

3. The Model Millionaire

(a) Text-based Multiple Choice Questions

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| (i) (b) | (ii) (c) | (iii) (b) | (iv) (c) | (v) (b) |
| (vi) (b) | (vii) (c) | (viii) (b) | (ix) (b) | (x) (b) |

(b) Comprehension Passages

PASSAGE 1

- (i) 'He' referred to in the first line is the protagonist of the story i.e., Hughie Erskine. He was handsome with brown hair, clear cut profile and grey eyes.

- (ii) 'He' i.e. Hughie Erskine had various accomplishments to his credit. However, he lacked the quality of making money although he tried various businesses.
- (iii) Hughie's father had bequeathed him his cavalry sword and a History of the Peninsular War in fifteen volumes.
- (iv) Hughie had failed in all the ventures he had undertaken in order to sustain his life. The only means of sustenance now was 200 pounds allowed by an aunt.
- (v) 'He' is compared with a butterfly which is charming but a delicate insect. The comparison fits Hughie Erskine's personality. People talk about bulls and bears on the stock exchange indicating rise and fall of prices of different stocks.

PASSAGE 2

- (i) 'He' was good-looking with crisp brown hair, clear cut profile and grey eyes. In short he was a fascinating man who never said a bad thing to anybody.
- (ii) While in India, the colonel had lost his temper and his digestion and never recovered from either of them.
- (iii) Laura's father, a colonel desired that Hughie must have ten thousand pounds with him before thinking of his engagement with Laura. This was the hindrance.
- (iv) The colonel was extremely fond of Hughie. Still he did not allow him to marry his daughter because he was not satisfactorily settled in life.
- (v) The sentence : "and he was ready to kiss her shoe-strings" shows that 'he' was madly in love with Laura.

PASSAGE 3

- (i) 'he' referred to in the first line is the beggar-man whose painting Alan Trevor was making. He looked a strange fellow with a spotted face and a red ragged beard.
- (ii) 'he' dressed a rich man, Baron Hausberg, in such a manner that he looked like a perfect beggar. Moreover, the painting prepared by Hughie perfectly matched beggar's condition. It proved that whenever he took up the brush, he was a real master in his art.
- (iii) Hughie believed that a painter should know the people who are beautiful, are an artistic pleasure to look at and an intellectual repose to talk to.
- (iv) 'His' opinion about the beautiful people was that they should be people like Baron Hausberg who are ready to shed their ego and present themselves even as beggars to be represented in a painting.
- (v) According to him, people of fine, refined tastes and women who are appreciated by one and all are the ones who really rule the world.

PASSAGE 4

- (i) Hughie feels that a model too shows patience and suffers pain in the same way as the creator of a painting does. Thus he should have a percentage in its sale.

- (ii) A model has to sit or stand casually without bothering about the surroundings. On the other hand, a painter cannot create anything unique if he does not fully concentrate. So his work is more difficult than that of a model.
- (iii) The line brings forth a significant meaning. It means Art cannot attain glorious heights unless an artist puts his heart and soul into the creation of a work.
- (iv) A servant enters the studio. He has arrived to convey an important message to Alan Trevor that the frame maker wants to speak to him.
- (v) When Alan goes out, the beggar-man feels relieved. He feels tired as he has been standing in the same pose for a long time. So he occupies a wooden bench behind to take rest for some time.

PASSAGE 5

- (i) Hughie Erskine was moved by the old beggar-man's misery. He handed over a sovereign to him. The old man was taken a back and a smile spread across his dry lips.
- (ii) Hughie had done a great and noble act of human kindness and charity by giving a sovereign to Trevor's poor model. So when he left, he blushed a little at what he had done.
- (iii) Hughie narrated the incident to Laura how he had helped his friend's poor beggar-model. Laura was impressed by his noble gesture. However, she scolded him for his extravagance. The scolding was charming indeed as it came from his beloved Laura.
- (iv) Hughie had done an act of extreme human kindness by giving a gold coin to the poor beggar-model. Consequently, he was left with very little money and now, he could not afford a carriage. So he 'had to walk home'.
- (v) When Hughie met Alan at night at Palette Club, he wanted to know if he had finished his painting satisfactorily. That was the information Hughie wanted to have from Alan.

PASSAGE 6

- (i) The word 'him' used in the first line is for the model, Baron Hausberg. Hughie expects him to be at his home when he returns.
- (ii) Hughie had lots of old clothes at home and they were not of much use to him now. He intended to give those to the poor beggar-model as he was dressed in nothing but rags.
- (iii) When Hughie expressed his desire to donate his old clothes to Trevor's poor model, the latter replied that the poor man looked splendid in rags. Trevor is appreciating his model because he looked a model of perfect beggar.
- (iv) Hughie informed Trevor that lots of his old unused clothes were lying at his home. Now, in a further gesture large heartedness, he wanted to offer those clothes to the poor man. This was the offer.
- (v) The rags worn by Trevor's model showed his poverty which melted Hughie's heart. However what looked poverty to Hughie, seemed a fascinating spectacle to Trevor because that gave him the look of a perfect beggar model.

PASSAGE 7

- (i) Hughie is under the impression that Trevor's old, beggar model is extremely poor. Hughie stuns him by conveying the information that the old man is one of the wealthiest men in Europe.
- (ii) Alan informs Hughie that the old man is in reality very affluent. He can buy all London. He has a house in every capital, dines in gold plates and can prevent Russia going to war. This is his financial prowess.
- (iii) Baron Hausberg is Alan's great friend because he buys all the paintings prepared by Alan and thus saves him from any kind of financial crisis.
- (iv) Baron Hausberg expressed his desire to be painted as a poor, wretched beggar. That was the work Baron Hausberg assigned to Alan Trevor.
- (v) The rags worn by the 'old beggar' did not belong to him. Infact that was an old suit which Trevor had bought while he was in Spain.