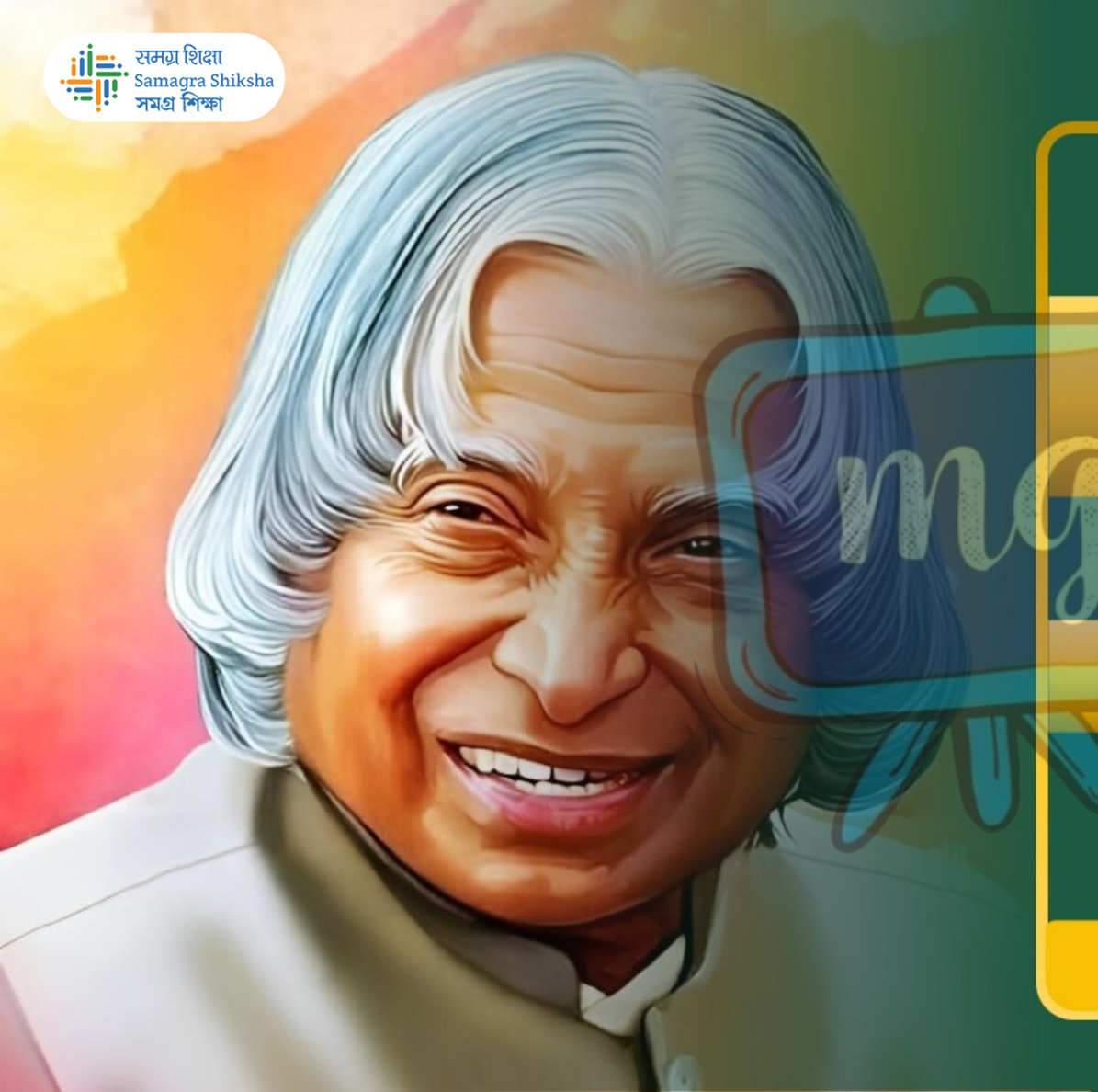
समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
समग्र शिक्षा

