

CHAPTER-4 | Tribal Verse

QUIZ-01

1. What is a key reason for the decline of tribal oral literature?
- Lack of interest among tribals
 - Overemphasis on religious texts
 - Influence of urbanisation and print culture
 - Unavailability of rituals

(C)

Explanation: Urbanisation, print culture, and commerce have led to the marginalisation of tribal communities and the decline of their oral traditions.

2. What do tribal narratives typically lack that modern narratives emphasize?
- Emotions
 - Religious symbolism
 - Sequential order and spatial logic
 - Connection with nature

(C)

Explanation: Tribal stories often ignore conventional spatial order and temporal sequence, allowing elements like flying oceans and talking animals.

3. What does the 'Ridin creeper' symbolise in the Adi song?
- A tool of punishment
 - A symbol of freedom
 - A plant to trap evil spirits
 - A medium to restore health

(D)

Explanation: The Ridin creeper is tied to fasten the spirit of health to the body, symbolizing healing and recovery.

4. How are tribal communities described in terms of wealth and labour?
- Focused on economic gain
 - Interested in capitalist growth
 - Disinterested in accumulating wealth
 - Highly industrialised

(C)

Explanation: Tribal communities show little interest in accumulating wealth or using labour for economic exploitation.

5. What distinguishes the language Miri Agom from Adi Agom?
- Used for writing textbooks
 - Spoken by foreigners
 - Used for ritual chanting
 - Considered a dialect of Hindi

(C)

Explanation: Miri Agom is a ritualistic language used by the Adi tribe for ceremonies, unlike Adi Agom, which is for daily conversation.

6. What belief is reflected in the Kondh song sung during death rituals?
- Souls reincarnate instantly
 - Spirits linger near their homes
 - Spirits become stars
 - Death is celebrated as rebirth

(B)

Explanation: The Kondh believe spirits are reluctant to leave their homes after death and need to be propitiated through offerings.

7. Which tribe associates the birth of a daughter with the cowshed being full?
- Santhal
 - Adi
 - Kondh
 - Munda

(D)

Explanation: The Munda song links the birth of a daughter with prosperity, as shown by a full cowshed.

8. What role does memory play in tribal knowledge systems?
- It is ignored in favour of written records
 - It helps record taxes
 - It classifies natural and material objects
 - It distorts historical facts

(C)

Explanation: Memory is central to tribal knowledge systems, allowing them to classify the world around them without written records.

9. How does G.N. Devy describe the tribal way of constructing space and imagery?
- Rigid and formulaic
 - Hallucinatory and dreamlike
 - Mechanical and factual
 - Inspired by Western models

(B)

Explanation: Tribal arts interpret space and imagery in a hallucinatory, dreamlike manner with fluid boundaries.

10. What is the key argument Devy makes about literature?
- Only written texts should be studied
 - Folklore is inferior to canonical texts
 - Literature must include oral traditions
 - Literature should exclude ritual elements

(C)

Explanation: Devy argues that the definition of literature must expand beyond the written word to include oral traditions.