

CHAPTER-6 | Poets and Pancakes

QUIZ-01

1. What was the brand name of the makeup material used in Gemini Studios?

- A. Max Factor B. Lakme
C. Pancake D. StudioGlow (C)

Explanation: Gemini Studios used truck-loads of a makeup product called Pancake, which was a popular brand name.

2. What job did the narrator do at Gemini Studios?

- A. Makeup artist B. Scriptwriter
C. Actor
D. Clipping and filing newspaper articles (D)

Explanation: The narrator was responsible for cutting out newspaper clippings and filing them — a task considered insignificant by others.

3. Why was the office boy in the makeup department frustrated?

- A. He wanted to become a director
B. He was paid less
C. His literary talent was unrecognized
D. He disliked films (C)

Explanation: The office boy felt his poetic talent was being wasted in the makeup department, leading to his frustration.

4. Who was Kothamangalam Subbu in Gemini Studios?

- A. A senior actor B. The legal adviser
C. The No. 2 man with many creative talents
D. The film editor (C)

Explanation: Subbu was a multi-talented man — actor, poet, and writer — and held the position of No. 2 at Gemini Studios.

5. What did the legal adviser famously do that ended an actress's career?

- A. Filed a case against her
B. Rejected her script
C. Played back a recording of her angry outburst
D. Gave her a bad role (C)

Explanation: The legal adviser recorded and replayed an actress's tirade, which embarrassed her so much that her career ended soon after.

6. Why was Gemini Studios considered a place of national integration?

- A. It had branches in every state
B. It was run by the central government
C. The makeup team came from diverse regions of India
D. Its films were made in multiple languages (C)

Explanation: The makeup department included people from various states, symbolizing national integration.

7. What kind of political ideology did most people at Gemini Studios dislike?

- A. Capitalism B. Socialism
C. Fascism D. Communism (D)

Explanation: The staff had vague and hostile notions about communism, associating it with violence and godlessness.

8. What was unusual about the English visitor's interaction at Gemini Studios?

- A. He sang songs during his speech
B. No one understood his accent or message
C. He acted in a Tamil film
D. He danced with the studio staff (B)

Explanation: The English visitor's accent and subject matter left the audience confused and silent, creating an awkward atmosphere.

9. Who was the mysterious English visitor later revealed to be?

- A. William Wordsworth B. Stephen Spender
C. T.S. Eliot D. John Keats (B)

Explanation: The visitor was eventually identified as Stephen Spender, an English poet and editor of The Encounter.

10. What is "The God That Failed" about?

- A. Religious conversions
B. Disillusionment with capitalism
C. Writers' experiences with and rejection of communism
D. The downfall of film studios (C)

Explanation: "The God That Failed" is a book where several writers, including Stephen Spender, wrote about their disillusionment with communism.