have the Upanishads moulded the mind and character of an Indian ?
16. Bring out the differences between the Upanishads and the Vedas.
17. What impression has Indian philosophy created on European Philosophers and thinkers ?

Q.I [D] Give meanings of any 2 idioms and use them in sentences of your own.

1. to settle accounts
2. to be taken aback
3. to make the first move
4. to add fuel to the fire
5. to come to terms with
6. to put up with
7. to brood over
8. to pay a tribute
9. to be in good books
10. to eye one coldly
11. to comply with
12. to answer back
13. to lose one's temper
14. to get rid of
15. to put into practice
16. to have a flair for
17. to get on with
18. to approve of
19. to make amends
20. to give an account of
21. by virtue of
22. to lose track of
23. to get into a rut
24. to set up
25. out of the blue
26. to get away with
27. to give up
28. to cut a fine figure
29. to beat about the bush
30. to make a scene
31. to go off one's head
32. to make a note of
33. to back out
34. to be bent upon
35. to get sick of
36. to get into a row

Q.II [A] Answer any two of the following in about 10 lines each.

1. The theme of the poem "Blow, blow thou Winter Wind", is of man's ingratitude, yet it has a cheerful and optimistic message. Justify.
2. Why does the poet find the winter wind not so unkind as an ungrateful friend ?
3. How is the little made great and the great little in Pope's 'When success a Lover's Toil attends' ?
4. How has Pope brought out the bewitching effects of beauty through his poem, 'When Success a Lover's Toil Attends'.
5. What evils of urban life are portrayed in Blake's 'London' ?
6. Blake's 'London' is a portrayal of human selfishness, Elucidate.
7. How is the sanctity of Marriage destroyed in the society. Substantiate your answers with reference to Blake's 'London'.
8. How does Wordsworth's, sonnet, 'Upon Westminster Bridge' achieve a complete ordering of the complexities of the city ?
9. How does Blake reveal the spiritual degradation of society through 'London' ?
10. Why was the sight of London 'Upon Westminster Bridge' so touching to Wordsworth ?
11. What kind of love does Shelley offer to his beloved ? Why ?
12. How did the enchantress cast a spell on the knight ?
13. Why was the knight at arms dejected ?
14. 'Crossing the bar' reveals Lord Tennyson's optimistic approach to death. Justify.
15. How has the poet, William Butler Yeats categorised 'Beauty' in his poem, 'The Rose of the World'.
16. What are the effects of the three forms of beauty on man ? Substantiate with reference to the poem, 'The Rose of the World'.
17. Why does the poet T.S. Eliot consider modern man to be 'hollow' ?
18. How does Eliot project the spiritual sterility of modern man in his poem, 'The Hollow Man' ?
19. Give a description of the landscape near the aerodrome as visualized by Stephen Spender.
20. How does religion bring about sanity to an otherwise insane society ?
21. What inspiration does the poet James Russell Lowell derive from the fountain ?

17. against that dying sky,
Religion stands, the Church blocking the sun.
18. Changed every moment, Ever the same.
19. Darkness or Sunshine, Thy Element;
20. Let my heart be
Fresh, changeful, constant
Upward like thee !
21. I hold with those who favour fire.
22. I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice
Is also great
And would suffice.
23. Old values are going, new values are coming.
24. This is because of sound habits in youth.
25. Why I love you/ what can I answer ?

Q.II [C]Name and explain any three of the following figures of speech.

1. Freeze, freeze thou bitter sky.
2. Thy sting is not so sharp as friend remembered not.
3. Mighty hearts are held in slender chains.
4. And blights with plagues the Marriage hearse.
5. All bright and glittering in the smokeless air.
6. Earth has not anything to shew more fair.
7. The desire of the moth for the star.
8. One hope is too like despair
For prudence to smother.
9. And made sweet moan.
10. So haggard and so woe-begone ?
11. Twilight and evening bell, And after that the dark.
12. He made the world to be a grassy road before her wandering feet.

