**18th May, 2020 JESUS AND MARY SCHOOL AND COLLEGE MODULE 2**

**CLASS- 7**

**SUBJECT- ENGLISH LITERATURE**

**CHAPTER- RABINDRANATH TAGORE**

**INTRODUCTION**

Rabindranath Tagore is also known as "Gurudev". He was a poet, philosopher and artist. He wrote many stories, novels, poems and dramas. Apart from this he was a painter and a composer. His writings greatly influenced Bengali culture during the late 19th century and early 20th century. In 1913, he became the first Asian to win the Nobel Prize in literature for his great work "Gitanjali". He also wrote India's National Anthem "Jana Mana Gana".

**TEXT**

*Rabindranath Tagore was a Bengali poet, a philosopher, a playwright, a novelist, a painter, and a composer. He was born on 7th May, 1861 to Debendranath and Sharda Devi.*

*He was the youngest child of his parents and grew up in the household of fourteen children. Rabindranath wrote poems for the first time when he was only eight years old. He left his hometown, Calcutta, with his father in February 1873, on a tour of the Indian subcontinent. It was in 3 Himalayan hill station of Dalhousie that Rabindranath Tagore started studying history,astronomy,modern science and Sanskrit.*

**EXPLANATION**

Rabindranath Tagore was born on 7th May, 1861 in the city of Calcutta ( now it is called Kolkata), at 6 Dwarkanath Tagore Lane Jorasanko Thakur Bari. He was the youngest of his parents' fourteen children. His father's name was Debendranath Tagore and mother was Sharda Devi. Tagore wrote his first poem when he was eight years old.

In February 1873, at the age of eleven, Tagore went on a tour of the Indian subcontinent with his father. He started studying history, astronomy, modern science and Sanskrit in the Himalayan hill station of Dalhousie.

**WORD MEANINGS**

1. Subcontinent - a large land mass that forms part of a continent

2. Astronomy - the scientific study of universe

**TEXT**

*During that time, he also started reading the classical poetry of Kalidasa. In the year 1877, Rabindranath published his first substantial poetry, under the pseudonym Bhanushingo. He also wrote short story, Bhikharini in 1877 and the poem collection, Sandhya Sangit, in 1882. Tagore went to England in 1878 to become a Barrister and enrolled himself at a public school in Brighton. Later, he studied at University College London. However, he came back to Bengal in 1880 and in1883, he married Mrinalini Devi.*

**EXPLANATION**

During that time he also read the works of Kalidasa. In 1877, he published his first substantial poetry under the fictitious name of Bhanushingo. He also wrote the short story, Bhikharini and the poem collection, Sandhya Sangit in the same year. In 1877, he went to England and enrolled himself at the public school in Brighton to become a Barrister. Later he studied at University College London. But in 1880, his father called him back from London and in 1883, he married Mrinalini Devi.

**WORD MEANINGS**

Substantial - considerable

Pseudonym - false name

**TEXT**

*In1901, Tagore founded an ashram at Santiniketan ( West Bengal ), where he lost his wife and two of his four children. On the meantime, his work started growing more and more popular amongst the Bengalis as well as foreign readers.*

*In 1913, Rabindranath Tagore won the Nobel Prize in Literature, becoming Asia's first Nobel laureate, In 1915, he received a knighthood from the British Crown. Tagore founded the institute for Rural Reconstruction in 1921, along with the Leonard Elmhirst, an agricultural economist.*

**EXPLANATION**

In 1901 he went to West Bengal and build an ashram at Santiniketan, where he lost his wife and two of his four children. In the same time his work started growing very popular amongst the Bengalis as well as foreign readers.

On November 14, 1913 Tagore won the Nobel Prize in Literature and became the first Asian who won Nobel laureate. The British Crown gave Tagore a knighthood in 1915. However, he gave back the title in 1919 to protest against the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre in Amritsar.

In 1921, Tagore and an agricultural economist named Leonard Elmhirst set up an institution for Rural Reconstruction in a village Sural, near Tagore's ashram at Santiniketan.

**WORD MEANINGS**

1. Agricultural - relating to farming

2. Economist - a person who is an expert in economics

**TEXT**

*Rabindranath Tagore took up drawing and painting when he was around sixty years old. His paintings were displayed in exhibitions organised throughout Europe.*

*The style of Tagore had certain peculiarities in aesthetic and colouring schemes, which distinguishes it from those of the other artists. He was also influenced by the craftwork of the Malanggan people belonging to the northern New Ireland, Haida carving from the west coast of Canada and woodcuts by Max Pechstein.*

*RabindranathTagore spent the last four years of his life in constant pain and was bogged down by two long bouts of illness.*

**EXPLANATION**

At the age of around sixty, Tagore started painting. His paintings were displayed in exhibitions throughout Europe. The style of Tagore had certain strange and unusual quality which was different from other artists.He was influenced by the craftwork of the people belonging to the northern New Ireland called Malanggan. Haida carving from the west coast of Canada and woodcuts by Max Pechstein who was a German painter.

