

CLASS – 9
SUBJECT – ENGLISH 2ND TERM 2020

CHAPTER – 5
TOASTED ENGLISH

ANSWER KEYS

COMPREHENSION

I. READ AND WRITE

1. According to the author R.K. Narayan, 'toasted English' refers to English muffins which, though being made in America, now retain 'English' as a sort of concession to their origin.
2. The result of 'toasting' of English in America has led to the abandonment of formalism surrounding the use of the English language.
3. The Americans prefer using shorter sentences which are to the point, leaving no room for ambiguity. They have freed the language from the stifling tyranny of the passive voice. Some examples of this are, instead of using passive voice on signboards, direct instructions are given like 'Don't enter', 'Newly painted', 'Don't walk', etc.
4. By 'the American National Expression' the author means the evolvement of certain basic keywords which may be used anywhere, anyhow and these words have universal and multiple meanings. For instance, the word 'check' may be safely called the American National Expression because this word is so devised that one may blindly utter it and still find that it is appropriate for the occasion.
5. The author approves simplified instructions that the Americans use, especially for signboards in public places and for motorists like the word 'go' as they can be easily followed without peering out and studying the notice. He, however, disapproves the way the American English disrespects the rule of law and the dignity of grammar.
6. According to the author, the mongrelisation of English can be prevented by respecting the rule of law and maintaining the dignity of grammar. The language must adopt the complexion of our life and assimilate its idioms.
7. The author R.K. Narayan visualizes that Bharat English would respect the rule of law and maintain the dignity of grammar. He said that the Bharat brand of English would have to come to the dusty street, to the market place, under the banyan tree and have Swadeshi stamp about it unmistakably, like the Madras handloom check shirt or the Tirupati doll.

II. Think and Write

1. The humour in the essay is appreciative. The author quite skilfully made his points clear to the readers in an amusing narrative that would have been otherwise a completely opposite case. Several examples can be cited to show the humour in the piece like Narayan referring to the American version of the English as 'toasted' English. His exaggeration that one can safely say 'check' in any situation and labelling it as American National Expression brings out the essence of humour in the essay.
2. Yes, we need a Bharat brand of English in India. So far English has a comparatively confined existence in the country – chiefly in the halls of learning, justice or administration. Now it is

high time for it to come to the dusty street, to the market place, under the banyan tree.
English must adopt the complexion of our life and assimilate its idiom.

3. Some of the Indian words that have been incorporated into English dictionary are –
- i) Guru
 - ii) Bandana
 - iii) Chutney
 - iv) Curry
 - v) Bhagwan
 - vi) Bhajan

CHAPTER – 6

MIRROR

COMPREHENSION

1. The mother does not like when people say that her daughter looks like her.
2. The mother felt that her daughter was just a nebulous wish, a tangible hope, and a palpable joy before the before the birth of her daughter.
3. The mother seemed to be disappointed. Her previous hopes and imaginations about her daughter which did not come true appeared to have been given way to dissatisfaction over the years.
4. The poet did not turn out to be like how her mother wanted her to be. Though the mother had her own hopes and desires before the birth of the poet, after her birth, the mother must have caused disappointments over the years for the mother.
5. Words/phrases that reflect this are:
“I do not think this pleases her
It cannot please her
I do not blame her
But we’ve learnt, she and I
To live in our own mirror”.

APRECIATION

1. The poet in the poem has resigned to her fate. She is in despair and dissatisfied with herself. She has not lived up to her mother’s expectations and dreams which are visible in her words and behaviour.
2. a) They have learnt to respect each other’s personality traits and live in harmony.
b) Before the birth of the poet she was just a wish and a hope inside her mother’s womb.
c) The mother nurtured the poet to be like herself before and after her birth. She has now become the mirror image of her mother.
3. The poet calls the child that was inside the mother’s womb ‘the phantom child’. She called her so because while she was still unborn, but her mother had many expectations from her which she could not fulfil and she feels constantly compared to the child she was in the hopes of her mother before her birth – the child she could not become.
4. The child of the mother’s dreams and the reality are different. It is so because in the poem, the mother wanted the child to be all that she has wished and hoped for but she realised

after her birth that she turns out to be contradictory to her dreams and felt disappointed in her. She constantly compared her daughter with the daughter she wanted to have. She tried to stamp herself on her daughter but it did not make the poet anything like her mother's dreams.

5. Before the birth of the daughter, the mother had dreamt of an ideal daughter who would never fail and would always be successful but after birth she found that she was not that ideal child. She was just a normal child who sometimes makes mistakes like any other children. This irritated her mother who keeps on questioning her daughter's abilities.

7. a) i. The poet looks a lot like her mother.
 - ii. She resembles her mother because her mother because her mother has invested a lot of time and effort before and after her birth.
 - iii. Nebulous wish, daydream, tangible hope, palpable joy.
 - iv. The poet seems to be angry and frustrated because she did not turn out to be like the way her mother wanted.