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12. He made the world to be a grassy road before her wandering feet.

13. For these red lips with all their mournful pride.
14. We are the hollow men, We are the stuffed men.
15. Shape without form, shade without colour,
Paralysed force, gesture without motion;
16. Chimneys like lank black fingers or figure.
17. Then as they land, they hear the tolling bell Reaching across the landscape of hysteria.
18. Glorious fountain ! let my heart be
Fresh, changeful, constant
Upward like thee !
19. Happy at midnight, happy by day !
20. Full of a nature, nothing can tame.
21. Some say the world will end in fire, some say in ice.
22. No diabetes, no blood pressure, no heart attack.
23. You were so thin, like stick, Now you are a man of weight and consequence.
24. The great yellow eye of the train, lighting up the distance of the night.
25. Why I love you, what can I answer ?

Q.III [A] Write an essay on any one of the following in about 200 words.

1. If there was no gravitational force.
2. The Press - its functions and responsibilities,
3. The Influence of Tuition Classes.
4. Problems and solutions of today's generation.
5. A scene from my window.
6. The importance of values and character formation.
7. My favourite T.V. serial.
8. Will disarmament lead to Global Peace ?
9. How deadly is Pollution ?
10. My favourite tourist spot,
11. The changes I would make as an Education Minister.
12. Man has his will, but women have their way.
13. The most important people in my life.
14. An autobiography of a haunted house .
15. In the examination hall .
16. The importance of Character Certificates for contestants at Elections.
17. Corruption in India's deadliest cancer.
18. The pains and pleasures of school life.
19. My life after twenty years.
20. The festival of lights .
21. My favourite historical character,
22. Teachers and society,
23. Traffic Jams ,
24. The impact of cable T.V.
25. Science and Human life ,
26. The value of time in life.

Q.III [B] Letter writing

1. Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner of your city stressing the need of a park in your locality.

2. Write a letter to your class teacher asking for leave to attend your sister's marriage.
3. Write a letter to your Principal asking for a testimonial.
4. To the editor of a news paper complaining about the heaps of garbage lying on the roads.
5. To your friend describing the launching of the Internet Education Laboratory in your school.
6. To the Gujarat Electricity Board of your area complaining of frequent power failures.
7. To the editor of a newspaper complaining of the bad quality and insufficient supply of water in your town / city.
8. To your class teacher apologising for misbehaviour in the class.
9. To your friend, asking him/her to join you on a tour to North India.
10. To your friend in hospital wishing him/her a speedy recovery.
11. To the editor of a news paper complaining about the nuisance of stray cattle on the roads.
12. To the editor of a news paper requesting the Municipal authorities to undertake a cleanliness drive in your town/city.

Q.III [C] Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below.

1. It is not then, how much a man may know that is of importance but the end and purpose for which he knows it. The object of knowledge should be to mature wisdom and to improve character, to render us better, happier and more useful, more benevolent, more energetic and more efficient in the pursuit of every high purpose in life. When people fall into the habit of admiring and encourage ability as such, without reference to moral character and religious and political opinions which are the concrete form of moral character they are on the highway to all sorts of moral degradation. We must ourselves be and do, and not rest satisfied merely with regarding and meditations over what other men have been and done. Our best light must be made light and best thought, action. At least we ought to say, as Richter did, "I have made as much of myself as could be made of the stuff and no man should require more", for it is every man's duty to discipline and guide himself, with God's help according to his responsibilities and the faculties with which he has been endowed.

Questions :

1. What are the objects of knowledge ?
2. What is every man's duty ?
3. What is moral degradation ?
4. What must be put into action ?
5. Give a suitable title to the passage.

OR

Write a precis of the above passage reducing it to one third of its length and give it a suitable title.

2. A very able man says that the worthy aim of education is the development of positive and effective character. Everything else in education is tools and equipments. We must aim at seeing the best, loving the best, when we cut off education from moral control, we have a motor car without steering wheel or brakes.

