

NCERT Solutions:-

Q1. When her son dies, Kisa Gotami goes from house to house? What does she ask for? Does she get it? Why not?

Ans- Kisa Gotami was overcome with grief after the death of her only son. She carried the dead body of her son in her arms and went from door to door asking for medicine to cure her child, but nobody could provide any medicine. For there is no such medicine available which can bring a dead person back to life.

Q2. Kisa Gotami again goes from house to house after she speaks with the Buddha. What does she ask for? Does she get it? Why not?

Ans- Gautama Buddha asks Kisa to bring a handful of mustard seeds from a house where death had never knocked at the door.

Kisa Gotami went from door to door, but couldn't find a single house where death had not taken a beloved away. She could not get it as death is inevitable and anyone who is born is bound to die one day.

Q3. What does Kisa Gotami understand the second time that she failed to understand the first time? Was this what Buddha wanted her to understand?

Ans- After failing to procure a handful of mustard seeds from a house where death had never knocked at the door, she sat by the roadside feeling helpless. She saw the lights of the city that flickered and were extinguished. At last, it was darkness everywhere. She realized that death was common to all and she was being selfish in her grief. Yes, this is what Buddha wanted her to understand that everyone who is born has to die one day.

4.Q Why do you think Kisa Gotami understood this only the second time? In what way did Buddha change her understanding?

Ans- Earlier, she could see only her grief. When she went from door to door the second time, she understood that everyone was dealing with the loss of a beloved one. There was not a single house in the town, where death had not taken a father, a mother, a sister, a brother, son or a daughter. Everyone, at some point or the other, had experienced the death of his loved ones. Gautama Buddha helped her to understand all this, as he told her to bring a handful of mustard seeds from a house where death had never knocked at the door. This way she became aware that death is common to all human beings.

Q5. How do you usually understand the idea of selfishness? Do you agree with Kisa Gotami that she was being selfish in her grief?

Ans- A selfish person is one who only thinks about himself or herself, and to some extent Kisa Gotami was being selfish. We are humans and it is natural for us to die. We do not easily accept the death of our loved ones. Same has happened with Kisa Gotami, As it was her only child, she did not want him to die and finally went to Buddha to ask for help.

Short Answer Questions:-

Q1. How did Gautama come to be known as the Buddha?

Ans- Siddhartha Gautama wandered for seven years and finally sat down under a Peepal tree till he got enlightenment. After seven days of enlightenment. He renamed the 'Bodhi Tree' and began to teach and to share his new understanding and came to be known as Buddha.

Q2. Why did Prince Siddhartha leave the palace and become a beggar?

Ans- Once Prince Siddhartha, while hunting, saw a sick man, then an aged man, then a funeral procession and finally a monk begging for alms. Looking at this, he left the palace and became a beggar to search for enlightenment.

Q3. What do you know about the early life of Buddha?

Ans- Gautama Buddha was born in a royal family. His childhood name was Siddhartha. At the age of twelve, he was sent away for schooling in Hindu sacred scriptures and four years later he got married to a princess.

Q4. What was the effect of the sufferings of the world on Buddha?

Ans- At the age of 25, while hunting, one day Buddha saw a sick man, then an aged man, then a funeral procession and finally a monk begging for alms. These moved him so much that he went out into the world to seek enlightenment.

Q5. What did Buddha do after he had attained enlightenment?

Ans- When Buddha attained enlightenment, he started preaching and telling people about life and its meaning. He spread his preachings far and wide so that people could come to terms with the truth. He shared his knowledge with people through his teachings.

Q6. Where did Buddha preach his first sermon?

Ans- Gautama Buddha preached his first sermon at the city of Benares, which is regarded as the holiest of the dipping places on the river Ganges. The sermon reflects his wisdom about the kind of suffering.

Q7. Why was Kisa Gotami sad? What did she do in her hour of grief?

Ans- Kisa Gotami was sad over the death of her only son. In the hour of grief, she went door to door in order to find medicine for her son that could bring him to life. But nobody could provide any medicine.

Q8. According to Kisa Gotami what is the greatest grief of life?

Ans- According to Kisa Gotami, the greatest grief in life is the death of loved ones. Death is inevitable and every living being is mortal. Therefore, instead of lamenting on it, the wise should accept the truth of death. Weeping will only increase the pain and disturb the peace of mind of a person.

Q9. How did Kisa Gotami realize that life and death is a process?

Ans- Kisa Gotami went from house to house but was unable to find one house where nobody had died. She was tired and hopeless and sat down at the wayside watching the lights of the city as they flickered up and were extinguished again.

She realized that human life is similar to the city lights which have to end one day.

Q10. What did Buddha say about death and suffering?

Ans- Buddha said that death and suffering are part and parcel of life. No one can avoid this truth. Whoever has come to the world, will die one day. In the hour of grief, one must remain calm and composed so that grief doesn't overcome one. People who are wise, never complain or lament over their loss. They accept the truth. So, the wisdom lies in the fact that people should not get distressed with pain, suffering and death.

Long Answer questions :-

Q1. What lesson on death and suffering did the Buddha teach Gotami?

Ans- Buddha taught Gotami that life and death are part and parcel of life. No one can avoid this truth. Whoever has come into this world will die one day. Thus, in the hour of grief at the death of a loved one, one must remain calm. Else, they will feel the pain more. However, those persons who are wise never complain or lament over their loss. They accept the truth and overcome their sorrow. So, wisdom is in the fact that people should not get distressed with pain, suffering and death.

Q2. How did Siddhartha Gautama gain enlightenment ?

