

VASISHTHA GENESIS SCHOOL, BARDOLI
(Academic Session: 2026-27)

Date: _____	Class: 6	Div: _____	Roll No: _____	Sub: English
Name: _____			Worksheet: English Literature (HYE)	

CH -5

1. This story opens on a scene of a lake in wilderness. The time is late afternoon; everything looks very beautiful. A man and his son sit in a small, motionless boat on the lake, waiting for a flock of birds to arrive. The man is teaching his son how to shoot birds and before the birds arrive, he gives the boy advice about the birds and the activity of shooting. The mood set by this scene is calm and peaceful and at the same time a little suspenseful—since the people are carrying guns, we can expect violence of some kind and know that the peace may be shattered any moment.

2.a. Just before this, the boy had shot at a duck and it had fallen down into the water. The boy was paddling because he wanted to take the boat to where the duck had fallen and find the duck.

b. The boy's arms trembled because he was shocked at the sight of the injured bird falling from the sky into the lake. He had not realised what it would be like to actually shoot and hit a bird, and when he saw the bird and its sudden change in movement from smooth flight to an abrupt drop, he felt disturbed and nervous. Para 32 shows a change in this feeling because it says that the blood seemed to flow again in his arms (when he realised that the bird was not dead).

3. The boy had fired at a duck, the leader of the flock, and managed to hit it. The bird fell into the water. When the boy picked it up, the duck's limp body made him think that it was dead, and that thought, that he had taken another creature's life, frightened him.

4.a. No, the man did not want the boy to look after the duck. We know this because of the manner—almost as a warning to the boy—in which he said that looking after the duck would be a big responsibility.

b. No, the man has not been mentioned in para 36, where the boy looks after the bird. By not mentioning him, the writer may be trying to say that the man did not play any role in taking care of the bird. Yes, this supports the answer to question 4.a. as this shows that the man did not want to look after the duck.

5.a. The boy was bold enough to make a decision that went against his father and he was also bold enough to tell his father the truth about what he had done. This tells us that at that point, the boy was sure about his decision to never shoot any creature again.

and felt brave enough to tell that to his father at the risk of annoying him.

6.The last line of the text, which says that the man felt relieved that the gun had gone, suggests that all this while, the man had also been troubled by the outcome of the shooting. Perhaps a part of him had always felt a little guilty about shooting birds or other creatures. Or perhaps his son's reaction to the sufferings of this bird made him realise how harmful shooting could be. That is why he could quickly forget his shock that the gun had been thrown away, and he could feel peaceful.

7.a. The act of violence in this story is the shooting of the bird. The man fires many shots, though he does not hit any bird. The boy, however, hits a duck. The direct outcome of that act is that the duck is severely wounded; it will not be able to fly again. This makes the boy feel a sense of shock and fright.

b.The boy must have felt guilty for shooting the bird, for he not only takes the bird home and looks after it, but he also throws the gun away. This makes both the boy and the man feel better at the end. Thus, the text shows the negative effects of violence and the positive effect of giving up violence.

Ch 6

1.Arthur was the son of King Uther Pendragon of Britain. As a baby, he had been taken away secretly by a wise old man called Merlin and given to Sir Ector. Arthur had grown up thinking that Sir Ector was his father. He had no idea at first that he was the rightful successor to the throne of England.

2.a.Sir Kay was looking dismayed because when his father asked him if he had pulled the sword out of the stone, he had to admit that he had not. Before this, when Arthur had handed him the sword, Sir Kay had hoped that since he held the sword, it would mean that he was to be the king of England. His father's question pointed out that ,that may not be the case. He spoke stoutly because although he was disappointed, he was determined to tell the truth— that he had not pulled the sword out of the stone.

b.Sir Kay shows the quality of honesty here, as he tells the truth even though it means that he would be disappointed. He did not pretend to have pulled the sword out himself.

