

1-5. Read the extract from 'Adventures in a Banyan Tree', and answer the questions. (5 x 1=5)

In the spring when the banyan tree was full of small red figs, birds of all kinds would flock into its branches, the red-bottomed bulbul, cheerful and greedy; gossiping rosy pastors, and parrots and crows, squabbling with each other all the time. During the fig season the banyan tree was the noisiest place on the road)

Halfway up the tree I had built a small platform on which I would often spend the afternoons when it wasn't too hot. I could read there, propping myself up against the bole of the tree with cushions taken from the drawing room. 'Treasure Island', 'Huckleberry Finn', 'The Mowgli Stories', and the Novels of Edgar Rice Burroughs and Louisa May Alcott made up my bag of very mixed reading.

1. When would birds flock into the branches of the banyan tree?
2. A word in the passage means 'noisy quarrel'. Identify the word.
3. What did the boy do while sitting on the platform on the banyan tree?
4. How did the banyan tree become the noisiest place?
5. The banyan tree was the noisiest place on the road. (Pick out the Noun Phrase in the subject position)

6-10. Read the lines from the poem 'Blowing in the wind' and answer the questions. (1x4=4)

How many roads must a man walk down  
Before you call him a man?  
How many seas must a white dove sail  
Before she sleeps in the sand?  
Yes, and how many times must the cannon balls fly  
Before they are forever banned?

6. What does the word 'roads' refer to?
7. Why does the poet say that the answer is blowing in the wind?
8. Which line symbolises 'peace'?
9. Find an instance of alliteration from the stanza.

10. Prepare a note of appreciation from the poem 'Lines Written in Early Spring' and write an appreciation focusing on the theme, imagery and poetic devices. (1x5=5)

11-15 Read the headlines given below and answer the questions :- (5x1=5)

- a. 40 kg plastic found in dead whale's belly
- b. Car makers announce price hike
- c. Government provides home-based dialysis service to patients
- d. Rain brings down voter turnout in by-election
- e. Online portal introduced for school kalolsavam
- f. India's first private train 'Tejas Express'- passengers get delay compensation.

11. Which headline is related to election?
12. What will cheer the regular train commuters?
13. How does the government help the kidney patients?
14. Which headline rings an alarm bell for environmentalists?
15. The headline that is related to automobile industry is.....

16. Satyajith Ray took pains to shoot the scene with the tiger for his film 'Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne'. Prepare a **Write-up** describing the difficulties Ray experienced in shooting the scene .(7)

17. Prepare a profile of Vaikom Muhammad Basheer, using the hints given. (5)

Born : 21 January 1908, Thalayolaparambu  
Known as : Beypore Sultan  
Spouse : Fabi Basheer  
Notable works : 'Balyakalaskhi', 'Shabdangal', 'Pathummayude Aadu'  
Awards : Padma Shri, Vallathol Award, Muttathu Varkey Award  
Death : 1994

18. Complete the conversation:- (1x5=5)

Zahra : Ali ,How can i go to school without shoes ?

Ali : .....(a).....

Zahra : But you don't have another pair , .....(b).....?

Ali : Don't worry. After you return from school , I will use them.

Zahra : That's impossible ! If I reached late,.....(c).....

Ali : I won't be late to my school. I.....(d).....

Zara : You can't run everyday.

Ali : I would rather.....(e).....

31. Complete the following passage choosing the right phrases given in brackets.(4x1=4)

(go at, went on, set in, came across, give away, give up)

It was an April afternoon. Summer season had already.....(a).....While sitting in the banyan tree the boy.....(b)..... a huge cobra in the garden. At the same time a mongoose emerged from the bushes. They started to .....(c)..... each other furiously. Both of them were not ready to.....(d)..... the combat. The combat.....(e)..... for around half an hour