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation



CLASS – IX

ENGLISH

BEEHIVE

CHAPTER - 3

My Childhood

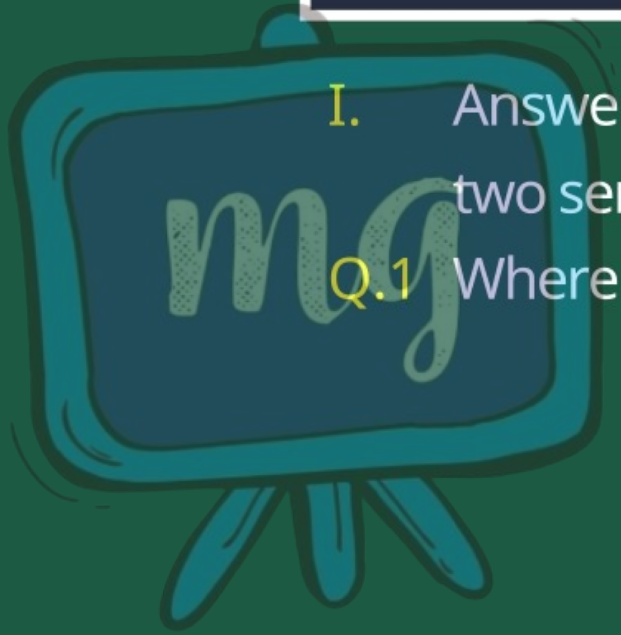
Part – 3
(Comprehension)

NIPA DAS

समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
समग्र शिक्षा

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

THINKING ABOUT THE TEXT



I. Answer these questions in one or two sentences each.

Q.1 Where was Abdul Kalam's house?

समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Answer: Abdul Kalam’s house was on the Mosque Street in Rameswaram.



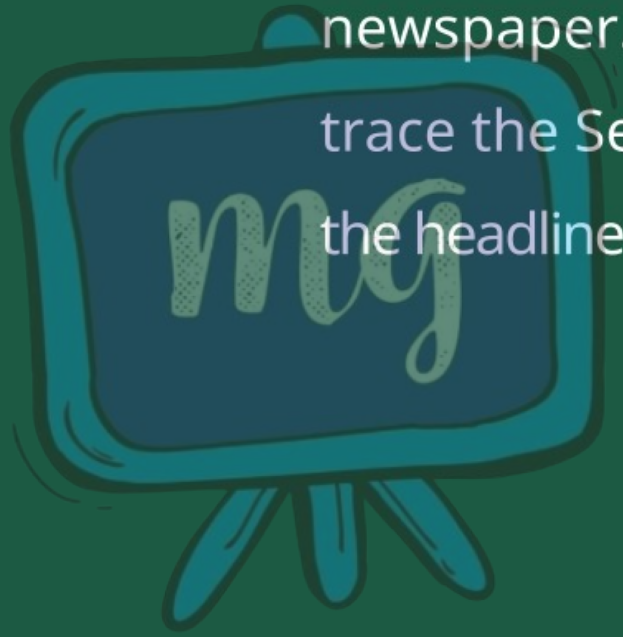
समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Q.2 What do you think Dinamani is the name of? Give a reason for your answer.



Answer: Dinamani is the name of a newspaper. Abdul Kalam attempts to trace the Second World War's news in the headlines of this newspaper.



Q.3 Who were Abdul Kalam's school friends? What did they later become?



समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
समग्र शिक्षा

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Answer: Ramanadha Sastry, Aravindan and Sivaprakasan were his school friends. Ramanadha Sastry became a priest of the Rameswaram temple. Aravindan went into the business of arranging transport for visiting pilgrims. Sivaprakasan became a catering contractor for the Southern Railways.

समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Q.4 How did Abdul Kalam earn his first wages?



समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Answer: Abdul Kalam earned his first wages by distributing newspapers with his cousin Samsuddin.



समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Q.5 Had he earned any money before that? In what way?



समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
समग्र शिक्षा

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Answer: Yes, he had earned money before that too. He used to collect tamarind seeds and sell them to a provision shop on Mosque Street. A day's collection would let him earn one anna.

समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
समग्र शिक्षा

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

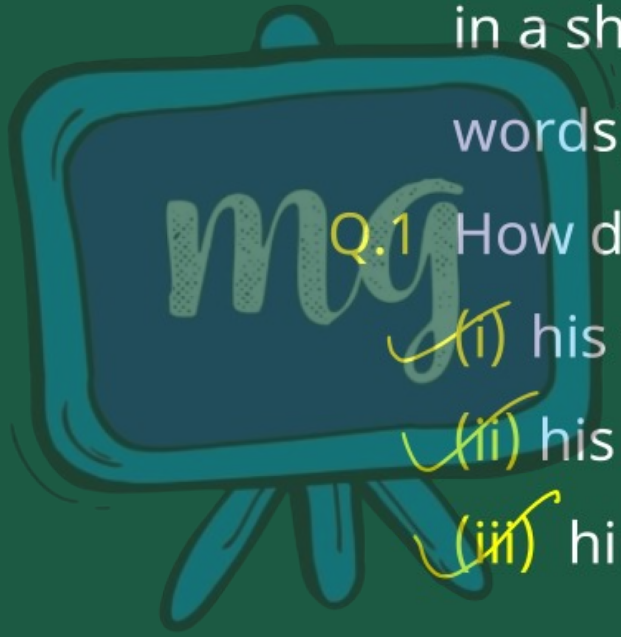
II. Answer each of these questions in a short paragraph (about 30 words)

Q.1 How does the author describe:

(i) his father

(ii) his mother

(iii) himself?



समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
समग्र शिक्षा

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Answer:

(i) The author describes his father Jainulabdeen as honest and self-disciplined. His father used to avoid inessential comforts and luxuries. He never had a formal education and much wealth, but he was a man of confidence and great wisdom.

समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
समग्र शिक्षा

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

(ii) The author describes his mother as a noble and kind- hearted woman. She used to feed a large number of people. She had all the attributes of a typical Indian mother.

(iii) The author describes himself as a short boy with rather undistinguished looks, born to tall and handsome parents in a middle class Tamil family.

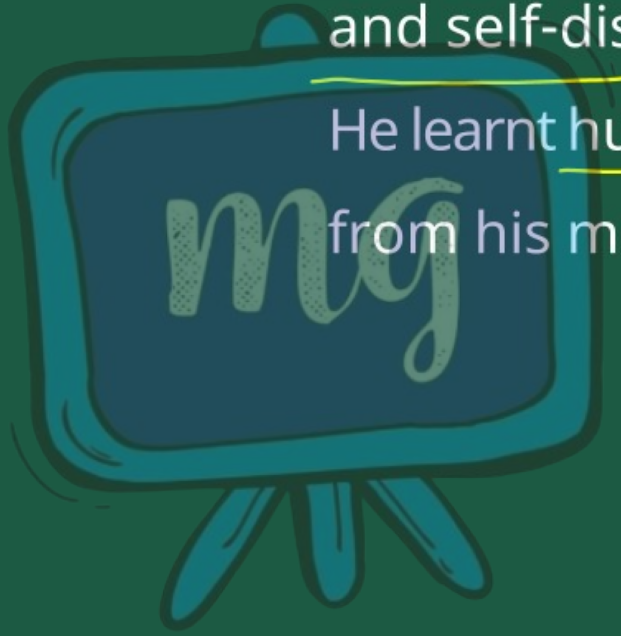
Q.2 What characteristics does he say he inherited from his parents?



समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Answer: The author inherited honesty and self-discipline from his father. He learnt humility and kindness from his mother.



समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

III. Write down your answers in two or three paragraphs each.

Q.1 "On the whole, the small society of Rameswaram was very rigid in terms of the segregation of different social groups," says the author.

(i) Which social groups does he mention? Were these groups easily identifiable (for example, by the way they dressed)?



समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Answer:

(i) Kalam mentions two religious groups- Brahmins and Muslims. The way these two groups dressed they were easily identifiable. The Muslims wore a cap while the Hindu Brahmins wore a sacred thread.

(ii) Were they aware only of their differences or did they also naturally share friendships and experiences? (Think of the bedtime stories in Kalam's house; of who his friends were; and of what used to take place in the pond near his house.)

समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

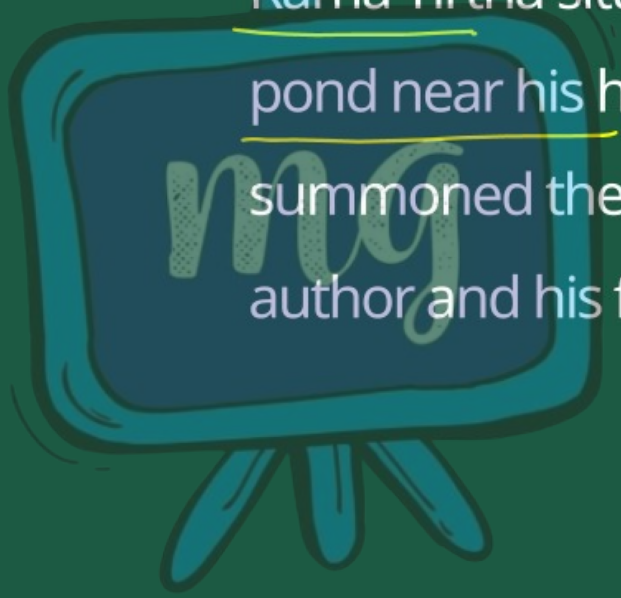
Answer:

(ii) Despite their differences, they naturally shared friendships and many experiences. For instance, Kalam's mother and grandmother used to tell stories from both the Ramayana and the life of the Prophet. During the annual Sita Rama Kalyanam ceremony, Kalam's family would arrange special boats to carry

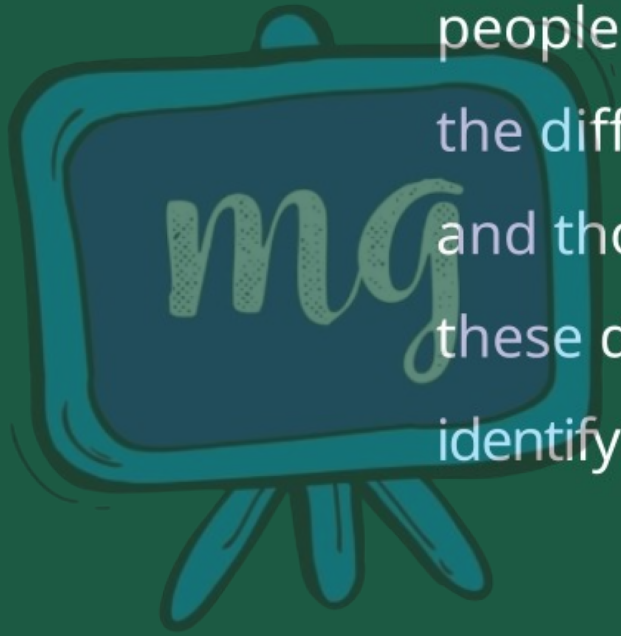
समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
समग्र शिक्षा

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

idols of the Lord to the marriage site called Rama Tirtha situated in the middle of the pond near his house. Lakshmana Sastry summoned the teacher who separated the author and his friend in the class.



(iii) The author speaks both of people who were very aware of the differences among them and those who tried to bridge these differences. Can you identify such people in the text?



समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

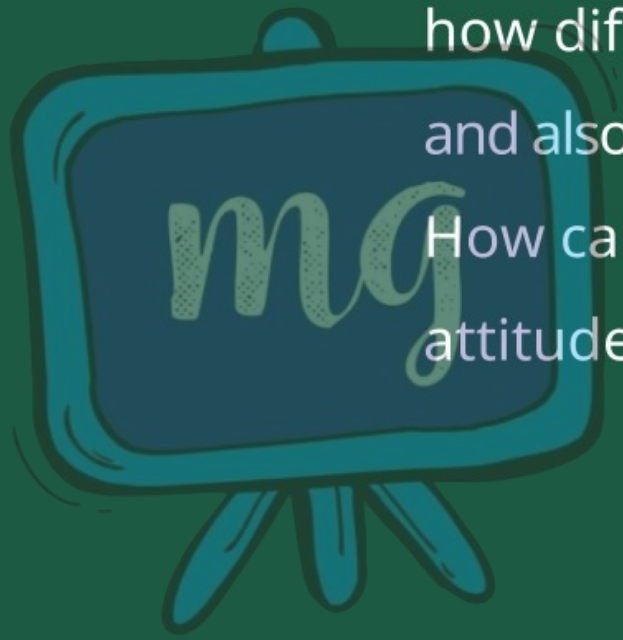
Answer:

(iii) The new school teacher and Sivasubramania Iyer's wife were aware of the differences. The teacher even encouraged communal differences. But Lakshmana Sastry and Sivasubramania Iyer discouraged this malpractice.

समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

(iv) Narrate two incidents that show how differences can be created, and also how they can be resolved. How can people change their attitudes?



समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Answer:

(iv) The first incident to show that how differences can be created is that when the new school teacher found a Muslim student sitting beside a Hindu student, he asked Kalam to sit in the last row. His friend Ramanadha Sastry was heartbroken.

Lakshmana Sastry was strictly against this step and summoned the teacher, and bluntly asked to either apologise or leave the school. The second incident where the science teacher Sivasubramania Iyer changed his wife's attitude and showed her the right path.

Q.2

(i) Why did Abdul Kalam want to leave Rameswaram?



समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Answer:

(i) Abdul Kalam wanted to leave Rameswaram to study at the district headquarters in Ramanathapuram.



(ii) What did his father say to this?

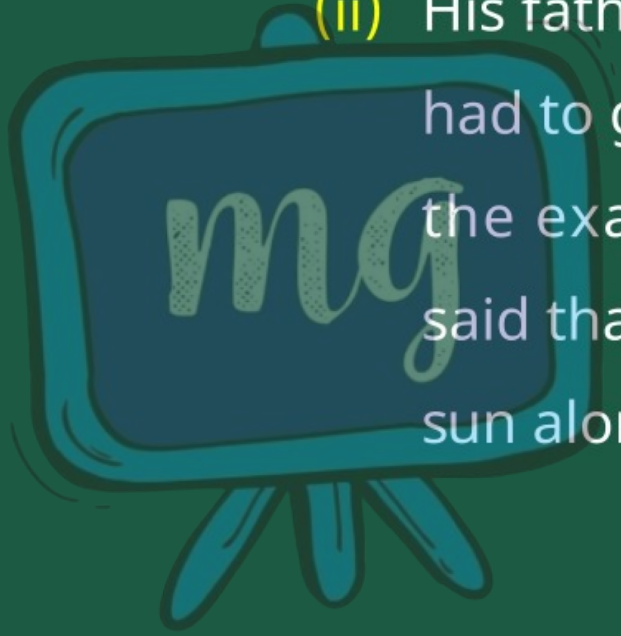


समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Answer:

(ii) His father said that he knew he had to go away to grow. He gave the example of a seagull and said that a seagull flies across the sun alone and without a nest.



(iii) What do you think his words mean? Why do you think he spoke those words?



समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
সমগ্র শিক্ষা

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

Answer:

(iii) His words meant that he understood that Kalam had to leave his house and get a good higher education to grow. He spoke these words because he intended to hone his skills. He knew the harsh reality of life that children may have to live

समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
समग्र शिक्षा

Under CSR Support by
ipca | Foundation

far from their parents to make their career and earn their livelihood. So he showed his wisdom and intelligence in uttering these words.

