

GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE, PRAYAGRAJ,

SESSION: 2020-2021

CLASS: 10 A, B, C, D, E & F

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LITERATURE WORKSHEET 4

INSTRUCTIONS: Parents are requested to ensure that the student spends 2 days to read the lesson and find the meanings of the hard words and lines given in the story and thereafter answer the questions.

BOOK: Treasure Trove – A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories.

WORKBOOKS: Treasure Trove; A Collection of ICSE Stories by Selina **OR** by Xavier Pinto.

WEBSITES: www.englishicse.com

www.litbug.com

www.topperlearning.com

LESSON: The Blue Bead by Norah Burke.

Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow;

Q1. The muggier crocodile, blackish brown above and yellowy white under, lay motionless, able to wait forever till food came. This antediluvian saurian – this prehistoric juggernaut, ferocious and formidable, a vast force in the water, propelled by the unimaginable and irresistible power of the huge tail, lay lapped by ripples, a throb in his throat. His mouth, running almost the whole length of his head, was closed and fixed in that evil bony smile, and where the yellow underside came up to it, it was tinged with green.

- a) Describe the crocodile in your own words.
- b) Give the meaning of
 - 1) Antediluvian saurian
 - 2) Prehistoric juggernaut
- c) How can you conclude that the crocodile was a strong and dangerous animal?
- d) What function does the crocodile serve in the story?
- e) Does the description of the crocodile make the story interesting? How?

Q2. It was not a gem, though it was sand-worn glass that had been rolling about in the river for a long time. By chance, it was perforated right through the neck of a bottle perhaps? – a blue bead.

In the shrill noisy village above the ford, out of a mud house the same color as the ground came a little girl, a thin starveling child dressed in an earth-coloured rag.

- a) From where did the little girl come?
- b) How was she dressed?
- c) What had the girl been eating?

- d) Why was the little girl known as *a child woman and born to toil*?
- e) Describe the physical appearance of the girl.

Q3. She knew what finery was, though she had been with her parents and brothers all through the jungle to the little town at the rail head where there was this bazaar. And she had walked through all the milling people, and the dogs and monkeys full of fleas, the idling gossiping bargaining humanity spitting betel juice, heard the bell of a sacred bull clonking as he lumped along through the dust and hubbub.

- a) Who is 'she' in the extract?
- b) Where was the bazaar?
- c) What did she hear while passing through the bazaar?
- d) What did she see at the cloth stall?
- e) Why does the author describe this scene in such detail?

Q4. At the same moment a Gujar woman came down with two gurrachs to the water on the other side. In order to get the good clear water, which would quickly fill both gurrachs to the top without sand, she walked on to the stepping stones. She was within a yard of the crocodile when he lunged at her.

- a) Who are Gujars, why did the Gujar woman come to the river?
- b) Which crocodile is referred to here?
- c) How did the crocodile attack this Gujar woman?
- d) How did the woman struggle against the crocodile?
- e) Who came to the rescue of the Gujar woman?

Q5. Sibia got her arms round the fainting woman, and somehow dragged her from the water. She stopped her wounds with sand, and bound them with rag and helped her home to the Gujar encampment where the men made a litter to carry her to someone for treatment. Then Sibia went back for her grass and sickle and fork.

- a) Why was the woman fainting?
- b) Why was there need to drag the woman out of the water?
- c) What is a litter? How was it used?
- d) What did Sibia find when she went back to the river to get her sickle and fork?
- e) What was her reaction after getting that thing?

THE END
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