- b) i. The phantom child refers to the poet herself when she was mother's womb.
 - ii. The mother seems disappointed with her daughter and expresses her dissatisfaction on her by constantly comparing her with the phantom child that she once wanted her daughter to be, when she was still in her womb.
 - iii. The daughter feels frustrated, angry and hopeless.
 - iv. The little enemy is the version of the poet herself in accordance to her mother's dreams that she couldn't become.

- c) i. The poet essentially looks like her mother. The words that describe this are: "So you see, I look a lot like my mother. She's stamped herself soul-deep in me."
 - ii. The poet views these resemblances as traits inherited from her mother.
 - iii. The poet says that the way she resembles her mother, her daughter in the future will also resemble her.
 - iv. The poem is about the hopes and expectations of a mother for her unborn child and how reality can be often in contrast with the hopes and often people fail to move away from away from the disappointments. People get bitter when reality confronts, like the case of the poet's mother, and fails to see other aspects and silver linings. It is also about how we being imperfect want others to be perfect.

CHAPTER – 7

A SIMPLE PHILOSOPHY

Read and Write

1. Chief Seathl accepted the white man's offer because he knew that if he would not accept the offer, they would march into their lands and occupy it by force.

2. Chief Seathl means that there is no quiet place in the cities. He is always disturbed due to constant rustling and bustling of the urban life.

3. The chief says this in the context of the interrelationship of nature and mankind. He feels that everything in nature is connected to mankind and they co-exist and so if one suffers, other is bound to suffer.

4. The author wants the white man to teach his children to love and respect their land and to treat their land like their brothers and sisters. He asks him to teach his children what they have taught their children that the earth is their mother. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. If men spit upon the earth they spit upon the graves of their forefathers.

5. The author holds the land where they live as sacred to his tribe. The woods, the water in the rivers, the beasts which speak of events and memories in their life are sacred.

6. According to the author, man's relation to his environment is sacred. He and everything on earth are part of the earth are like brothers and sisters and are entwined like a family. All creatures give and take from each other and as such, all are bound to each other. If anything happens to any of the creatures, it affects humans too.

7. The red man has always retreated before the advancing white man because he does not want to oppose the arrogance and ignorance of the white man who thinks he owns everything.

The red man is submissive to the cruelty of the white man whose encroachment of their native land has become frequent for his own interest. This occurrence gives the impression that the tribal people are dominated by the white people. They are exploited and are given no voice to stand for their rights.

8. The author does not believe in the concept of ownership. He finds the idea strange and it is something he has never heard before. According to him, there is nothing that should be owned. Everything is meant for all equally and the way man has started owning things for his selfish interest should be abolished.

9. 'every part of the earth is sacred to my people', 'this portion of the earth is consecrated to us', 'mother', 'holy', are some words and phrases that convey that the value of land cannot be measured.

10. These words, though written more than a century ago, are as much relevant today as they were a century ago. Just like the white man did in the past, men today continue to fight for resources to fulfil their greed of having more power and riches and men does not care about the lives of other fellow human beings and his environment as long as his greed is satisfied. This greed has led him to disputes and wars, bloodshed and death and this has been repeated over and over.

Think and Write

1. In 'A Simple Philosophy', Chief Seathl's belief regarding the ownership of land is that one cannot buy or sell land. The idea of buying and selling of land is a strange thing to him. He believes that they are part of the earth and they belong to earth and the earth doesn't belong to them. For the tribe, the land, the water, the air, the dark woods, everything is sacred to them and are part of their family and so when the white man wishes to buy their land, he asks much of them and so it would not be easy for them to give up everything.

CHAPTER - 8
THE ECHOING GREEN

Comprehension

1. It means that the children are happy due to good bright weather. The word happy is used to describe the sky is because of the clear bright sky.
2. Happy, merry, Sing, welcome, Cheerful, Sound.
3. Old John maybe a real person or a symbol representing old age, memories and nostalgia.
4. The old folks are sitting beneath the shade of an oak tree watching the children playing on the green field and they laugh seeing children playing and those remind them of their own childhood days.
5. The little ones are getting ready to go to bed to rest since they are tired after playing for all these times like the birds return to their nests when they are tired at the sunset.
6. The first part of the poem Echoing Green by William Blake expresses a brighter time where the children are full of energy, enjoying the best part of their lives and the weather is as perfect as it can be. Altogether it pictures a happy scene. It symbolises the youthful days.

In the second part, however, the bright day comes to an end, marking the approach of a gloomy time where the children are now tired and want to go to their houses. The best of the time has gone. It symbolises the conclusion of the youthful days.

7. Old age and youth are being compared to the morning and the evening of the day in this poem.

In the poem Echoing Green by William Blake, the youth is compared to the bright and comfortable morning of the day as, like the morning, youth is also the start of the long journey and it is a time of activities and energy. He compared the old age to the dark evening as, like the evening, old age is also the end of the journey and people are no longer full of energy but are tired.

