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CLASS – 12

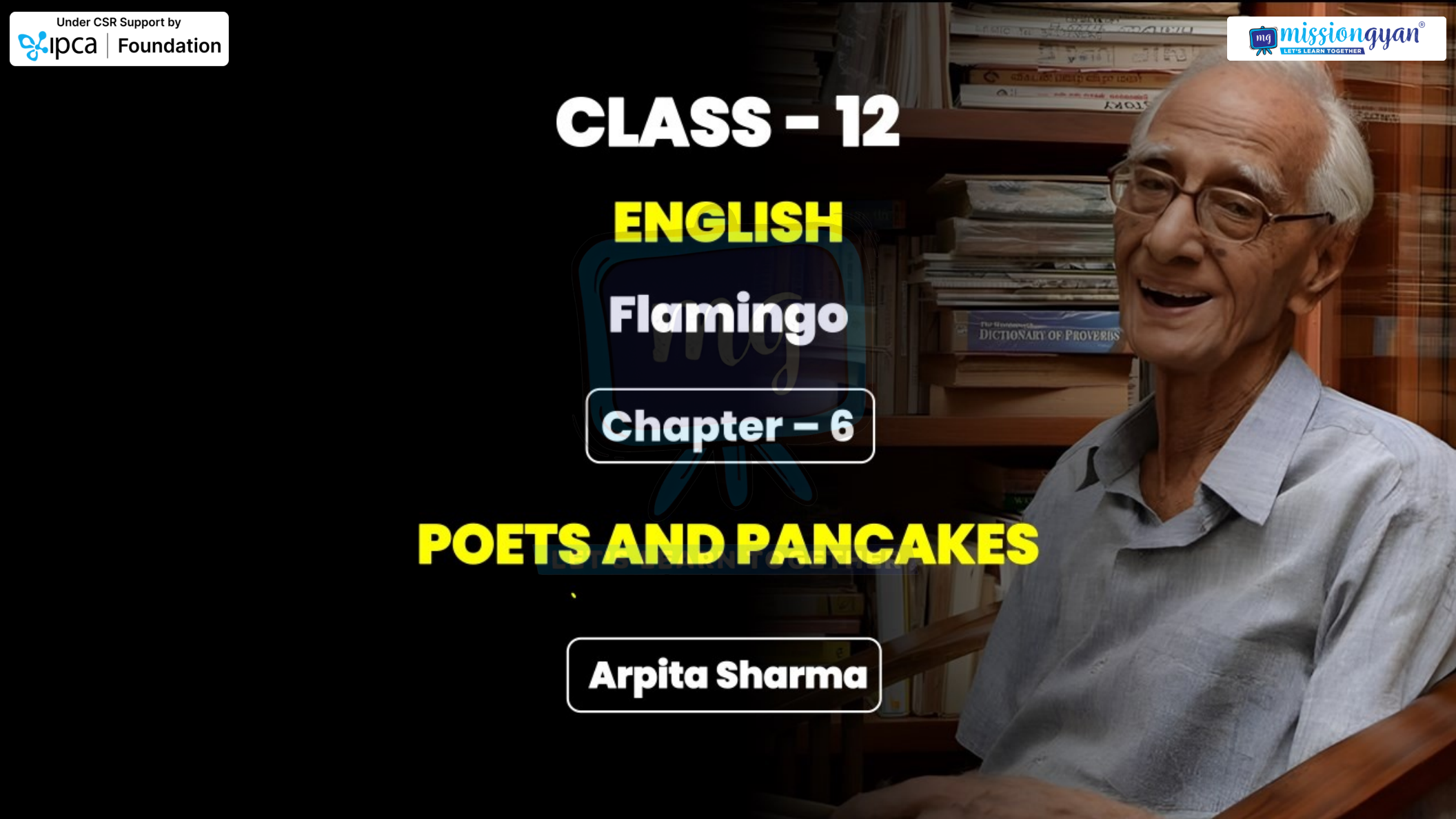
ENGLISH

Flamingo

Chapter – 6

POETS AND PANCAKES

Arpita Sharma



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1. Asokamitran, a Tamil writer, shares insights from his experiences at Gemini Studios, recounting the influence of movies on Indian life and culture.

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2. Gemini Studios, established by S.S. Vasan in 1940, was a prominent (प्रसिद्ध) film-producing organization located in Chennai.

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3. The author's role at the studio was to clip newspapers and organize them, a task seen as insignificant but one that kept him well-informed.

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4. The makeup department at Gemini Studios used vast amounts of Pancake, a popular brand of makeup, to prepare actors for indoor shoots.

Pancake - makeup brand

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5. The department was housed in a building formerly believed to be Robert Clive's stables and showcased a diverse workforce, representing national integration (एकीकरण).

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6. Despite its diversity(विविधता), the makeup team's work often transformed decent-looking individuals into exaggeratedly (अतिश्योक्ति पूर्ण ढंग से) ugly made-up characters.

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7. A strict hierarchy (पदानुक्रम) existed within the department, with the chief makeup man working on lead actors and others handling supporting roles or crowd members.

Makeup Peparament
Hierarry System
- Chief make up man
- Senior Assistant
- Junior Assistant
- office boy (crowd)

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8. The office boy in the makeup department, frustrated by his unfulfilled dreams of stardom (प्रसिद्धि), expressed his bitterness by criticizing Subbu, a key figure at the studio.

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9. Subbu, considered No. 2 at Gemini Studios, was versatile (बहुकर्मी), offering creative solutions for film scripts and showing immense loyalty to the studio's boss.



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10. His ability to handle challenges and adapt to various roles made him indispensable (अनिवार्य), though it also garnered jealousy and criticism from colleagues(सहकर्मी).

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11. Subbu's literary contributions (योगदान), including poems and a novel, were overshadowed by his success in films, making him a polarizing (ध्रुवीकरण) figure.

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12. The Story Department, where Subbu was formally listed, consisted of writers and a lawyer, who was ironically referred to as the opposite of a legal adviser.

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13. An incident involving an actress who was silenced by hearing her recorded outburst highlighted the lawyer's shrewdness (चतुराई) and the intimidating (डराने वाला) atmosphere of the studio.

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14. Gemini Studios welcomed the Moral Re-Armament Army (MRA), a global troupe that performed plays emphasizing moral values, impressing the local audience.

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15. The MRA plays influenced Tamil theatre, inspiring minimalistic set designs and artistic styles.

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V.I mcq

16. The studio later hosted a mysterious English visitor, initially thought to be a poet but later revealed to be Stephen Spender, editor of The Encounter.

⇒ Linguistic Barriers

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17. Spender's visit was marked by cultural misunderstandings, as neither the Gemini staff nor Spender himself fully grasped the purpose of his presence at a Tamil film studio.

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18. Years later, the author discovered Spender's identity through a book titled "The God That Failed," which contained six essays by writers describing their disillusionment (मोहभंग) with Communism (साम्यवाद).

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19. The author reflects on the challenges of prose writing, noting its demands for persistence and resilience in the face of rejection.

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20. The text intertwines humor and satire, shedding light on human behavior, studio politics, and the contrasting worlds of literature and film.

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21. Instances like the office boy's grievances, Subbu's multifaceted (बहुमुखी) personality, and the English poet's baffling visit illustrate the quirks (मोड़) of the Gemini Studios environment.

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22. The narrative transitions smoothly between anecdotes (छोटी कहानी), offering a glimpse into the lives and dynamics of the studio's employees.

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