

5. The Boy Who Broke the Bank

(a) Text-based Multiple Choice Questions

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

(b) Comprehension Passages

PASSAGE 1

- (i) Nathu is a sweeper boy who works in Pipalnagar bank. He was grumbling because he had not been paid his regular salary although it was twentieth of the month.
- (ii) No, the dust did not disappear. After rising in a cloud above Nathu's head, it settled down again on the steps.
- (iii) As Nathu was banging the pan against the dustbin, Sitaram the washerman's son happened to come. Sitaram was going to deliver the freshly pressed clothes to the owners in their houses.
- (iv) Sitaram who passed by asked Nathu if he was still annoyed because the bank people were still refusing to pay him an increment of two rupees a month. Nathu was asking for it since long.
- (v) Nathu is very much upset. He was asking for an increment of two rupees a month but he had not been given his regular salary only though it was 20th of the month. He was thinking of leaving the job of the bank.

PASSAGE 2

- (i) Nathu had told Sitaram that he had not received his regular pay though it was 20th of the month and he was thinking of leaving the job.

- (ii) Before leaving Sitaram assured Nathu that he would keep a lookout for any job that might suit him. Since Nathu had casually talked about leaving the job, he forgot about it easily.
- (iii) Mrs Srivastava is referred to as the lady of the house. Sitaram had heard by chance that Mrs Srivastava was in need of a sweeper. At once he said that he knew of a sweeper boy who was looking for work.
- (iv) Sitaram told Mrs Srivastava that he knew of a sweeper boy who was looking for a job. He also told her that the sweeper boy could start from the next month. At present he was working with the bank but they were not giving him salary so he wanted to leave.
- (v) Mrs Srivastava was very happy to receive this information. She asked Sitaram to tell the sweeper boy to meet her next day.

PASSAGE 3

- (i) 'She' referred to in the first line is Mrs Bhushan, a friend of Mrs Srivastava. She showed Mrs Srivastava a sample of the cloth she was going to buy.
- (ii) Mrs Srivastava told her that Seth Govind Ram's bank was in a bad way. The bank employees were not being paid their regular salaries.
- (iii) The sweeper boy referred to here is Nathu. His complaint was that he had not been given his regular pay although it was 20th of the month.
- (iv) Mrs Bhushan was shocked to receive this information. She concluded from this that if the bank could not pay the sweeper his salary, it must be in a bad way. None of the other employees would be getting their pay.
- (v) It appears that Mrs Bhushan is a non-serious talkative woman who cannot digest anything. She is a rumour monger. As soon as she receives this information she tells her husband that Pipalnagar bank is about to go bankrupt.

PASSAGE 4

- (i) Mrs Bhushan finally found her husband sitting in front of Kamal Kishore's photographic shop. He was talking with Kamal Kishore.
- (ii) Mr Bhushan had not been able to find his wife because she was in the habit of going from one shop to another. She never remained stationary in one shop.
- (iii) Mrs Bhushan told her husband that Pipalnagar bank was about to go bankrupt. She had learnt it from Mrs Srivastava that one of the employees was not paid his salary. From this she had concluded that the bank was about to fail.
- (iv) On receiving this information Kamal Kishore called out to barber Deep Chand who was his friend. He passed on this information to his friend because he had an account in the bank. Kamal wanted that his friend should be on his guard.
- (v) No, Kamal Kishore did not have an account in the bank. Immediately, he passed on this information to his barber friend Deep Chand because he had account in Pipalnagar bank.

PASSAGE 5

- (i) Kamal Kishore's neighbour referred to here is Deep Chand, the barber. By profession Deep Chand is a barber.
- (ii) When Deep Chand received the latest news about the bank, he was cutting the hair of an elderly gentleman. He was so startled that his hand shook. As a result of it he nipped his customer's right ear.
- (iii) When the elderly customer's ear was nipped he cried with pain and distress. He was pained because of the cut and distressed because he had heard the awful news. He ran across the road to the general merchant's shop to enquire on telephone if the news was true.
- (iv) In this shop the elderly man dialled Seth Govind Ram. The Seth was not at home, he was in Kashmir. He concluded that the Seth had run away.
- (v) Actually, Seth Govind Ram was in Kashmir enjoying a holiday. He knew nothing about what had happened in Pipalnagar.

PASSAGE 6

- (i) There had never been floods, earthquakes or drought in Pipalnagar. This shows that life in this village had been smooth.
- (ii) Some people boasted of their farsightedness saying that they had already taken their money out of the bank. Some others boasted of their wisdom saying that they never put their money in the bank.
- (iii) According to the people the bank had collapsed due to the excesses indulged in by Seth Govind Ram.
- (iv) We feel that the people of Pipalnagar are illiterate rumour mongers. In the absence of truth, they resort to different kinds of conjectures.
- (v) People who had taken out their money and those who had never put their money in the bank were feeling happy at the collapse of the bank.

PASSAGE 7

- (i) The word 'it' stands for the 'money' which people had put in the bank. The panic-stricken customers thought that if they did not get their money back now, they would never get it.
- (ii) Some angry customer or mischief monger would have thrown the brick that broke the window pane.
- (iii) Nathu felt disgusted when he saw the refuse and the piece of glass and stones on the steps of the bank. He raised his hands in horror as he had to clean it.
- (iv) He is feeling so upset because it is his duty to clean the refuse and the steps of the bank. He is sad because it has increased his work.
- (v) Soon after Sitaram came and talked to Nathu. He asked Nathu if he was ready to take up a new job from the first of the next month.