8. Yes, the word 'echo' resonates with the mood of scene.
The word 'echo' perfectly captures the essence of the scene as watching the children at play, Old John and the folks under the Oak Tree gets nostalgic and start to think about their own childhood. They start reminiscing the stories of their own youths.

Appreciation

1. The poem Echoing Green by William Blake is about the different contrasting phases of life that a person must experience one at a time. This is beautifully represented in the poem through the picture of a village field where both young and old people gather to play and talk and reminisce.
3. The rising sun symbolizes childhood or youth when everyone is happy and joyful. Sports represent activities that dominate the youthful days. The descent the inevitable conclusion of life and old age
4. I think it is repeated twice to emphasize the never ending cycle of the same phases of life through the lives of different people at different points of time. It was repeated to show that whatever was happening, had already happened before, and would be happening again.
5. Blake started the poem with the mention of the rising sun, to denote the beginning of day, or metaphorically, the beginning of life. The rising sun symbolizes childhood or youth, a time when everyone is happy and joyful. Even the nature and creatures of it appear to align with the merry mindedness of the phase of life while sports and activities dominate the phase. With the advent of twilight and darkness at the end of the day, Blake pictured the gloomy end of the day or life, when people are tired and old and all they want is to go back home and fall asleep.

Read the lines from the poem and answer the questions that follow.

1. a) This is the time of spring.
b) It is the morning time.
c) The two happy sounds are the sounds of the singing birds and the ringing bells of the churches.
d) The rhyme scheme is aa, bb, cc.
2. a) Old John along with other folks is sitting beneath the shade of an Oak tree.
b) He is watching the children playing.
c) He is reminded of his childhood days.
d) The tone/mood in these lines indicate joy.
3. a) The children are tired and so they run to their mothers and fall to sleep on their laps.
b) It is the evening time.
c) The mood has changed to weariness or tiredness.
d) It refers to the old age.

CHAPTER - 9

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Comprehension

Read and Write

1. Ebenezer Scrooge was a selfish person who lacked a generous spirit despite having great wealth. He was insensitive to the feelings of others and believed that through wealth happiness and comforts could be attained. He felt that Christmas was just a farce to ask for a donation in the name of helping the poor and needy. According to him the poor and the idle had no reason to be merry. He also felt that holidays were a waste of working hours and people should work instead on those days and acquire wealth and money and thereby become rich and prosperous.
2. Scrooge didn't respond kindly to his nephew's cheerful greetings and to him Christmas was just humbug. He told his nephew that he had no reason to be happy or cheerful since his salary was small and with that, he had to maintain his family. He didn't have surplus money to spend on the festivity. Scrooge was also rude to the two men who had come for the donation saying it was an excuse to rob the rich man. He sent them away without offering any money. He further cautioned his clerk that while he was taking a day off, he must be early in the office on the following day.
6. In the story 'A Christmas Carol', after the visitations of the three ghosts, Scrooge realized that he had been mean and selfish in his conduct. He had valued money over people and relationship and so, he lost all those who were close to him due to avarice and selfishness.

When he realized the money wasn't the most important thing in life but people are, he decided to be a different person than he used to. He gave a generous amount of money as donations to the less-fortunate, took interest in others and started to interact with the children. He took part in the celebration of Christmas at his nephew's house and even raised his clerk's salary besides promising him to assist his struggling family.

Think and Write

1. He became sympathetic and started to understand the pain and suffering of the needy. He no longer believed Christmas to be humbug but a time to make merry in the midst of people one loves. He realised that happiness, contentment, and joy are

derived from doing good and being good to others. He became a changed man, realizing the mistakes he committed in the past being a rude and miser man and grew to be a kind-hearted, benevolent person after the experiences with the ghosts. He started to honour Christmas in his heart.

2. In the story 'A Christmas Carol', I think Scrooge was at his worst when he refused to donate something for the poor and the destitute when the two men came to his office for donations.

I find him at his best when he recognised the gentleman in the street and promised him to donate so handsomely that he found it hard to believe.

3. The sight of the gravestone on which his name was written that the ghost of the futures showed him affected Scrooge the most.

I think so because he cried out as soon as he read the name and could not keep himself together like the other times. A lifetime of regret engulfed him at a moment and he lamented that he wasn't the man he had become. He admitted that he would not be the man he must have been but for this. He promised to honour Christmas in his heart and he kept his promise.

4. Unlike Scrooge in the story A Christmas Carol, if I were a business owner, I would have made sure foremost that the employees are paid fair enough. I would try to keep their aspirations and happiness in mind and provide enough holydays. I would also try to give them enough breaks during the working hours so that they don't feel monotonous and come to despise the work. I would have also looked after their medical and other needs as far as possible. I would have made them feel like a family to me.