A boy or a girl is sent to a public school and his or her efficiency is judged by progress in reading, arithmetic, geography etc. What are their marks at school or colleges ? These are good tools, but what use is to be made of them as young people go out into life ? is it simply to make money ? From this deplorable state of education a good conception has come out that character training is a must and a dire need of the hour.

Questions :

1. What is the aim of education, according to a very able man ?
2. What is education without moral control compared to ?
3. How is the efficiency of a boy or girl judged ?
4. What good conception has come out from the deplorable state of education ?
5. Give a suitable title to the above passage.

OR

Make a precis of the above passage reducing it to one-third of its length.

3. The behaviour of young boys is the subject of comment the world over. Particularly distressing is the manifestations of insulting conduct towards school and college going girls. While no condemnation can be too severe for

such ungentlemanly conduct wherever it may take place, a general inquiry is called for into the causes that have led to this kind of behaviour. Lack of reverence for women is only an off shoot from a larger evil. The real tragedy is surely the complete lack of self discipline evident in the behaviour of these youngsters. This lack of control needs to be dealt with broadly before we can hope to see improvements in its narrower aspects. We all know that the best way to teach a child anything is by example. But cases of young children who misbehave prove too clearly that many parents and teachers undoubtedly fail calamitously in their duty. Both at home and at school, far too many children are brought up to do only what they like, to do a job badly, to leave it unfinished, to have anything they want at the expense of other people's inconvenience.

Parents say they cannot manage their children; it grows more and more difficult to find a teacher who can manage a class. And then the behaviour of parents and teachers is not always calculated to inspire respect. But perhaps the greatest harm is done by the perpetual rousing of senses by posters, films, magazines, advertisements etc. Society will have to make a much more determined effort to mould the character of the children if this moral deterioration is to be halted.

Questions :

1. What about boys is distressing and unpleasant ?
2. From what does lack of reverence for women emerge ?
3. What is the best way to teach a child ?
4. How are children brought up at home and at school.
5. Give a suitable title to the passage.

OR

Make a precis of the above passage reducing it to one-third of its original length.

Q.IV [A] Paraphrase the following poem.

1. We look before and after
And pine for what is not
Our sincerest laughter
With some pain is wrought
Our sweetest songs are those
That tell of saddest thought.

2. My heart leaps up when I behold
A rainbow in the sky
So was it when my life began
So is it now I am a man
So be it when I shall grow old
Or let me die
And I could wish my days to be
Bound each to each by natural piety

3. He that is down needs fear no fall
He that is humble shall have
God to be his Guide.
I am content with what I have
Little be it or much
And, Lord, contentment still I crave,
Because Thou savest such.

4. When' ver a noble deed is wrought
When' ver is spoken a noble thought
Our hearts in glad surpris
To higher level rise
Honour to those whose words or deeds
Thus help us in our daily needs
And by their overflow
Raise us from what is low.

5. Lives of great men al remind us
We can make our lives sublime
And departing, leave behind us,
Footprints on the sand of time
Footprints that perhaps another
Sailing over life's main
A forlorn and a ship wrecked brother
Seeing shall take heart again.

6. Some murmur, when their sky is clear,

And wholly bright to view,
If some small speck of dark appear,
In their great heaven of blue
And some with thankful love are filled
If but one streak of tight,
One ray of God's good mercy gild
The darkness of their night.

7. We are the music makers,
And we are the dreamers of dreams.
Wandering by lone sea breakers,
And sitting by desolate streams;
World losers and world forsakers,
On whom the pale moon gleams;
Yet we are the movers and shakers
Of the world forever, it seems.

8. The wind makes in the garden
Birds call and cry,
The red light of the dawning
Floods the Eastern sky
Flowers lift deny faces,
Grass is gemmed and green,
And spangled fairy cobwebs
On every bush are seen
Sun at the bedroom window
Shines on the little Beds,
'Wake up !' he says, "it's morning;
Wake up, your sleepy heads !"

