



CLASS - VI ENGLISH NOTES JANUARY

9. Dates with the Ocean

I. ERC:

1. It started when a young lawyer who is also an environmentalist, shifted into his new apartment in the neighbourhood.
 - a) **Who is the young lawyer?**
The young lawyer is Afroz Shah.
 - b) **What started when he moved into his new apartment?**
The movement to change the condition of Versova beach started.
 - c) **Which place is being referred to?**
The place being referred to is Versova beach in Mumbai.
 - d) **What happened next?**
Around forty residents of that area joined Afroz and his neighbour to begin a weekly clean-up drive.
2. Much to their delight, by November of the same year, 40 residents of that area joined in to begin a weekly clean-up drive.
 - a) **Who is referred to as 'their'?**
Afroz Shah and his 84-year-old neighbour, Harbansh Mathur are referred to here as 'their'.
 - b) **What were they delighted about?**
They were delighted as more hands joined to clean the beach.
 - c) **Which area did the residents belong to?**
They belonged to the Versova neighbourhood.
 - d) **What was the clean-up drive?**
It was VRV's clean-up drive of the trash and debris on Versova beach.
3. Encouraged by the support he had received, Afroz rallied the residents and fisherfolk in that area to join the drive. He went up to their doors and knocked.
 - a) **Who is Afroz?**
Afroz is a young lawyer in Mumbai who started a drive to rid Versova beach of its tonnes of garbage.
 - b) **What support had he got and from whom?**
Afroz had received support not only from Mumbaikars but also from UNEP and the United Nations Patron of the Ocean.
 - c) **Why did he rally the residents and fisherfolk?**
He rallied the residents and fisherfolk to join his clean-up drive.
 - d) **What did he hope to achieve by knocking on their doors?**
He hoped to educate them about the danger that the trash would cause and to involve them in the cleaning too.

II. Short Answers:

1. Which incident made Afroz think of a clean-up drive?

Afroz had just moved into his new apartment in the neighbourhood of Versova beach. When he looked out of his window and saw the huge amounts of trash and plastic lying around, he decided to do something about it.

2. Who helped Afroz initially?

Initially, Afroz was helped by his 84-year-old neighbour, Harbansh Mathur. They started cleaning the beach in October 2015.

3. What were some of the objects that made up the trash on the beach?

The trash included objects like plastic bags, cement sacks, glass bottles, pieces of clothing and shoes.

4. What was the lucky event that happened in December 2015?

By December 2015, the civic authorities had taken notice of the clean-up drive. They provided Afroz and his group help in the form of clean-up marshals, garbage trucks and excavator machines.

5. How was it proved that Shah's drive had become popular and prominent?

In July 2016, UNEP called it the world's largest beach clean-up in history and the Maharashtra Maritime Board joined the movement. That is when it was proved that VRV and its efforts had gained popularity and prominence.

6. When did VRV's efforts gain international recognition?

When the UN's Patron of the Ocean, Lewis Pugh came down from Kenya to join their drive, it immediately gained international recognition.

7. What was a proud moment for Afroz?

It was a proud moment for Afroz when he was conferred with the UN's top environmental award, i.e., Champions of the Earth award.

8. In what way does plastic pose a danger to us?

Huge amounts of plastic waste lands up in the oceans and endangers marine life and ecosystems. Not only this, humans are effected too because it enters our diet when we eat sea food.

III. Long Answers:

1. What do you think would have happened had Afroz not been supported by his neighbour initially? Do you think he would have given up?

Personal response. Answers will vary. Sample answer: Being a determined individual, Afroz would have probably continued without any help or assistance. It would have taken him much longer if he was working alone, but he does not seem to be the type to give up something easily. He would have continued alone.

2. Do you believe that we should continue with some traditions even if they may be causing harm to our environment? For example: immersing idols in rivers and seas, killing animals for sport, and so on. What do you feel?

Personal response. Answers will vary. Suggested answer: No, I do not agree that we should continue with traditions if they are harmful to the environment. When these practices started, the earth was not in the same endangered condition as it is in today.

We have to understand the difference and give up some of these practices or find other alternatives for them. Killing animals for sport, immersing objects and throwing litter in water bodies has created havoc in our lives and is threatening the existence of animal and plant life and our lives too. We have to do something about it and act in a responsible manner.

10. The Gifts of the Grass Cutter

I. ERC:

1. 'One evening. Wali Dad dragged out the pot to see how much money it held. He was amazed to find that his coins had filled it to the brim.'

a) Who was Wali Dad?

Wali Dad was an old grass cutter who lived in a mud hut far from town.

b) How was he able to collect so much money in the pot?

Wali Dad saved ten small coins in a clay pot under his bed each day. That is how, after many years, he was able to collect so much money in the pot.

c) What did Wali Dad do with the money?

