

Std X
English Home-work

I. Section - B - (Writing & Grammar)

Question No 1 → On the wake of Corona Pandemic and lockdown the holidays are extended as per government orders write a Diary Entry how you are using your time by staying at home.

Question No-2 → Write an Article on the topic of "Corona Virus and its effect in the world".

II. Section - C - (Literature Text book)

School is providing all the pages of "First Flight" Chapter-1 (As that students can go through it seriously with the summary, and solve the NCERT Ch-1 (Questions/answers) with the help of the given pages and prepare them for Test as well.

Solved answers: (Oral Comprehension Check)

Q No 1 → What did Lencho hope for?

Ans → Lencho had worked hard for growing corn in his field now he desperately needed rains to save his crops from dying. He hoped for a good rain, Rain would mean a bright future for his family and certainly no starvation.

Q No 6 → There are two kinds of conflicts in the story: Between humans and nature, and between humans themselves. How are these conflicts illustrated?

Ans →

Ans -> At the beginning when rain comes Lencho is ecstatic, dreaming about happy days ahead. But later on, Lencho feels sad and gloomy when rain turns into hail. He curses the hailstorm. This shows the conflicts between man and nature. Likewise when Lencho blames the post office employees for stealing the part of money, it becomes the cause of conflicts between humans. Though they tried their best to help him, it is ironical and tragic that the best intentions of these good people came to nothing because of Lencho's naive nature.

Q NO - 2 - Who read the letter?

Ans - The postman and the postmaster read the letter and broke out laughing. But almost immediately he turned serious and tapping the letter on his desk, commented "Great faith! I wish I had the faith of the man who wrote this letter."

(Write down all the answers of the given questions of the chapter)

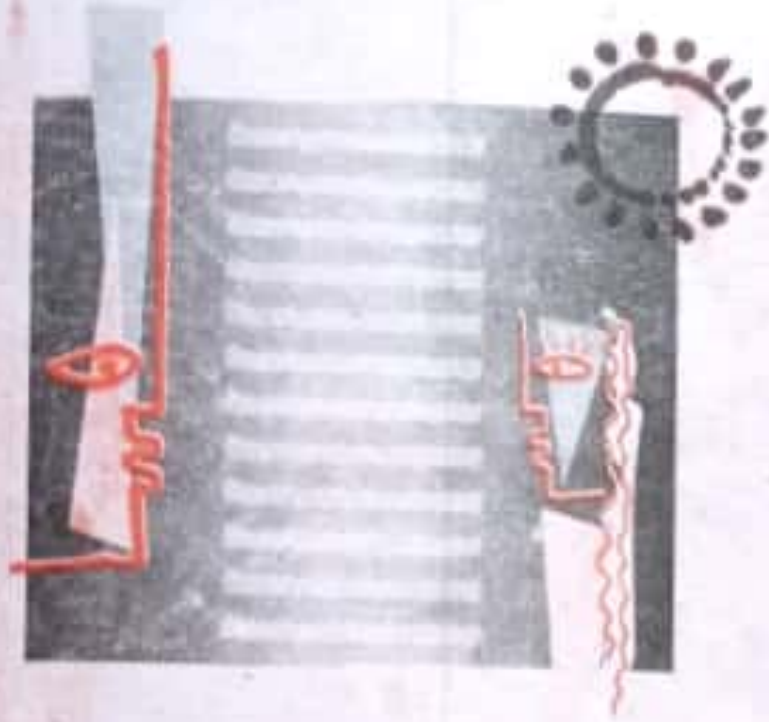
III Also solve the given Section A (Reading)

Assignment - 5

Assignment - 11

First Flight

Textbook in English for Class X



राष्ट्रीय शैक्षिक अनुसंधान और प्रशिक्षण परिषद
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING



A Letter to God

G.L.Fuentes

BEFORE YOU READ

They say faith can move mountains. But what should we put our faith in? This is the question this story delicately poses.

Lencho is a farmer who writes a letter to God when his crops are ruined, asking for a hundred pesos. Does Lencho's letter reach God? Does God send him the money? Think what your answers to these questions would be, and guess how the story continues, before you begin to read it.

Activity

1. One of the cheapest ways to send money to someone is through the post office. Have you ever sent or received money in this way? Here's what you have to do. (As you read the instructions, discuss with your teacher in class the meanings of these words: counter, counter clerk, appropriate, acknowledgement, counterfoil, record. Consult a dictionary if necessary. Are there words corresponding to these English words in your languages?)