■ Thora Stowell

Q.IV [B] Expand the idea in any one of the following.

1. A real leader faces the music even if he doesn't like the tune.
2. Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown.
3. A man is known by the company he keeps.
4. A servant is known in the absence of his master.
5. Never keep off anything for tomorrow That you can do today.
6. The sun shines upon all alike.
7. Those who live in glass houses, should not throw stones.
8. Character is the crown and glory of life.
9. The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.
10. Every man is the architect of his own fate.

11. United we stand, divided we fall.
12. Give every man thy ear but few thy voice.
13. Man proposes, God disposes.
14. Excess of ceremony shows want of breeding.
15. Manners maketh a man.
16. Make hay while the sun shines.
17. Don't count your chickens before they are hatched.
18. Great talkers are never great doers.
19. Perseverance is the very hinge of all virtues.
20. Habit is second nature.
21. The real dignity of man lies, not in what he has, but in what he is.
22. A bird in hand is worth two in a bush.
23. Where there's a will, there's a way.
24. They are slaves who dare not be, In the right with two or three.
25. It is never too late to mend.
26. Education should be for life not livelihood.

Q.IV [C] Do as directed

Give the synonyms of :

exhausted, furious, threshold, compliments, contrivances, amiable, conveyance, insolent, compel, retaliate, verdict, despise, enterprise, decline, desperately, vexation, aid, confined, counterfeit, favour, inception, aegis, endeavour, fundamental, emancipation, indignant, privilege, exasperation, gist, substantial, groping, nostalgia, incurious

Give the adjectives of :

conscience, anxiety, concept, child, instinct, fantasy, discretion, meditate, nutrition, melody, generosity, superstition, appearance, vigour, trouble, grief, rebel, technology, solitude, picture, oblige, sympathy, institute, sentiment, mountain, talk, prefer, nostalgia, neighbour, space,

Give the noun forms of :

appoint, achieve, convict, cautious, precaution, behave, amuse, animate, confer, associate, assure, furious, repeat, luxurious, object, original, modernise, laugh, instant, observe, revolt, resign, persuade, persevere, original, break, assume, exhausted, withdraw, romantic, initiate, comply, dignified

Give the antonyms of :

demonstrative, prosperity, material, convenience, interested, absence, majority, rational, comfortable, fortune, denied, superior, contrast, pleasure, proud, insolent, preserve, usually, regular, brilliant, quiet, clumsy, armament, vanish, employed, hope, indulgent, uncouth, persuade, mortal, popular, useless, attract.

Q.IV [D] Rewrite from memory. (Poem 1, 3, 5, 7, 9)

- 1) Blow, blow keen.
- 2) I wander of woe.
- 3) Tall buildings..... on a large scale.
- 4) But I want can I answer.
- 5) For though bar.

Q.V [A] Analyse the following

1. I replied that you can go if you like.
2. My heart soared with joy and my feet danced as I read his reply.
3. If a girl is interested in a boy it is she who has to make the first move.
4. If a girl is interested in a boy it is she who has to make the first move.
5. It seemed impossible that he could break the ban and cross the water.
6. I may be as uncivil as I please and the law will protect me against violent retaliations.
7. He came to see her as soon as he found out where she lived.
8. Now a servant came down from the house and told Phatik that his mother wanted him.
9. He saw the boy and asked him where the Chakravortis live.
10. He had written a plan of his life at the age of thirty three when he realised that he was going to be a rich man.
11. Although he called himself a radical and a democrat, he lived his life apart from the mass of workers on whose skill and pluck he depended.
12. The man who wrote these words and gave away seventy million pounds was born in a one room attic home.
13. Those were brave words of an old man and it is probably true that the last years of his long life were the happiest and the most useful.
14. Instead of a help Miranda became a hindrance so that the business of log carrying went on very slowly.
15. I have overheard and approve of all you have said.
16. I tell you foolish girl most men as far excel this as he does Caliban.
17. Before we go to the station here is a note I was asked to give you.
18. You couldn't have dragged Jimmy out of New York, he thought it was the only place on earth.
19. Vikram Sarabhai worked in the field of cosmic ray variations and set up a group which was undoubtedly the best in this field.
20. What would you do if someone threatened to shoot you unless you drank a bottle of poison ?
21. You must decide now because if once I leave here we shall never see each other again.
22. He lay still in the bed and seemed very detached from what was going on.
23. Until man's nature changes his physical needs will always arise and his miseries will always be felt.
24. He asked for no melody and when he was out of prison, opened no book.
25. Before he knew where he was, he had eaten a very heavy meal.

