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JINENDER SONI
Founder, MISSION GYAN

Multiple Choice Questions

1. When was their common link of friendship snapped?

(a) When he started working.
(b) When he went to college.
(c) When he went to the university, they were given separate rooms.
(d) Because she was an image of misery.

2. For how many years did the narrator know his grandmother in the prose The Portrait of a Lady?

(a) Twenty-five years
(b) Thirty years
(c) Twenty years
(d) Fifteen years

3. What was her reaction when he came back after five years?

(a) Sentimental
(b) Clasped the author in her arms and said prayers
(c) Happy
(d) Overwhelmed

4. What did the author eat for breakfast?

(a) Upma
(b) Thick bread with butter
(c) Rice and curd
(d) Thick and stale chapatti with a little butter and sugar spread in it

5. How did grandmother keep herself busy in the city home?

(a) By doing household chores
(b) By feeding dogs
(c) By joining a neighborhood club
(d) By working on her spinning wheel

6. How did the grandmother enjoy the writer's homecoming?

(a) By beating the drum and singing
(b) By lighting up Diyas
(c) By dancing with the members of women club
(d) By arranging a grand procession

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7. **What change came in the grandmother's evening schedule?**
   (a) She would talk to his parents.
   (b) She would sleep early.
   (c) She collected the women of the neighbourhood.
   (d) She would go for a walk.

8. **Where was the author's grandfather's portrait placed?**
   (a) On a table
   (b) On a shelf
   (c) Hung above the mantelpiece
   (d) Put on the mantelpiece

9. **Khushwant Singh went abroad for education for how many years?**
   (a) For 5 years
   (b) For 10 years
   (c) For 3 years
   (d) For 7 years

10. **What did the grandmother do in her final hours?**
   (a) Talked to everyone in the house
   (b) Went to temple
   (c) Silently praying and telling her beads
   (d) Worried about everyone

Fill in the blanks :

11. From sunrise to sunset, the grandmother sat by her wheel _____ and reciting prayers.

12. Thousands of sparrows came and sat silently in the verandah when the grandmother lay _____.

True / False

13. The author's grandmother never fed the sparrows during her time in the village.

14. The grandmother did not pray for the first time on the day she fell ill.

Very Short Type Questions

15. How did the narrator and his grandmother become good friends? Answer in the context of The Portrait of a Lady.

16. In what way did the grandmother receive the author when he came back after his studies abroad?

Short Type Questions

17. What was the turning point in the friendship of author and his grandmother?

18. Why was the grandmother so disturbed when the narrator started going to the city school? Answer in the context of The Portrait of a Lady.

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Essay Type Questions

19. Describe the happiest half-hour of the day for the grandmother.

20. Write a brief character sketch of the author's grandmother. Answer in the context of The Portrait of a Lady.

HOTS

21. **Assertion (A) :** The grandmother's evening schedule changed drastically on the day the author returned from abroad.

Reason (R) : She celebrated his return by collecting women from the neighborhood and singing for several hours, instead of her usual prayers.

(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.

(c) A is true, but R is false.

(d) A is false, but R is true.

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1. **(c)**
When the author went to the university, they (grandmother and the author) were given separate rooms and their common link of friendship snapped.

2. **(c)**
The narrator stated that for the twenty years that he had known his grandmother, she had always been old.

3. **(b)**
When the author returned after five years the grandmother clasped him in her arms and kept reciting her prayers.

4. **(d)**
The author had a thick, stale chapatti with a little butter and sugar spread on it, before going to school.

5. **(d)**
The narrator's grandmother used to work on her spinning wheel from sunrise to sunset every day. It was her routine activity.

6. **(a)**
She sang continuously and played a dilapidated drum for several hours. She was overwhelmed.

7. **(c)**
A change came in the grandmother's evening schedule. She did not pray. Instead, she collected the women of the neighbourhood, got an old drum, and started to sing.

8. **(c)**
The grandfather's portrait was hung above the mantelpiece in the drawing room..

9. **(a)**
He was away from his grandmother for five years as he went abroad for higher studies.

10. **(c)**
During her final hours, grandmother was praying and telling her beads and praying silently.

11. spinning

12. dead

13. False

14. True

15. During his childhood, the narrator's parents left him with his grandmother when they went to live in the city. She was his constant companion. She looked after him, woke him up and got him ready for school in the morning. She would give him breakfast, handed his study material to him and went to school with him.

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That is how they became good friends.

16. Grandmother came to the station to receive the author. When his train arrived, she took him in her arms. In the evening, she collected the women of the neighbourhood and got an old drum. She kept singing and thumping the drum for several hours.

17. While living in the village, the grandmother used to accompany the author to his school and helped him in his studies also. But in the city, she could neither accompany him to school nor help in his studies. She accepted her seclusion after coming to the City.

18. The grandmother was a religious lady who loved to read scriptures and tell the beads of the rosary. When her grandson told her about the subjects being taught at school, she felt offended and reacted strangely. According to her, music was a monopoly of harlots and beggars.

19. For Khushwant Singh's grandmother, there was none another pastime than that of feeding the sparrows in the afternoon for half an hour. The sparrows would perch on her legs, shoulders and even on her head but were never shooed away by her as she enjoyed feeding them. That was the happiest half-hour of the day for the grandmother.

20. Author's grandmother was a very religious and independent woman. Her energy to walk with a hand on her waist and agility to perform all the tasks made her exuberant. She had a firm belief in God therefore, she always remained busy in telling the beads of her rosary and reciting the prayers. Besides, she had strong will power and ability to overcome her emotions at all the stages of her life. She was a philanthropist as well as an altruist who made stale chapattis every day for the stray dogs. She was a social butterfly who shared her joys and sorrows with all the neighbourhood women of society. In a nutshell, she was an impeccable woman with a lot of devotion and selfless attitude.

21. **(a)**

The text mentions that upon the author's return, the grandmother did not pray but instead collected women, got an old drum, and started singing for several hours, indicating a significant and unusual change in her routine due to the celebration. Therefore, both assertion and reason are true, and the reason explains the assertion

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