Inside the post office, go to the counter marked 'Money Order'

Buy a Money Order (MO) form by paying 50 paise to the person behind the counter

Fill in the appropriate boxes in the form (preferably in BLOCK letters)

Pay the counter clerk the amount of money to be sent along with the charges

Take back the MO acknowledgement counterfoil for your record

- Think about who you will send the money to, and how much. You might want to send money for a magazine subscription, or to a relative or a friend.
- Or you may fill out the form with yourself as sender and your partner as receiver. Use a part of your pocket money, and submit the form at the nearest post office to see how it's done. See how your partner enjoys getting money by post!
- Notice that the form has three parts — the Money Order form, the part for official use and the Acknowledgement. What would you write in the 'Space for Communication'?

Now complete the following statements.

- (i) In addition to the sender, the form has to be signed by the _____
- (ii) The 'Acknowledgement' section of the form is sent back by the post office to the _____ after the _____ signs it.
- (iii) The 'Space for Communication' section is used for _____
- (iv) The form has six sections. The sender needs to fill out _____ sections and the receiver _____

The house — the only one in the entire valley — sat on the crest of a low hill. From this height one could see the river and the field of ripe corn dotted with the flowers that always promised a good harvest. The only thing the earth needed was a downpour or at least a shower. Throughout the morning Lencho — who knew his fields intimately — had done nothing else but see the sky towards the north-east.

crest
top of a hill

"Now we're really going to get some water, woman."

The woman who was preparing supper, replied, "Yes, God willing". The older boys were working in the field, while the smaller ones were playing near the house until the woman called to them all, "Come for dinner". It was during the meal that, just as

Lencho had predicted, big drops of rain began to fall. In the north-east huge mountains of clouds could be seen approaching. The air was fresh and sweet. The man went out for no other reason than to have the pleasure of feeling the rain on his body, and when he returned he exclaimed, "These aren't raindrops falling from the sky, they are new coins. The big drops are ten cent pieces and the little ones are fives."

With a satisfied expression he regarded the field of ripe corn with its flowers, draped in a curtain of rain. But suddenly a strong wind began to blow and along with the rain very large hailstones began to fall. These truly did resemble new silver coins. The boys, exposing themselves to the rain, ran out to collect the frozen pearls.

"It's really getting bad now," exclaimed the man. "I hope it passes quickly." It did not pass quickly. For an hour the hail rained on the house, the garden, the hillside, the cornfield, on the whole valley. The field was white, as if covered with salt.

Not a leaf remained on the trees. The corn was totally destroyed. The flowers were gone from the plants. Lencho's soul was filled with sadness. When the storm had passed, he stood in the middle of the field and said to his sons, "A plague of locusts would

draped
covered (with cloth)

locusts
insects which fly in
big swarms (groups)
and destroy crops

First Flight

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have left more than this. The hail has left nothing. This year we will have no corn."

That night was a sorrowful one.

"All our work, for nothing."

"There's no one who can help us."

"We'll all go hungry this year."

Oral Comprehension Check

1. What did Lencho hope for?
2. Why did Lencho say the raindrops were like 'new coins'?
3. How did the rain change? What happened to Lencho's fields?
4. What were Lencho's feelings when the hail stopped?

But in the hearts of all who lived in that solitary house in the middle of the valley, there was a single hope: help from God.

"Don't be so upset, even though this seems like a total loss. Remember, no one dies of hunger."

"That's what they say: no one dies of hunger."

All through the night, Lencho thought only of his one hope: the help of God, whose eyes, as he had been instructed, see everything, even what is deep in one's conscience. Lencho was an ox of a man, working like an animal in the fields, but still he knew how to write. The following Sunday, at daybreak, he began to write a letter which he himself would carry to town and place in the mail. It was nothing less than a letter to God.

"God," he wrote, "if you don't help me, my family and I will go hungry this year. I need a hundred pesos in order to sow my field again and to live until the crop comes, because the hailstorm..."

He wrote 'To God' on the envelope, put the letter inside and, still troubled, went to town. At the post office, he placed a stamp on the letter and dropped it into the mailbox.