Q.V [B] Transform the following sentences as directed.

1. I forgot all about the tender care with which my husband looked after me. (change the voice)
2. I was sure there was another woman in his life. (Make it negative).
3. In his absence I would call his name with my eyes closed. (Change to complex)
4. How can you be so foolish ? (Make it assertive).
5. I do not know an instance of a major mathematical advance initiated by a man past fifty. (Make it affirmative).
6. That was as much as they could judge that day. (change the degree).
7. He was the first Indian to be given either of these distinctions. (make it negative).
8. If I am physically assaulted, it will permit me to retaliate with reasonable violence. (Use 'unless')
9. As she said these words, she bowed to the ground and touched his feet. (Use No sooner than....)
10. There is a social practice much older and much more sacred than any law. (Change the degree)
11. If you don't get down this minute I'll thrash you. (Use 'unless')
12. she came to this island so young that she had no memory of having seen any other human face. (Use 'too')
13. Although he called himself a radical and a democrat, he lived his life apart from the mass of workers. (Change to simple).
14. Do so and I will set you free. (change to complex).
15. It sounds pretty interesting. (change to exclamatory)
16. All I can do is to give an answer. (change to negative)
17. Respectable people don't talk like this to a lady. (Change to interrogative)
18. How dare you say this to me ! (Change to assertive)
19. If you don't pay me today I shall have to hang myself tomorrow. (Use 'unless')
20. After giving him the prescribed capsules I went out for a while (Change to compound).
21. Vallabhbai was too weak to say anything. (Remove 'too')
22. He won't be much better off, than he was. (Change the degree)
23. She came to the island so young that she had no memory of having seen any other human face than her father's. (Use 'too')
24. On seeing him his wife snarled. (Use 'as soon as')
25. Beauty isn't given to you to keep forever. (Change to interrogative)
26. He had come on the scene too late to make a contribution on the same scale. (Remove 'too')

27. Though Chicago was my headquarters I kept moving around a lot. (Change to compound)
28. You were too delicate to execute her wicked commands. (Remove 'too')
29. I would not wish any companion but you. (Change to affirmative)
30. He was a tremendous personality. (change to exclamatory)

Q. V [C] Combine the following groups of sentences into a single sentence.

1. It was wonderful in Matheran. We loved its scenic beauty. The surrounding was peaceful and pure with cool breeze.
2. You are trying in make me lose my mind. Your purpose is to bring her home. I will never let that happen.
3. Before midnight they knew. They knew it for certain. The writer of these manuscripts was a man of genius.
4. All the other boys shouted with delight. But Phatik was a little frightened. He knew what was coming.
5. The elder Carnegie faced the prospect of starvation. He could no longer get work. Even his looms were sold.
6. There is no law that compels us to say 'please'. But there is a social practice. It is much older and much more sacred than any law which enjoins us to be civil.
7. The man on the doorway struck a match. He lit his cigar. The policeman had a chance to look at his face.
8. He was pleased. They admired each other. They had fallen in love at first sight.
9. One category is the out of the blue. It is the favourite of the fair sex. It leaves me baffled and bewildered.
10. You should work like a master. You should not work like a slave. That is the fist of this teaching.
11. Do me a favour. Take pity on an old man ! Go away from here.
12. Lovers may be a thousand miles away. But their love does not die. It will never produce any painful reaction.
13. It would have been natural for him to go to sleep. I looked up. He was staring strangely at the foot of the bed.
14. It is painful to prolong this process of mental torture. We must end it now. This is because I see no hope.
15. They lifted up the covering at the month of the well. Ranga peeped in. His heart sank.
16. They used to eat enormous meals. They took something to make them sick. They did this when they couldn't eat any more.

