



महाराष्ट्र शासन

शालेय शिक्षण व क्रीडा विभाग

राज्य शैक्षणिक संशोधन व प्रशिक्षण परिषद, महाराष्ट्र

७०८ सदाशिव पेठ, कुमठेकर मार्ग, पुणे ४११०३०

संपर्क क्रमांक (०२०) २४४७ ६९३८

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## Question Bank

Standard:- 12<sup>th</sup> (Arts, Commerce, Science and MCVC)

Subject:- English

## QUESTION BANK HSC (SYJC)

### SECTION I: PROSE

#### SET 1: Q.1A SEEN PASSAGES (12 Marks)

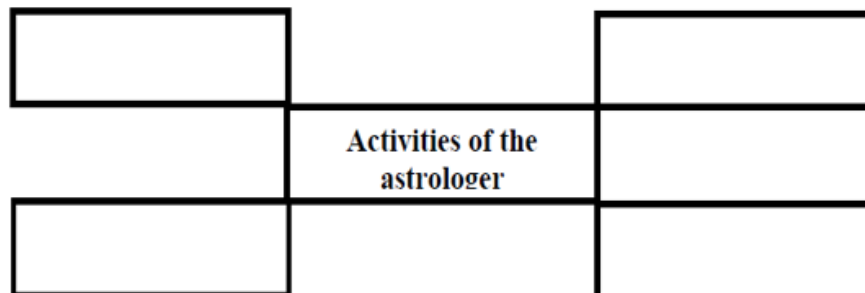
1. Read the extract and complete the activities given below: (12)

Punctually at midday he opened his bag and spread out his professional equipment, which consisted of a dozen cowrie shells, a square piece of cloth with obscure mystic charts on it, a notebook, and a bundle of Palmyra writing. His forehead was resplendent (glorious) with sacred ash and vermilion, and his eyes sparkled with a sharp abnormal gleam (shine) which was really an outcome of a continual searching look for customers, but which his simple clients took to be a prophetic light and felt comforted. The power of his eyes was considerably enhanced by their position placed as they were between the painted forehead and the dark whiskers (mustaches) which streamed down his cheeks: even a half-wit's eyes would sparkle in such a setting. To crown the effect he wound a saffron-coloured turban around his head. This colour scheme never failed. People were attracted to him as bees are attracted to cosmos or dahlia stalks. He sat under the boughs of a spreading tamarind tree which flanked a path running through the Town Hall Park. It was a remarkable place in many ways. A surging crowd was always moving up and down this narrow road from morning till night. A variety of trades and occupations was represented all along its way : medicine sellers, sellers of stolen hardware and junk, magicians, and above all, an auctioneer of cheap cloth, who created enough din all day to attract the whole town. Next to him in vociferousness came a vendor of fried groundnut, who gave his ware a fancy name each day, calling it "Bombay Ice Cream" one day and on the next "Delhi Almond," and on the third "Raja's Delicacy," and so on and so forth, and people flocked to him. A considerable portion of this crowd dallied before the astrologer too. The astrologer transacted his business by the light of a flare which crackled and smoked up above the groundnut heap nearby. Half the enchantment of the place was due to the fact that it did not have the benefit of municipal lighting. The place was lit up by shop lights. One or two had hissing gaslights, some had naked flares stuck on poles, some were lit up by old cycle lamps, and one or two, like the astrologer, managed without lights of their own. It was a bewildering crisscross of light rays and moving shadows. This suited the astrologer very well, for the simple reason that he had not in the least intended to be an astrologer when he began life; and he knew no more of what was going to happen to others than he knew what was going to happen to himself next minute. He was as much a stranger to the stars as were his innocent customers. Yet he said things which pleased and astonished everyone: that was more a matter of study, practice, and shrewd guesswork. All the same, it was as much an honest man's labour as any other, and he deserved the wages he carried home at the end of a day.

**A1. State if the given statements are True or False. (2)**

- i. The astrologer used to have the preparation of his business in quite professional way. **True**
- ii. The physical appearance of the astrologer hardly created an impact on the customers. **False**
- iii. The place was busy with a variety of occupations. **True**
- iv. The astrologer's style of handling the business lies in his skills. **False**

**A2. Complete the given web. (2)**



Ans:

<b>Activities of the astrologer</b>	<p>1)Punctually at midday he opened his bag and spread Out his professional equipment, which consisted of a dozen cowrie shells, a square piece of cloth with obscure charts on it, a notebook, and a bundle of Palmyra writing</p> <p>2)His forehead was resplendent (glorious) with sacred ash and vermilion, and his eyes sparkled with a sharp abnormal gleam (shine) which was really an outcome of continual searching look for customers.</p>
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	<p>3)To crown the effect he wound a saffron-coloured turban around his head.</p> <p>4)He was as much a stranger to the stars as were his Innocent customers. Yet he said things which pleased and astonished everyone: that was more a matter of study, practice, and shrewd guesswork.</p>
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**A3. The astrologer was a shrewd judge of a character. Explain with some details from the extract. (2)**

**Ans:** Yes, it is true that the astrologer was a shrewd judge of a character. for the simple reason that he had not in the least intended to be an astrologer when he began life; and he knew no more of what was going to happen to others than he knew what was going to happen to himself next minute. He was as much a stranger to the stars as were his innocent customers. Yet he said things which pleased and astonished everyone: that was more a matter of study, practice, and shrewd guesswork.

**A4. We need to understand even the smallest details of the business in order to succeed. Write your views. (2)**


**Ans:** Yes, we need to understand even the smallest details of the business in order to succeed. In order to get success in business we should know some tips like: 1. Know yourself, your true motivational level, the amount of money you can risk, and what you're willing to do to be successful. 2. Choose the right business for you. 3. Be sure there really is a market for what you want to sell. 4. Research your competitors. 5. Start on a small scale before going all out. 6. Learn from others. So these types of smaller details will definitely helpful for success in any business.

**A5. Do as directed.**

**(2)**

**1) It was a remarkable place in many ways.**


**(Choose correct alternative to rewrite the given sentence as an exclamatory sentence)**

-  i. It was a remarkable place in many ways!
- ii. How a remarkable place in many ways it was!
- iii. What a remarkable place in many ways it was!
- iv. What remarkable in many ways the place it was!

**Ans: iii. What a remarkable place in many ways it was!**

**2) He spread out his professional equipment, which consisted of a dozen cowrie shells.**

**(Choose correct alternative to rewrite the given sentence as a compound sentence)**

-  i. He spread out his professional equipment but it consisted of a dozen cowrie shells.
- ii. He spread out his professional equipment and it consisted of a dozen cowrie shells.
- iii. He spread out his professional equipment that it consisted of a dozen cowrie shells.
- iv. He spread out his professional equipment and it had consisted of a dozen cowrie shells.

**Ans: ii. He spread out his professional equipment and it consisted of a dozen cowrie shells.**

**A6. Find the synonyms for the following words from the passage. (2)**

a. Confusing b. hanging around c. difficult to understand d. magical effect

**Ans:** a) Confusing = bewildering

b) hanging around = dallied

c) difficult to understand = obscure

d) magical effect = enchantment

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