

CHAPTER-5 | The Tale of Melon City

QUIZ-01

1. Why was the chief of builders initially sentenced to death?

- A. For making wrong-sized bricks
- B. For defying the King
- C. For building a low arch that made the King's crown fall
- D. For blaming the architect (C)

Explanation: The arch was too low, causing the King's crown to fall. The King deemed this a disgrace and blamed the chief builder.

2. What did the workmen claim was the reason for the faulty arch?

- A. Poor weather conditions
- B. Wrong-sized bricks
- C. The architect's faulty design
- D. Their lack of experience (B)

Explanation: The workmen defended themselves by stating that the bricks were made of the wrong size.

3. Who did the masons blame for the wrongly sized bricks?

- A. The King
- B. The architect
- C. The chief builder
- D. The crowd (B)

Explanation: The masons pointed fingers at the architect when questioned.

4. What was the architect's defense when he was sentenced?

- A. He blamed the King for changing the plans
- B. He blamed the weather
- C. He blamed the laborers
- D. He accepted the mistake (A)

Explanation: The architect reminded the King that he himself had made certain amendments to the original plans.

5. How did the wisest man suggest justice be served?

- A. Hang the architect
- B. Hang the workmen
- C. Hang the King
- D. Hang the arch (D)

Explanation: The wisest man absurdly suggested that the arch, which knocked off the crown, should be hanged.

6. Who was ultimately executed in the poem?

- A. The architect
- B. The chief builder
- C. The King himself
- D. The masons (C)

Explanation: The King, being the only one tall enough for the noose, was hanged by his own royal decree.

7. Why did the ministers feel relieved after the King's execution?

- A. They didn't like him
- B. The public would have revolted otherwise
- C. They wanted a melon as King
- D. They could become kings themselves (B)

Explanation: The ministers feared the crowd might turn against the monarchy if no one was punished.

8. How was the next ruler chosen?

- A. By a public vote
- B. By a ministerial decision
- C. Randomly by the next person at the City Gate
- D. By the King's will (C)

Explanation: An old custom declared that the next passerby at the City Gate would choose the new ruler.

9. Who did the idiot choose to be the next King?

- A. Himself
- B. A soldier
- C. A melon
- D. A guard (C)

Explanation: The idiot replied "a melon" to all questions. Hence, a melon was declared King.

10. What is the attitude of the citizens towards their new King, the melon?

- A. Angry and rebellious
- B. Happy, as long as they have peace and liberty
- C. Confused and scared
- D. Disrespectful but obedient (B)

Explanation: The people value peace and liberty and are content with a melon as long as they are left alone.