

## 5. The Power of Music

### 1. Text-based Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

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|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. <i>d</i>  | 2. <i>a</i>  | 3. <i>c</i>  | 4. <i>b</i>  | 5. <i>b</i>  |
| 6. <i>b</i>  | 7. <i>b</i>  | 8. <i>c</i>  | 9. <i>a</i>  | 10. <i>b</i> |
| 11. <i>b</i> | 12. <i>a</i> | 13. <i>c</i> | 14. <i>b</i> | 15. <i>b</i> |

### 2. Comprehension Passages

#### PASSAGE-1

- (i) Bhisma Lochan Sharma is a singer. His songs are unpleasant and irritating.
- (ii) The poet in lines 3-4 uses hyperbole and says that the songs of Bhisma Lochan Sharma can be heard from Delhi to Goa. Its purpose is to amuse the readers and also to indicate how the songs of this person spread far and wide.
- (iii) Bhisma is a stubborn and irritating person.
- (iv) People are adversely affected by his songs. They feel dazed and have turned pale.
- (v) They plead him to stop singing. No, he does not listen to them because he is stubborn and is fully involved in his singing.

### PASSAGE-2

- (i) People are confounded by the shrill and unpleasant song of Bhisma Lochan Sharma.
- (ii) They plead to Bhisma to stop singing as his song is causing much trouble to them.
- (iii) Bhisma's music has turned them sick. They feel dazed and confounded.
- (iv) They want Bhisma to stop singing immediately.
- (v) Besides humans the others affected by Bhisma's singing are animals, fish and birds. Their behaviour has undergone a change because of Bhisma's singing.

### PASSAGE-3

- (i) People are dazed by Bhisma's singing. They feel sick and confounded because of his songs.
- (ii) The bullock-carts are turned upside down. The horses line up the roadside in surprise.
- (iii) The 'wretched brutes' are the animals affected by the song of Bhisma Sharma. They behave abnormally because of the impact of the singing by Bhisma.
- (iv) The last two lines present an amusing scene created because of the impact of Bhisma's singing on the animals. The horses whine and look confounded. Their feet are turned upwards in air and they look wonderstruck.
- (v) The fishes are so affected by Bhisma's singing that they dived into the deep waters of the lake in search for silence.

### PASSAGE-4

- (i) The exaggerated situations depicted by the poet are of the animals turning their feet upwards in air, fishes diving into the lake in search for silence. They create a comic and amusing effect.
- (ii) The fishes dive below the lake in search for silence as the singing of Bhisma has troubled them also.
- (iii) The trees fall down on the ground or shake violently because of the effect of the unpleasant singing by Bhisma Lochan Sharma.
- (iv) It is something amusing that the birds turn turtle in the air while flying. It happens because of the irritating singing of Bhisma.
- (v) The most absurd situation depicted in the poem is that of the horses whining with their feet turned upwards in the air. The cart they are yoked to is also upside down.

### **PASSAGE-5**

- (i) The word 'we' here refers to the people who are forced to hear Bhisma's singing. They have to plead Bhisma to stop singing as his singing is unmusical, irritating and unpleasant.
- (ii) People in general and the sick people in particular are badly affected by his singing. Even the sky seems to be weeping due to the screeching sound of his songs.
- (iii) The 'sky' has been personified in this extract. It has been done to show how adversely the shrill sound of the songs have spread and created an amusing effect.
- (iv) We feel amused and happy on reading about the way unpleasant songs of the singer have affected humans and animals.
- (v) A billy goat stops Bhisma from singing by producing an equally discordant sound and hitting Bhisma Lochan Sharma with its strong horns.

### **PASSAGE-6**

- (i) The people suffering due to the screeching and shrill singing of Bhisma try to make him stop singing. But they do not succeed. They are unhappy as Bhisma does not relent and continues troubling them with his unpleasant singing.
- (ii) The billy goat is presented here like a welcome power that forcibly stops Bhisma's irritating and shrill singing. The goat has been called 'sagacious'.
- (iii) The goat hit the singer with his strong horns and brutal force. The result of this hitting was that Bhisma Lochan's singing stopped altogether.
- (iv) The golden gift of silence here implies release from Bhisma's singing that was causing havoc to the people. The silence here is highly valuable for the poor victims of Bhisma's incessant singing.
- (v) Bellow answering bellow means that the goat responded to Bhisma's loud singing by producing equally raucous and loud sound.