**WORD MEANINGS**

1. Peculiarities - a strange and unusual characteristic

2. Aesthetic - study of art

3. Bogged down - slowed down

4. Bouts - a short period of great activity

5. Exhibitions - an occasion when a particular skill

is shown to the public

**TEXT**

*In 1937, he went into a comatose condition, which relapsed after a long period of three years. However, the work composed by Rabindranath Tagore during this time period comprise of his finest ones.*

*After an extended period of suffering, Tagore died on 7th August 1941 in the same Jorasanko mansion in which he was brought up.*

**EXPLANATION**

Tagore spent the last four years of his life in poor health and was slowed down by two long periods of illness. In 1937, he lost his consciousness. He was in coma for a long time. Eventually, he woke up, but three years later, he went back into coma. During those years, whenever he was conscious and felt well enough, he wrote the finest poems of his life.

After a long period of suffering, Tagore died on 7th August 1941 at the age of 80 in his childhood home named Jorasanko mansion in Kolkata.

**WORD MEANINGS**

1. Comatose - in a state of coma

2. Relapsed - became worse

3. Extended - for a long period of time

4. Comprise - made up of

**WORKSHEET**

**Answer the following short questions:**

Q1. When and where was Rabindranath Tagore born?

Q2. What do you know about Rabindranath Tagore's childhood?

Q3. When did Rabindranath Tagore go to England? Why?

Q4. What were the influences on Rabindranath as an artist?

Q5. Which awards did he get?

Q6. What else was he, apart from a painter?

Q7. What do you know about his style of painting?

Q8. What was he the founder of, and when?

Q9. When did he become interested in classical literature? What was he studying at that time?

Q10. How did he spend the last four years of his life?

**Fill in the blanks:**

Rabindranath Tagore published his first substantial poetry, under the pseudonym ....................... He also wrote the short story, ..........., in 1877 and the poem collection, ............, in 1882. Tagore went to England in 1878 to become a .......................... and enrolled himself at a public school in Brighton. Later, he studied at ........... However, he came back to Bengal in 1880 and in 1883 he married ..............

**Choose the Correct answer:**

1. Which University was founded by Rabindranath Tagore?

a) Banaras Hindu University b) Calcutta University

c) Visvabharti d) Bombay University

2. Rabindranath Tagore awarded Nobel Prize for literature in

a) 1901 b) 1913

c) 1928 d) 1930

3. What was Rabindranath Tagore's father name?

a) Narendranath b) Hridayanath

c) Rajmohan d) Debendranath

4. Where was Rabindranath Tagore born?

a) Calcutta b) Delhi

c) Murshidaba d) Chandigarh

5. When did Rabindranath Tagore die?

a) 7th August, 1941 b) 21st June, 1947

c) 8th April, 1936 d) 18th August, 1945

**Name the following ( from the story):**

1. False name - ................

2. In a state of coma - .................

3. One who makes tunes for songs - ................

4. For a long period of time -.................

5. Establish an institution - ..............

**NOTE - Please do all the work in your old copies which will be check when school reopens.**

**Please consider this important.**

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**SOLUTION TO WORKSHEET 1 UPLOADED ON 4TH MAY, 2020**

**THE ASS HAS NO BRAIN**

**Answers to the short questions:**

A1. The lion was growing weaker day by day so, he decided to take an assistant so that he could bring him his food.

A2. The first duty of the fox as Minister was to bring him an animal to eat every day.

A3. The lion selected the fox for the post of minister because the fox was so clever.

A4. The ass refused the fox to be lion's minister because he was afraid of the lion.

A5. The fox brought back the ass to the lion by flattering the ass that he was so wise and hardworking.

A6. When the ass reached nearer to the lion, the lion pounced on him and killed him. No, the ass did not expect this.

A7. The fox ate the ass's brain because he took all the troubles of getting the ass, so, he deserved the best portion of the meal.

A8. When the lion returned after the bath he realized that the head of the ass had been cut open.

A9. The fox satisfied the lion by telling him that he had given a powerful blow on the ass's head when he killed him.

A10. The fox told the lion about the ass's brain that if the ass had a brain he would have never returned with the fox to meet the lion.

**Choose the Correct answer.**

1. assistant

2. brain

3. fox

4. clever

5. The ass

**Fill in the blanks.**

1. Never 2. Forward 3. Shy 4. Life 5. Patient

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