

2nd PUC English Workbook Answers Streams Passages for Comprehension

Read the passages given below and answer the questions set on them.



A. PASSAGES

1. Hospitals – then and now

1. What did the ancient Greeks use as a resting place for the sick?

Answer:

The ancient Greeks used the temples of their Gods of healing as resting places for the sick.

2. Why did the Romans realize the need for hospitals?

Answer:

The Romans were always at war and their soldiers needed care and treatment.

3. When did the church hospitals begin?

Answer:

The church hospitals began in the 4th century.

4. Rich citizens in Britain founded hospitals because they

(a) wished to serve the public.

(b) wanted to make money.

(c) wanted business.

Answer:

(a) wished to serve the public.

5. Name the first training college for nurses.

Answer:

St. Thomas's Hospital in England.

6. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words/phrases:

ERA	PLACE FOR THE SICK
_____	Temples of gods of healing
4 th century	_____
17 th century	_____
19 th century	_____

Answer:

ERA	PLACE FOR THE SICK
Ancient	Temples of gods of healing
4 th century	Church hospitals
17 th century	Public hospitals
19 th century	Modern-day hospitals

7. Find synonyms from the passage for the following words:

- a) Understand [para 2]
- b) Established [para 4]
- c) Dispensary [para 8].

Answer:

- (a) – realise;
- (b) – founded;
- (c) – pharmacy.

8. Find antonyms from the passage for the following words:

- (a) Layman [para 5]
- (b) Private [para 7],

Answer:

- (a) – expert;
- (b) – public.

2. The Moth and the Star

Answer the following questions in a phrase or a sentence each.

1. A young and impressionable moth once set his heart on a

- (a) bridge
- (b) star
- (c) tree.

Answer:

- (b) Star.

2. What advice did the mother give the moth?

Answer:

The mother advised the moth to hang around lamps so as to get somewhere instead of setting the heart on a star.



3. What did the moth do every evening?

Answer:

The moth started flying towards the star every evening.

4. How did the moth return home every morning?

Answer:

Every morning the moth returned home worn out (very tired).

5. How far was the star from the earth?

Answer:

The star was four and one-third light years or twenty-five trillion miles away.

6. What did the moth do after leaving his father's house?

Answer:

The moth kept trying to reach the star.

7. What feeling gave the moth a deep and lasting pleasure?

Answer:

The feeling that he had really reached the star gave the moth a deep and lasting pleasure.

8. The idiom "To set one's heart" means

a. desire a thing without joy b. desire a thing with joy c. desire a thing unknowingly

Answer:

(b) desire a thing with joy.

9. Find the antonym for 'Dawn' in the passage.

Answer:

Dusk.

10. Give the noun form of 'deep'.

Answer:

Depth.

3. Mankind is one Family

Answer the following in a word or a sentence each.

1. Why do many millions of people die young?

Answer:

Many millions of people die young because they do not have enough to eat.

2. What kind of people rule the earth?

Answer:

People who are out of touch with the young world rule the earth.

3. What do the rulers think is more important?

Answer:

The rulers think it is more important to make guns and bombs and make people fight with one another.

4. What are the basic things the rulers are supposed to provide to the people?

Answer:

The rulers are supposed to provide the basic things such as food and water, schools and hospitals.

5. A parent should know how to end the sufferings of his children by

a. planning the size of his family b. earning plenty of money c. employing them in some occupation.

Answer:

(a) Planning the size of his family.

6. What should you make plain to the rulers?

Answer:

We should make it plain to the rulers that the division of the world into rich and poor must end.

7. According to the speaker, the many billions spent on armaments must be spent to

a. make guns b. fight with each other c. develop the world

Answer:

(c) develop the world.

8. Add a prefix to the word 'willing' to make its antonym.

Answer:

unwilling.

9. The rulers wish to (possess/possession) bombs and guns.

Answer:

possess.

10. How should mankind be?

Answer:

Mankind should be one family in which each of us has a duty to help others.

The following passages can be used for further reading practice. Students may be encouraged to frame questions on them.

1. Catch the rain where it falls

Answer the following questions in a word, a phrase or a sentence each.

1. What was the rationale behind the construction of tanks by our forefathers?

The rationale behind the construction of tanks was to collect rain water as and when and where it fell.

2. How have these water bodies served us?

These water bodies have served us for water supply, recharging underground water and as habitats for plants, fishes, frogs and birds.

3. The water bodies have been turned into reservoirs of wastes by

a) scientists b) industrialists c) bad planning and management d) municipalities

Answer:

(c) bad planning and management.

4. How are our tanks misused?

Our tanks have been misused by dumping garbage, waste materials, discharge of sewage, effluents and also by draining them for all kinds of constructions.

5. What do you think are the reasons for the fall in the underground water level?

Adequate steps have not been taken to maintain and increase the underground water resources especially rainwater harvesting.

6. The famous Dharmambudhi tank of Bangalore has been drained to make way for

Answer:

the Majestic bus stand.

7. What does a study by the Indian Institute of Science show about the tanks of Bangalore?

40% of the water bodies have been lost in the last 25 years and another 40% polluted by sewage.

8. Where is the Kanteerava stadium built in Bangalore?

The Kanteerava stadium is built where the Sampangi Tank had been.

