

INDIAN SCHOOL NIZWA
ENGLISH WORKSHEET
LITERATURE

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

CLASS :XI

Answer the following questions in 30- 40 words.

1. How did the narrator's grandfather appear in the portrait?

His grandfather looked very old. He had a long white beard and his clothes were loose fitting. He had a turban and looked too old to have a wife or children. He looked at least a hundred years old. He could have only lots and lots of grandchildren.

2. Everybody including the sparrows mourned grandmother's death. Elaborate.

The old grandmother died peacefully. The members of the author's family mourned her death. Thousands of sparrows came and sat silently in the courtyard and the verandah where grandmother lay dead and wrapped in a red shroud. They took no notice of the bread crumbs thrown to them. They flew away quietly the moment grandmother's corpse was carried off.

3. What do you think induced the boys to return the horse to its owner?

The boys were impressed by John Byro's attitude towards their parents and family. He knew their parents very well and so believed whatever the boys said. Secondly, the fame of their family for honesty was well-known to him. The boys returned the horse to him for the sake of family pride and dignity.

4. What traits of Garoghlanian family are highlighted in this story?

The Garoghlanian family though now poor, were famous for their honesty even when they were wealthy. They were proud of their family first, honest next and after that they believed in right and wrong. None of them would take advantage of anybody in the world. They would not steal. No member of the Garoghlanian family could be a thief.

5. Read the lines given below and answer the following question.

See Betty

And Dolly, "She'd say," and look how they

Dressed up for the beach," "The sea holiday

was her past, mine is her laughter.

i. Who were Betty and Dolly?

a. Betty and Dolly were cousins of poet's mother who had accompanied her for the sea holiday.

ii. How did she react whenever she looked at the snapshot?

a. She felt a pleasure by reviving her past memories.

iii. Explain: "The sea holiday was her past".

a. Since her mother is no more, all these memories are of the past.

INDIAN SCHOOL NIZWA
ENGLISH WORKSHEET
READING PASSAGE

DATE: _____

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Q.2. Read the passage given below:

8 Marks

Residents of the Bhirung Raut Ki Gali, where Ustad Bishmillah Khan was born on March 21, 1916, were in shock. His cousin, 94-year –old Mohd Idrish Khan had tears in his eyes. Shubhan Khan, the care-taker of Bismillah’s land, recalled: “Whenever in Dumaraon, he would give rupees two to the boys and rupees five to the girls of the locality”.

He was very keen to play shehnai again in the local Bihariji’s Temple where he had started playing shehnai with his father, Bachai Khan, at the age of six. His original name was Quamaruddin and became Bishmillah only after he became famous as shehnai player in Varanasi.

His father Bachai Khan was the official shehnai player of Keshav Prasad Singh, the Maharaja of the erstwhile Dumaraon estate. Bismillah used to accompany him. For Bishmillah Khan, the connection to music began at a very early age. By his teens, he had already become a master of the shehnai. On the day India gained freedom, Bismillah Khan, then a sprightly 31 year-old, had the rare honour of playing from Red Fort.

But Bishmillah Khan won’t just be remembered for elevating the shehnai from an instrument heard only in weddings and naubatkhana to one that was appreciated in concert halls across the world. His life was a testimony to the plurality that is India. A Practicing Muslim, he would take a daily dip in the Ganga in his younger days after a bout of Kasti in Benia Baga Akhada. Every morning, Bishmillah Khan would do riyaz at the Balaji temple on the banks of the river. Even during his final hours in a Varanasi hospital, music didn’t desert Bishmillah Khan. A few hours before he passed away early on Monday, the shehnai wizard hummed a thumri to show that he was feeling better. This was typical of a man for whom life revolved around music.

Throughout his life he abided by the principle that all religions are one. What marked Bishmillah Khan was his simplicity and disregard for the riches that come with musical fame. Till the very end, he used a cycle rickshaw to travel around Varanasi. But the pressure of providing for some 60 family members took its toll during his later years.

2.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes using heading and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations where necessary.

2.2 Make a summary a summary of the above passage in not more than 80 words using the notes made and also suggest a suitable title.