

Tender Heart High School, Chandigarh

Comprehension and Applied Grammar

TEACHER: Kashama Sharma

CLASS: IX, X

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

QUESTION 4.

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Aunt Jane is now well over seventy, but she still is a great cinema-goer. The cinema hall in our town closed down years ago and sometimes she has to travel twenty miles or more to see a good film. And once a month at least she goes up to London to see the latest foreign films. Of course she could see most of these films on television, but the idea does not attract her. "It isn't the same," she says. "For one thing, the screen's too small. Besides, I like going to the cinema!"

One thing has always **puzzled** us. Although Aunt Jane has lots of friends and enjoys company, she always goes to the cinema alone. We discovered the reason for this only recently – from mother. "It may surprise you to learn that Aunt Jane wanted to be an actress when she was young," she told us. "She used to wait outside film studios all day, just to appear in crowd scenes. Your aunt has probably appeared in dozens of films – as a face in the crowd at a railway station or in the street! Sometimes she did not even know the name of the film they were making, so she couldn't go to see herself at the cinema!"

"All the time, of course, she was looking for a small part in a film. Her big chance came when they started to make a film in our town, Jane managed to meet the director at a party, and he offered her a role as a shopkeeper. It really was a very small part – she only had a few lines to say – but it was an important moment for Jane. Before the great event, she **rehearsed** for days. In fact, she turned the sitting-room into a shop! We all had to help, going in and out of the shop until she was word perfect. And on the actual day she was **marvellous**. The director congratulated her and it was then that Jane began thinking that it was the beginning of a glorious film career for her.

She was excited beyond imagination. For her that was the moment when her dream of becoming a famous film actress was finally coming true.

Unfortunately, in the end, they did not include the shop scene in the film. But nobody told Jane. When the film first appeared in London, she took all her friends to see it. And of course, she wasn't in it! It was a **terrible blow**! She stopped going to film studios and gave up the idea of becoming an actress after that embarrassing situation she had found

herself in. She still loves the cinema, as you all know, but from that day she has always gone alone!

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(a) Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage:

One-word answers or short phrases will be accepted.

- i) Puzzled (Line 7)
- ii) marvelous or marvellous (Line 21)
- iii) terrible blow (Line 27)

(b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words.

- i) How can you say that Aunt Jane loved the cinema?
- ii) What puzzled the narrator's family?
- iii) What explanation was provided by the mother regarding Jane?
- iv) When did Aunt Jane get her 'big opportunity'?
- v) How did Jane prepare for the big event?

(c) In not more than 50 words relate what happened once the film was released? How did it affect Jane?

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QUESTION 5.

Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space.

Example: 10) learnt

There we 0) _____ (learn) that he was in the Intensive Care Unit and that we could not see him right then. All of us 1) _____ (spend) a sleepless and anxious night there. Meanwhile my father 2) _____ (join) us. At last the fateful night 3) _____ (be) over. The doctor 4) _____ (assure) us that the danger was over. My brother had 5) _____ (regain) his consciousness but still he would be 6) _____ (keep) under observation for thirty-six hours. I cannot tell you how we 7) _____ (pass) those three days which 8) _____ (seem) like thirty years.

b) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words.

- i) The cat was sleeping _____ the chair.
- ii) Atul was walking _____ the road.
- iii) The Earth moves _____ the sun.
- iv) Our English friends have taken _____ Indian food quite quickly.

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- v) I will have to compete _____ the first prize.
- vi) The dog was run _____ by a bus.
- vii) She had always hankered _____ riches.
- viii) The scientist was distinguished _____ his great research work.

c) Join the following sentences to make one [4]
complete sentence without using and, but or so.

- i) The old woman is very rich. She is not proud of her wealth.
- ii) John gave me the novel. John wanted me to review it.
- iii) David is a great footballer. He is also popular.
- iv) This is an anthill. A snake lives here.

d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence.

- i) As soon as I heard a knock at the door, I switched on the light.

(Use: No sooner than)

- ii) My house is not big enough to accommodate all guests.

(Rewrite using too . . . to)

- iii) Meera is a clever girl and is always dependable.

(Begin: Besides being clever)

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iv) Do they play cricket every day?

C Begin: Is cricket ?)

v) Work hard and you will succeed.

C Begin: Unless)

vi) "You have taken the right decision," I said to her.

C Begin: I told)

vii) This armchair is more sturdy than yours.

C Begin: Your armchair is not)

viii) She is not interested in music or art.

C Use: neither nor)

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