9. 40% of the tanks in Bangalore have been drained to construct only the commercial complexes. True/False

Answer:

False.

10. Add a prefix to the word 'construction' to make its antonym.

Answer:

Deconstruction.

11. Tanks have been used for discharge of municipal sewage and industrial (effluents/affluents)

Answer:

effluents.

12. Find antonyms from the passage for the following words:

i) demand ii) drop iii) found.

Answer:

i) supply ii) catch iii) lost.

13. Which of the following is not responsible for turning water bodies into reservoirs of waste?

- a) dumping of garbage
- b) dumping of waste construction materials
- c) converting the land into housing sites
- d) discharge of municipal sewage and industrial effluents.

Answer:

c) converting the land into housing sites

2. Alternative fuel

Answer the following questions in a word, a phrase or a sentence each.

1. Environmentalists are against the use of fuels to power vehicles.

Answer:

fossil.

2. What has emerged as an alternative fuel to power vehicles?

Bio-diesel has emerged as an alternative fuel to power vehicles.

3. What is the additional benefit of bio-diesel?

Bio-diesel has the additional benefit of solving disposal problem.

4. What is bio-diesel made of?

Bio-diesel is made of used vegetable oil.

5. What fuel was used to run the Veggie van?

Bio-diesel was used to run the Veggie van.

6. What distance did the Veggie van cover?

The Veggie van covered more than 16000 kms. across the United States.

7. From where was the vegetable oil used to run the Veggie van obtained?

The vegetable oil used to run the Veggie van was obtained from various restaurants in America.

8. How did the experiment of using vegetable oils for running vehicles start?

The experiment of using vegetable oils for running vehicles started as a college project by two students Joshna and Kaia.

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9. What was the result of the college project experiment?

The college project experiment eventually ended in a massive public awareness program.

10. From where did the students get the idea of using vegetable oil as fuel?

The idea of using vegetable oil as fuel first occurred to them when they visited a traditional farm in southern Germany where vehicles fuelled by vegetable oil were in use.

11. From which plant did the farmers in Germany obtain the additive to diesel?

The farmers obtained the additive from the canola plants.

12. What types of vegetable oils can be used as fuel?

Any vegetable oil, such as used cooking oil, methanol or clear alcohol can be used as fuel.

13. Add a prefix to the word 'recognised' to make its antonym.

Answer: Derecognised/unrecognised.

14. Bio-diesel has emerged as an (alternate/akernative) fuel.

Answer:
alternative.

15. What are the advantages of using bio-diesel in diesel engines?

Bio-diesel not only requires zero modifications to the engine, the fuel also works either by itself or blended with petroleum diesel.

16. What is recognised as an official alternative fuel in the U.S.?

Bio-diesel is recognised as an official alternative fuel in the U.S.

17. Find synonyms from the passage for the following words:

i) huge ii) mix iii) innovative.

Answer:

i) massive ii) blend iii) novel.

3. Remembering Gandhi's Simplicity

Answer the following questions in a word, a phrase or a sentence each.

1. Who was Gandhi's secretary?

Answer:
Pyarelal.

2. What is the cause of poverty, according to Gandhiji?

According to Gandhiji, greed is the cause of poverty.

3. How can we realise the 'fewness of things' that we require?

We can realise the 'fewness of things' that we require if we examine our own accumulative instincts.

4. What is the central problem of today's society?

The opposition between need and greed is the central problem of today's society.

5. What is the comment in the movie 'Wall Street' about greed?

Answer:

'Greed is good'.

6. What is the central problem of today's society?

Answer:

Modern consumerist society.

7. What are the different terms used for greed in modern times?

Terms like competition, merit, profit, margins, etc., are some of the terms used for greed in modern times. ^

8. What is the result of our obsession with variety and difference in our personal lives?

Our obsession with variety and difference in our personal lives has led to a situation where we do not like to eat the same food items every day.

9. Our obsession with variety and difference in our (personal/personal) lives has led to a situation where we do not like to eat the same food items every day.

Answer:

personal.

10. Why do we not like to eat the same food items every day?

Because of our obsession with variety and difference in our personal lives, we do not like to eat the same food items every day.

11. Which item does the writer mention as a victim of our obsession for variety?

Idli.

12. What has become passe and boring today?

Selling of just idlis without any variety in it.

13. What are the different forms in which idli is sold at restaurants today?

OR

What forms has idli taken today?

Today, idli is sold at restaurants in such forms as fried idlis, idli Manchurian, idli masala and so on.

14. What reflects our daily desire for variety?

OR

Where is our daily desire for variety reflected?

In the menu cards of restaurants.



15. How can we understand the difference between need and greed?

We can understand the difference between need and greed through the notion of simplicity.

16. One way to understand the (deference/difference) between need and greed is through the notion of simplicity.

Answer:

difference.

17. How did Gandhi embody simplicity?

Gandhi embodied simplicity in many ways such as his dress, his commitment to a few principles such as truth and non-violence, his controlled food habits, his spartan living quarters and his ashrams.

18. Find antonyms from the passage for the following words:

i) accept ii) ancient (iii) complexity.

Answer:

i) reject ii) modern iii) simplicity.

19. Find synonyms from the passage for the following words:

i) modern ii) illustrate iii) intuition.

Answer:

i) contemporary ii) exemplify iii) instinct.