

# Assignments in Communicative English Class-X (Term-I)

## Section D: Literature

### Two Gentlemen of Verona

#### ASSIGNMENT 1

#### (Reference to Context – MCQs)

Read the following extracts and choose the correct option.

1. "Won't you go in?" The nurse murmured, "Lucia will be pleased to see you".

- (i) Identify the speaker  
(a) The author (b) Nicola  
(c) Jacopo (d) the Nurse
- (ii) Lucia is supposed to be :  
(a) the sister of the boys  
(b) aunt of the boys  
(c) narrator's friend  
(d) the driver's niece
- (iii) Lucia would have welcomed the author because :  
(a) she knew him well  
(b) she was bed-ridden and would have loved stranger's visit  
(c) he had helped her brother  
(d) she was friendly by nature

Answers : (i) \_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_

2. "For months they had barely kept themselves alive."

- (i) This means that :  
(a) they had no desire to live  
(b) they were weak-willed  
(c) they had great difficulties during war  
(d) they were lazy
- (ii) The boys had kept alive by :  
(a) eating a lot  
(b) begging for work  
(c) building a house out of the rubble  
(d) taking people for sightseeing
- (iii) The above reflects on the qualities of boys like :  
(a) diligence (c) compassion  
(b) perseverance (d) determination

Answers : (i) \_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_

3. They had always known a comfortable and cultured life.

- (i) Identify 'they' :  
(a) the narrator and his friend  
(b) Nicola and Jacopo  
(c) some tourists  
(d) the guide at Juliet's tomb
- (ii) By 'comfortable life' means :  
(a) inherited money  
(b) lot of salary

- (c) parents were reasonably well-off  
(d) parents were musicians

- (iii) The effect of this upbringing was :  
(a) boys had a tough time  
(b) they couldn't survive  
(c) they had to face more struggle  
(d) their determination increased

Answers : (i) \_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_

4. "I knew they would prefer to feel that they had safely kept their secret".

- (i) The writer had the above feeling because :  
(a) the boys behaved strangely  
(b) they did not take the writer inside to meet their sister  
(c) they sent him to the village  
(d) they refused to say anything
- (ii) The above behaviour reflected upon the boys' :  
(a) cleverness (b) reticence  
(c) maturity (d) introvert nature
- (iii) The writer kept quiet because he wanted to :  
(a) keep their friendship  
(b) ignore them  
(c) be indifferent  
(d) retain their dignity

Answers : (i) \_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_

5. "May be you'd like to go to the 'cafe' in the village for a drink"?

- (i) The boys said this because :  
(a) they wanted to avoid the writer  
(b) they wanted to cheat him  
(c) they were cracking a joke  
(d) they were not bothered
- (ii) The above reflects upon the boys' character attributes like :  
(a) ignorant (b) uncivilized  
(c) tactful (d) rude
- (iii) The writer also listened to the boys because  
(a) he was not interested  
(b) he wanted to keep their secret  
(c) he did not wish to hurt them  
(d) he had no other option

Answers : (i) \_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_

## ASSIGNMENT 2

### (Reference to Context – NON-MCQs)

Read the following extracts and answer the questions.

1. *“Nicola, the way you and Jacopo work, you must earn quite a bit. You spend nothing on clothes. You eat little enough ... ”.*

(a) Who said the above lines?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Why did the speaker get the feeling that the boys were not spending any money?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

(c) What do the above lines reflect about the two boys?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

2. *I had already told Luigi he might take the day off. However I answered “I’ll drive you out myself”.*

(a) Who is Luigi?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Why did the speaker offer to drive himself?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Where did the boys wish to go?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

3. *When the war was over and we had peace at last, they come back to their beloved sister. And they found her ...*

(a) Identify ‘they’.

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Who is the beloved sister?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

(c) In what condition did they find their sister?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

4. *“Of course, everything is so difficult now, food so scarce and dear we could not keep going unless we charged a fee”.*

(a) Who is the speaker and who is the listener?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Why was food so expensive?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

(c) For what purpose does the speaker need to charge a fee?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

5. "They couldn't do it better", I agreed.

(a) Who is 'I' and who are 'they'?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

(b) What great thing had the above mentioned people done?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Do you think the speaker is earnest in his saying?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_

### ASSIGNMENT 3

#### SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. Nicola said to the narrator, "Waiting for the last bus from Padua. We shall sell all our papers, when it comes in". Why were the boys waiting for the last bus?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why did the two boys survive only on black bread and figs, despite making a decent earning?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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3. Why does the narrator make an offer for help to the two boys? What does it entail?

Ans : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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4. For what reason does Jacopo request for a lift to Poleta?

Ans :

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5. Why did the narrator enter the large red-roofed villa?

Ans :

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6. What scene does the narrator see through the glass partition?

Ans :

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7. How did the narrator discover regarding the family background of the two boys? How did the war affect their family?

Ans :

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8. The nurse said regarding the two boys, "I don't know what they do, I don't ask. Work is scarce in Verona." What does this remark reflect upon the speaker?

Ans :

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**ASSIGNMENT 4**

**LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS**

1. Nicola is happy to see the improvement in his sister's condition. He writes a letter to his friend James, expressing his feelings and satisfaction they were deriving in their valiant efforts to help their sister. Write the letter on his behalf.

Ans :

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