One of the employees, who was a postman and also helped at the post office, went to his boss laughing heartily and showed him the letter to God. Never in his career as a postman had he known that address. The postmaster — a fat, amiable

conscience
an inner sense of right and wrong

peso
currency of several Latin American countries

amiable
friendly and pleasant

fellow — also broke out laughing, but almost immediately he turned serious and, tapping the letter on his desk, commented, "What faith! I wish I had the faith of the man who wrote this letter. Starting up a correspondence with God!"

So, in order not to shake the writer's faith in God, the postmaster came up with an idea: answer the letter. But when he opened it, it was evident that to answer it he needed something more than goodwill, ink and paper. But he stuck to his resolution: he asked for money from his employees, he himself gave part of his salary, and several friends of his were obliged to give something 'for an act of charity'.

It was impossible for him to gather together the hundred pesos, so he was able to send the farmer only a little more than half. He put the money in an envelope addressed to Lencho and with it a letter containing only a single word as a signature: God.

Oral Comprehension Check

1. Who or what did Lencho have faith in? What did he do?
2. Who read the letter?
3. What did the postmaster do then?

The following Sunday Lencho came a bit earlier than usual to ask if there was a letter for him. It was the postman himself who handed the letter to him while the postmaster, experiencing the contentment of a man who has performed a good deed, looked on from his office.

contentment
satisfaction

Lencho showed not the slightest surprise on seeing the money; such was his confidence — but he became angry when he counted the money. God could not have made a mistake, nor could he have denied Lencho what he had requested. ∴

Immediately, Lencho went up to the window to ask for paper and ink. On the public writing-table, he started to write, with much wrinkling of his brow, caused by the effort he had to make to express his ideas. When he finished, he went to the window to buy a stamp which he licked and then affixed to



the envelope with a blow of his fist. The moment the letter fell into the mailbox the postmaster went to open it. It said: "God: Of the money that I asked for, only seventy pesos reached me. Send me the rest, since I need it very much. But don't send it to me through the mail because the post office employees are a bunch of crooks. Lencho."

Oral Comprehension Check

1. Was Lencho surprised to find a letter for him with money in it?
2. What made him angry?

Thinking about the Text

1. Who does Lencho have complete faith in? Which sentences in the story tell you this?
2. Why does the postmaster send money to Lencho? Why does he sign the letter 'God'?
3. Did Lencho try to find out who had sent the money to him? Why/Why not?
4. Who does Lencho think has taken the rest of the money? What is the irony in the situation? (Remember that the irony of a situation is an unexpected aspect of it. An ironic situation is strange or amusing because it is the opposite of what is expected.)

5. Are there people like Lencho in the real world? What kind of a person would you say he is? You may select appropriate words from the box to answer the question.

greedy naive stupid ungrateful
selfish comical unquestioning

6. There are two kinds of conflict in the story: between humans and nature and between humans themselves. How are these conflicts illustrated?

Thinking about Language

- I. Look at the following sentence from the story.

Suddenly a strong wind began to blow and along with the rain very large hailstones began to fall.

'Hailstones' are small balls of ice that fall like rain. A storm in which large hailstones fall is a 'hailstorm'. You know that a storm is bad weather with strong winds, rain, thunder and lightning.

There are different names in different parts of the world for storms depending on their nature. Can you match the names in the box with their descriptions below, and fill in the blanks? You may use a dictionary to help you.

gale, whirlwind, cyclone,
hurricane, tornado, typhoon

1. A violent tropical storm in which strong winds move in a circle: _____ c _____
2. An extremely strong wind : _ a _ _ _
3. A violent tropical storm with very strong winds : _ _ _ p _ _ _
4. A violent storm whose centre is a cloud in the shape of a funnel: _____ n _____
5. A violent storm with very strong winds, especially in the western Atlantic Ocean: _ _ _ r _ _ _
6. A very strong wind that moves very fast in a spinning movement and causes a lot of damage: _ _ _ _ _ l _ _ _

- II. Notice how the word 'hope' is used in these sentences from the story:

(a) I hope it (the hailstorm) passes quickly.

(b) There was a single hope: help from God.

In the first example, 'hope' is a verb which means you wish for something to happen. In the second example it is a noun meaning a chance for something to happen.