Wali Dad thought that he needed nothing more than he had. So, he decided to exchange all his coins for a gold bracelet.

d) Give a word to replace 'amazed' in the above line.

Surprised.

2. The merchant was astonished, but he agreed to do what the ragged grass cutter asked.

a) Who was the merchant?

The merchant was a person who travelled from one place to another and who helped deliver Wali Dad's gifts.

b) Who was the grass cutter?

The grass cutter was Wali Dad.

c) Why was he astonished?

The merchant was astonished to see a lovely gold bracelet with Wali Dad.

d) What had the grass cutter asked him to do?

The grass cutter had asked the merchant to deliver the lovely gold bracelet along with his compliments as a gift to the young queen of Khaistan.

3. Oh, no! This is worse than before! What am I to do with such finery?

a) Who is the speaker?

Wali Dad is the speaker.

b) What is 'worse than before'?

Receiving the return gift of the finest silks from the queen of Khaistan was 'worse than before' for the grass cutter when he had the gold bracelet, which was more than what he felt he needed

c) What is being referred to as 'such finery'?

The return gift of the finest silks from the queen of Khaistan to Wali Dad is being referred to as 'such finery'

d) What did the speaker do with such finery?

Wali Dad gave the finest silks to the young king of Nekabad.

4. **'Now the queen was perplexed. She whispered to her prime minister...**
- a) **Who is the queen?**
The queen is of Khaistan who first received the grass cutter's gifts
 - b) **Why was she perplexed?**
She was perplexed to receive another gift of ten fine horses from Wali Dad.
 - c) **What did she whisper to her prime minister?**
She whispered her query to her prime minister about why Wali Dad persisted in sending gifts. She had never even heard of him.
 - d) **Write a word to replace 'perplexed' in the above line.**
Confused.
5. **Say no more. You shall have your heart's desire."**
- a) **Who is the speaker?**
Pari 2 is the speaker.
 - b) **Who is being addressed?**
Wali Dad is being addressed.
 - c) **What was the listener's heart's desire?**
The listener's heart desired to become a grass cutter once more and live happily in his hut for the rest of his days.
 - d) **How was the desire fulfilled?**
Pari 2 touched Wali Dad and he became a grass cutter once again.

II. Short Answers:

1. **Who was Wali Dad? What did he do every day?**
Wali Dad was an old grass cutter who lived in a mud hut far from town. Every morning, he cut and bundled tall, wild grass. Every afternoon, he sold it as fodder in the marketplace.
2. **In what manner did he save the money he earned every day?**
Each day, Wali Dad earned thirty paisa. Ten of the small coins went for food. Ten for clothes and other needs. The remaining ten he saved in a clay pot under his bed.
3. **What did Wali Dad decide to do with the money in the pot?**
Wali Dad thought that he needed nothing more than he had. So, he decided to exchange all his coins for a gold bracelet.
4. **What happened with the silks that Wali Dad received from the queen of Khaistan?**
Wali Dad decided to send the silks that he had received from the queen of Khaistan to the king of Nekabad, who according to the merchant was the noblest man.
5. **What advice did the queen receive from her prime minister?**
The queen's prime minister advised her to discourage Wali Dad by sending him so rich a gift that he could never hope to match it.
6. **What did the king of Nekabad send for Wali Dad the second time around?**
The king of Nekabad sent Wali Dad twenty camels with golden anklets, twenty horses with golden bridles and stirrups, twenty elephants with golden seats

mounted on their backs and twenty liveried servants to care for them all the second time around.

7. What did Wali Dad have in mind when he said goodbye to his old hut?

Wali Dad thought that he would never see his old hut again when he said goodbye to it.

III. Long Answers:

1. Which of these words best describes Wali Dad-generous or self-entred? Give reasons to support your answer.

Wali Dad is a generous person. Instead of thinking about his personal gain, he tries to gift things to others. He is not at all greedy and does not feel that he needs anything more than what he has. Instead, he finds anything superficial to be a burden. He gives gifts to both the king and queen which plays a crucial role in their marriage. He also gifts the merchant a lot of things.

2. "Though your clothes are poor, in your heart you are a king.' Justify this statement with the help of examples from the play.

Wali Dad is a grass cutter whose daily income is meagre. His clothes are ragged but his heart is very big. He does not want anything more than necessary for himself. So, he decides to gift the gold bracelet to the queen. When he gets gifts in return, he does not become greedy and keep 128 them with himself. Instead, he gives them to the king, queen and even the merchant. Even when the paris make him an actual king, he has a big heart and holds a big wedding for the king and the queen in his palace.

3. Attempt to draw character sketch of Wali.

Answers may vary. Accept all logically explained answers.