17. The master and the rest treated him with consideration. He slowly began to enjoy the importance given to him. All of them surrounded him to explain how it happened.
18. I have not been accustomed to hearing human voices in my solitude. I can't bear shouting. I beg you not to disturb my peace.
19. This world is not our habitation. It is only one of the many stages. The whole nature is for the soul, not the soul for nature.
20. This business of being good has something to do with civilization. Being good means acting justly with your neighbour and respecting his property. It is also obeying the laws.

Q.V [D] Rewrite the following into Indirect speech.

1. "Can you remember a time before you came to this cell ? I think you cannot, for you were not then three years of age."
"Certainly I can, sir," replied Miranda.
"But what ?" asked Prospero, "by any other house or person ?"
"Tell me what you can remember, my child".
Miranda said, "It seems to me like a recollection of a dream. But had I not once four or five women who attended upon me ?"
Prospero answered, "You had, and even more. How is it that this still lives in your mind ? Do you remember how you came here ?"
"No sir," said Miranda "I remember nothing more".
2. "What do you think that little white haired scotch devil of mine did today ?" His chief asked a friend. "He ran every train on the division in my name without the slightest authority." "And did he do it all right ?"
"Oh yes, all right."
3. He was angry now. "Are you mad ?" he asked.
"Yes I am mad. You are trying to make me lose my mind so that you can bring her home. But rest assured, I'll never let that happen."
He smiled again. "I really don't know what you are talking about."
4. "About what time do you think I'm going to die ?" he asked.
"What ?"
"About how long will it be before I die ?"
"You aren't going to die. What's the matter with you ?"
"Oh, yes, I am. I heard him say a hundred and two."
5. My wife inquired, "What do you suppose the cat did today ?"
"Read the first two chapters of "A Tale of Two Cities," I replied.
"Very funny," said Virginia, "very very funny".
"You can't say I don't try," I reminded her.

6. “What would you do if someone threatened to shoot you unless you drank a bottle of poison ?” “What would you do ?” I counter. “I asked you first”, she points out.

“I’d let him shoot”, I finally decide. “He may miss”.

“Not if he were standing right next to you”, she says.

7. Lucy : “Is that all about civilization ?

Myself : I think there may be one other thing.

Lucy : What is that ?

Myself : All this business about being good.

Lucy : But what has being good to do with it ? Nobody wants to be good really; they are only good because they get into rows if they are not.

8. “Oh, you needn’t get off ; that’s all right, said he. “All right”, said I, “But I haven’t a copper on me.” “Oh, I’ll book you through,” he replied. “Where d’you want to go ?” and he handled his bundle of tickets with the air of a man who was prepared to give me a ticket for anywhere from the Bank of Hon Kong. I said it was very kind of him, and told him where I wanted to go, and as he gave me the ticket I said, “But where shall I send the fare ?”

“Oh you’ll see me someday right”, he said cheerfully as he turned to go

9. “Seems to be a very deep well”, Ranga said.

“Only sixty feet”.

“We don’t usually go into wells deeper than forty”, Ranga said.

“If you want eight annas or so more we won’t grudge it”, they said.

“You must pay me four rupees, otherwise I can’t risk my life”.

10. Looka : (enters, flustered) : Madam, there’s someone asking for you.

Popova : But didn’t you tell him that I’m not seeing anybody since my husband died ?

Looka : I did, but he won’t listen; he says its a very urgent matter.

Popova : I won’t see anybody !

Looka : I kept telling him, but... he’s a proper devil... he swore and shove past me... he’s in the dining room now.

Popova (irritably) : Very well, show him in... How rude these people are!