First Flight



ASSIGNMENT – 5

Name	<input type="text"/>	Time	30 Min.	Max. Marks	12
Class	<input type="text"/>	Section	<input type="text"/>	Marks	12
Roll No.	<input type="text"/>	Date	<input type="text"/>	Teacher's Sign	

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

(12 Marks)

- Yoga asanas, especially the ones imitating the natural postures of animals, have a tremendous tranquilising effect, without having to depend on common drugs. Pranayama inhibits random agitations in Pranic (energy) flows in Pranamayakosa, stabilising the autonomic nervous system. Dhyana and Samadhi culture the mind to relax it. This approach alters the reaction of an individual to headache. By interrupting the vicious cycle of pain-agony-pain, it prevents headache from becoming a crippling problem.
- Through asanas that calm you, the pranayama exercises that inhibit random energy flows and the meditation that cultivates and relaxes your mind, yoga offers a holistic-form of pain relief. It stops you from becoming locked in the vicious circle of pain-anxiety-pain.
- Chronic pain: Chronic pain essentially is imbalance in prana (energy). This imbalance initially manifests only as functional abnormality like insomnia, lack of enthusiasm, fatigue, increased irritability and lack of concentration. Over the years, the imbalance settles in an organ.

2.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any four of the following questions in about 30-40 words each:

(2 × 4 = 8 Marks)

- What effects do yoga asanas have on human body?
- Which asanas are especially useful?
- What does 'pranayama' inhibit in the body?
- What does 'pranayama' stabilise?
- What is chronic pain? Give two examples of functional abnormality.

2.2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any four of the following:

(1 × 4 = 4 Marks)

- Yoga asanas copy the natural of animals.

(a) posture	(b) gait	(c) exercise	(d) relax
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- Headache can be prevented by disturbing the cycle of

(a) pain	(b) anxiety	(c) agony	(d) pain-agony-pain
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- In paragraph no.1, means 'hurting'.

(a) random	(b) imitating	(c) crippling	(d) nervous
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- In paragraph no.2, the antonym of 'released' is

(a) stops	(b) locked	(c) relaxed	(d) relief
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- The imbalance in the organ after years.

(a) jump	(b) starts	(c) stays	(d) picks up
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Space for Notes

ASSIGNMENT - 11

Name	<input type="text"/>	Time	30 Min.	Max. Marks	12
Class	<input type="text"/>	Section	<input type="text"/>	Marks	<input type="text" value="/12"/>
Roll No.	<input type="text"/>	Date	<input type="text"/>	Teacher's Sign	

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

(12 Marks)

1. It is physically impossible for a well-educated intellectual or brave man to make money the chief object of his thoughts: just as it is for him to make his dinner the principal object of his life. All healthy people like their dinner, but dinner is not the main object of their lives. So all healthy-minded people like making money, ought to like it. And enjoy the sensation of winning it; but the main object of their life is not money; it is something better than money.
2. A good soldier, for instance mainly wishes to do his fighting well. He is glad of his pay—very properly so, and justly grumbles when you keep him ten years without it—still, his main notion of life is to win battles, not to be paid for winning them.
3. So of the doctors. They like fees no doubt, ought to like them; yet if they are brave and well-educated, the entire object of their lives is not the fees. They, on the whole, desire to cure the sick, and if they are good doctors, and the choice were fairly put to them, they would rather cure their patient, and lose the fee than kill him and get it. And so with all other brave and rightly trained men; their work is first, their fee second—very important no doubt but still second.
4. But in every nation, as I said, there are vast numbers of people who are ill-educated, cowardly and more or less stupid. And with these people just as certainly the fee is first and the work second.

2.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any four of the following questions in about 30-40 words each:

(2 × 4 = 8 Marks)

- (i) Why can't money be the chief objective of an intellectual or a brave man?
- (ii) What is the main objective of a good soldier?
- (iii) What is the entire object of the lives of good doctors?
- (iv) How are those people for whom money is first and the work second?
- (v) What can be said about the tone of the writer of this passage?

2.2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer any four of the following:

(1 × 4 = 4 Marks)

- (i) Money is not the main objective of people.
 (a) well-educated (b) ill-educated (c) illiterate (d) weak
- (ii) The chief notion of a soldier is to win
 (a) medals (b) battles (c) guns (d) nations
- (iii) In paragraph no.1, means the same as 'goal'.
 (a) winning (b) sensation (c) object (d) principal
- (iv) For the stupid people is the first objective.
 (a) service (b) nation (c) work (d) fee
- (v) In paragraph no.3, the antonym of 'healthy' is
 (a) sick (b) sound (c) doctors (d) patient

Space for Notes