3.When the stone with the sword first appeared in the churchyard, the Archbishop said that anyone was free to try to pull the sword out of the stone and thus prove himself the king of England. He ordered the stone to be guarded so that there could be no unfair attempts. Later, when Sir Ector told him that Arthur had pulled out the sword, the Archbishop decided to hold a trial in front of everyone so that all could see that Arthur could really pull out the sword. Again, he let anyone and everyone try to pull out the sword. Even when some of the knights and princes wanted to repeat the trial, the Archbishop agreed, because he wanted everyone to be satisfied. All this shows that he tried to be fair at all times.

4.a. Some of the knights and princes did not want to accept Arthur as king even after watching him take out the sword from the stone, because he was only a young boy and he was not from a royal family. They were not aware that Arthur was Uther Pendragon's son.

b. Another possible reason why they did not want to accept Arthur as king was that they themselves wanted to be the king. They were older and more experienced than Arthur and thus thought themselves more worthy of the throne.

5. a. The Archbishop said this when Merlin announced at the feast of Pentecost that Arthur was the son of Uther Pendragon.

b. Merlin said that he had taken Arthur away as a child because he knew Uther Pendragon was about to die and Arthur might come to harm. Merlin had taken Arthur, at the king's request, to Sir Ector, to be brought up as his son.

c. Merlin had not appeared earlier because he thought it was not yet time to tell everyone the truth. He wanted Arthur to prove that he was the rightful king by pulling out the sword, so that people would not have to believe Merlin's word alone. However, he appeared at this event so that he could support Arthur's claim to the throne, silence the knights and princes who were refusing to accept Arthur even after Arthur had pulled out the sword, and tell everyone the truth finally.

Poem 3

1. Orpheus's music affects trees, plants and flowers, mountains and the sea. Plants and flowers come into being when Orpheus's music is heard. The tops of mountains bow when he sings. And the large waves of the sea seem to lower their heads and then settle down when they hear him play.

2. In the first line, the word 'sprung' is a form of the word 'spring' where 'spring' means to come into being or appear. In the second line, 'spring' means the season when sunlight and rain make new leaves, plants and flowers grow. Orpheus's music made plants and flowers appear just as new plants and flowers appear in the springtime.

3. We can really see sea waves 'hang their heads' and then 'lay by', because waves come up and then they fall and back down, and the movement is similar to the description here. However, we cannot see the peaks of mountains bowing.

4. The peaks of mountains bowing and plants and flowers appearing at the sound of Orpheus's music— these are the magical effects of music mentioned in this poem. Sea waves too, may fall down, but not as an effect of music. The effect that can be observed in real life is that when we hear good music, we feel less anxious, worried or sad; music can make us feel better. Music can even send people to sleep, as lullabies are used to make babies fall asleep.

EXTRA

CH 5:-

1. Why does the writer use the word 'sick' to describe how the boy feels?

Ans. The writer uses the word 'sick' to make us understand that the boy felt guilty, ashamed and disgusted at what he had done to the duck.

2. How did the boy prove to be better than his father?

Ans: They had to aim and shoot a bird down in a single shot. Father was the first one to try. His shot only shook the boat and caused some ripples in the lake. On the contrary, his son's steady and patient aim could pick a single speck in the sky and the leader of one of the bird formations was shot with precision.

Ch 6:-

1. What does 'a higher destiny' mean?

Ans. A higher destiny means a greater future; it means that Arthur was more important and was meant to do greater things than Sir Ector had thought.

2. Why did King Pendragon send his son away?

Ans: King Pendragon sent his little son away because he knew that if anything were to happen to him, his son would be killed for the throne. He did not want any harm to come to his son.

RTC

"Remember, aim well ahead. You have to imagine the flight path."

- Who is the speaker? Who is he speaking to?
- Whose flight path is he asking the person to imagine?
- What does the speaker ask the person to do?

Ans: a. The speaker is the father speaking to his son.

b. He is asking his son to imagine the flight path of teals.

c. He wants his son to aim and shoot the teal with one shot.

"Meanwhile, ten knights of high renown will guard the stone."

- What were the knights to guard and why?
- When did they stop guarding it?
- What did this result in?

Ans. a. The knights were to guard the sword that was struck to a huge square stone. They had to guard it from those who would try to use unfair means to steal it.

b. They stopped guarding it on the day of the tournament.

c. This led to young Arthur finding it and plucking it out.