



## CLASS - VIII ENGLISH NOTES JULY

### Prose: 3. Glimpses of the Past

#### I. FLOW CHART:

30<sup>th</sup> January - The Martyrs Day  
1757 - 1849 - The Company 's conquests  
1765 - 1836 - British Rule  
1772 - 1833 - Ram Mohan Roy  
1765 - 1835 - Oppression  
1835- 1856 - Dissatisfaction  
1855 - 1857 - The Sparks  
1857 - The Revolt ( The First War Of Independence )

#### II. ERC:

1. We accept you as rulers, and you must accept us as subjects.

a) Who said these words?

Ans: Raja Ram Mohan Roy said these words.

b) When did he say these words?

Ans: He said these words when he crossed the sea and went to England.

c) Who was he and What made him say these words?

Ans: Raja Ram Mohan Roy was a learned man from Bengal.  
He was attracted by science and modern knowledge of the British.  
He abolished Sati.

#### III. Short Answers:

1. Do you think the Indian princes were short - sighted in their approach to the events of 1757?

Ans. Indian princes were indeed short - sighted in their approach to the events of 1757. They fought against each other with the help of the British. They could not see that this will eventually make the British more powerful. This happened and they have to suffer for their short - sightedness.

2. In what ways did the British officers exploit Indians?

Ans. The British rulers passed a resolution. Under which an Indian could be jailed without trial in a court.

The goods manufactured in England were imported to India tax- free. The English proposed on the country 's loot while Indian industries began to die.

**3. Who is an artisan? Why do you think the artisans suffered?**

Ans. An artisan is a person who is skilled in an applied art; a craftsperson. The expert artisans of India worked so well that there was no parallel to their creation.

They suffered because the Britishers started selling machine made products.

**IV. Detail Answer:**

**1. Explain the four reasons for the discontent that led to the 1857 War of Independence.**

Ans. The spark for The First War of Independence ( The Revolt 1857 ) began when

- The Santhals lost their lands. They became desperate and they revolted.
- The white soldiers got huge pay while the sepoy received less. So they were discounted and angry.
- The Brahmins as well as the Muslims were furious when they came to know that the bullets they had to bite, contained cow fat and pig fat.
- Many landlords were sore because the British policies deprived them of their land and estate.

**Supplementary Reader: 2. Children at Work**

**I. Short Answer:**

**1. Velu stood on the platform but he felt “ as if he was still on a moving train “ Why?**

Ans. Velu stood on the platform but felt as if he was still on a moving train because his legs were still wobbly and shaky after the journey to Chennai. Usually, the effect of a moving train stays for some time after the end of a journey.

**2. Why had Velu run away from home? Why did he decide to follow the ‘strange ‘ girl?**

Ans. Velu 's father beat him every day. He takes away the money earned by his sisters and him for drinking. Just to escape from this he ran away from his home.

He decided to follow the strange girl because he was very hungry and she had promised to give him food.

**3. What material are the ‘strange’ huts made out of? Why does Velu find them strange?**

Ans. The strange huts are made out of metal sheets, bricks, wood and plastic.

Velu finds them strange because in his village the houses are made of mud and palm leaves.

## **II. Long Answer.**

- 1. Who is Jaya? Is Jaya a brave and sensitive child with a sense of humour? What sort of things did Jaya and children like her collect and what did they do with those things?**

Ans. Jaya is a girl of Velu's age. She is a rag picker and indeed a brave girl. She lives in the city all alone and earns her livelihood. She is sensitive, that's why she came forward to help Velu. Her sense of humour is depicted in many places in the lesson. Eg: When she reaches the dirty trickle of water, she calls it 'Buckingham Canal '

Jaya and the children like her collected paper, plastic, bottles, glass and such other things. Then they sell these things to Jam Bazar Jaggu, a person who sells it to a factory.

## **Supplementary Reader: 3. The Selfish Giant**

### **I. Short answers:**

- 1. When spring came it was still winter in the garden. What does winter stand for or indicate here?**

Winter has been presented like a story with its own characters and their activities. Describe the story in your own words.

Ans. Winter stands for many things. The flowers didn't blossom in the Giant's garden. The birds didn't sing there. There was no joy.

Winter is shown in various characters. It has Snow, Frost, North Wind and Hail. The Snow covered up the grass. The Frost painted the trees silver. The North Wind roared all day. It blew the chimney - pots down. The Hail rattled on the castle roof.

- 2. The Giant saw the most beautiful sight. What did he see? What did he realise on seeing it?**

Ans. The children sat in the branches of the trees. The trees had blossoms. They were waving their arms gently over children's heads. The birds were flying. They were chirping with joy. Flowers were laughing. It was the most wonderful sight which the Giant saw.

The Giant's heart became soft. He called himself selfish. He now realised why there was always winter in his garden.

## **II. Detail answer:**

### **1. Describe the first meeting of the boy and the Giant. Describe their second meeting after a long interval.**

Ans. In the first meeting the little boy did not run seeing the Giant. He was weeping. The Giant took him gently put him on to the tree. The tree broke at once into blossom. The boy embraced the Giant. In return the Giant kissed him.

In the second meeting the Giant saw the little boy wounded. The Giant got angry at it. He said that he would kill the person who had wounded the little boy. But the little boy said that his wounds were of love.

The surprised Giant had asked him who he was. A strange awe fell on him. He knelt before the little child.

The child smiled. He told the Giant who he was. The Giant had once allowed him to play in his garden. Now he would go with the Child to play with him in his garden. This garden was The Paradise.