Ans- Siddhartha wanted to find out about why people suffer and how it might be possible to end this suffering. He knew nothing about suffering in the world. One day he went out hunting. He saw a sick- man, an aged man, a funeral procession and a beggar. These sights moved him. He gave up his all and went out in search of enlightenment. He wished to know how man could overcome suffering. For seven years he wandered. At last, while he sat under a fig tree, he got enlightenment.

Comprehension Questions:-

A. Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow:

Gautama Buddha (563 B.C.-483 B.C.) began life as a prince named Siddhartha Gautama, in northern India. At twelve, he was sent away for schooling in the Hindu sacred scriptures and four years later he returned home to marry a princess. They had a son and lived for ten years as befitted royalty. At about age twenty-five, the prince, heretofore shielded from the suffering of the world, while out hunting chanced upon a sick man, then an aged man, then a funeral procession, and finally a monk begging for alms. These sights so moved him that he at once became a beggar and went out into the world to seek enlightenment concerning the sorrows he had witnessed.

Q1. Who was Gautam Buddha?

Ans- Gautam Buddha was a prince.

Q2. When was Gautam Buddha born? What was he named ?

Ans- Gautam Buddha was born in 563 B.C. He was named Siddhartha Gautama.

Q3. At what age Gautam Buddha sent away for schooling?

Ans- At twelve, Gautam Buddha was sent away for schooling.

Q4. What did Gautam Buddha witness while hunting?

Ans- While hunting Gautam Buddha witnessed a sick man, an aged man, a funeral procession, and finally a monk begging for alms.

Q5. Find a word from the passage that means 'a state of high spiritual knowledge'.

Ans- Enlightenment

B. He wandered for seven years and finally sat down under a peepal tree, where he vowed to stay until enlightenment came. Enlightened after seven days, he renamed the tree the Bodhi Tree and began to teach and to share his new understandings. At that point he

became known as the Buddha.

Q1. What was the name of the peepal tree under which Buddha sat?

Ans- The name of the peepal tree under which Buddha sat was 'Bodhi tree'.

Q2. How many days did it take Buddha to get enlightened.

Ans- Buddha got enlightened after seven days.

Q3. What did Buddha do after getting enlightened?

Ans- Buddha began to teach and preach his learning after getting enlightened.

Q4. How many years he wandered and under which tree he finally sat?

Ans- He wandered for seven years and finally sat down under a peepal tree.

Q5. Find a word from the passage that means 'to walk somewhere with no purpose or direction'.

Ans- Wandered

C. Poor Kisa Gotami now went from house to house, and the people pitied her and said: "Here is mustard-seed; take it !" But when she asked, "Did a son or daughter, a father or mother, die in your family?" They answered her: "Alas! The living are few, but the dead are many. Do not remind us of our deepest grief." And there was no house but some beloved one had died in it.

Q1. From which lesson this passage has been taken?

Ans- The Sermon At Benares.

Q2. Why did Kisa Gotami travel from house to house?

Ans- Kisa Gotami travelled from house to house to collect mustard seeds.

Q3. What did Kisa Gotami ask before taking the mustard seeds?

Ans- Kisa Gotami asked whether a family member had ever died in their family or not.

Q4. What did the people answer to Kisa Gotami?

Ans- They answered her: "Alas! The living are few, but the dead are many."

Q4. Find a word from the passage that means 'sorrow'.

Ans- Grief

MCQ**Answer Key**

1. **What was Gautama Buddha's early name?**
a. Siddhu b. Sadhu
c. Siddhartha d. Sidhnath
2. **For how many years did Gautama Buddha wander?**
a. 6 years b. 7 years
c. 8 years d. 9 years
3. **Where did he vow to stay until his enlightenment came?**
a. his palace
b. under peepal tree
c. under banyan tree
d. under neem tree
4. **What did he name the tree?**
a. Bodhi tree b. Buddha tree
c. Gautama tree d. Siddhartha tree
5. **Which seed did Buddha ask to bring?**
a. pumpkin seeds b. mustard seeds
c. sunflower seeds d. cotton seeds.
6. **Gautama Buddha got enlightenment after how many days?**
a. 6 days b. 7 days
c. 8 days d. 10 days
7. **In which city did Gautama Buddha deliver his first sermon?**
a. Patna b. Gaya
c. Benaras d. Lumbini
8. **At what age did prince Siddhartha renounce his princely life?**
a. 25 b. 20
c. 30 d. 22
9. **What moved him to seek out enlightenment?**
A. a sick man b. an aged man
c. a monk begging d. all of these
10. **"The wise do notknowing the terms of the world"?**
a. laugh b. smile
c. grieve d. all of these

1. c. Siddhartha
2. b. 7 years.
3. b. under peepal tree
4. a. Bodhi tree
5. b. mustard seeds
6. b. 7 days
7. c. Benaras
8. a. 25
9. d. all of these
10. c. grieve

For Anne Gregory

-William Butler Yeats

NCERT Solutions:-

Q1. What does the young man mean by “great honey coloured ramparts at your ear”? Why does he say that young men are “thrown into despair” by them?

Ans- In this poem its young man praises the great honey-coloured hair of a woman named Anne. Her hair is being compared with the 'rampart' which means high wall. The rampart prevents the young man from looking beyond those yellow hair and into her soul. Anne's yellow hair is so pretty that young men hopelessly fall in love with her. She is so pretty that every young heart wants her, which is impossible, so they are thrown into despair.

Q2. What is the colour of the young woman's hair? What does she say she can change it to? Why would she want to do so?

Ans- The colour of the young woman's hair is yellow. She thought to change it because she wanted to show that outer beauty is changeable and not permanent as real. She wants young men to look in her soul and love her for her inner beauty.

Short Answer Questions:-

Q1. What does the young woman wish?

Ans- She wishes that she should be loved for herself alone and not for her yellow hair.

Q2. Why is the young man in despair in the poem 'For Anne Gregory'?

Ans- The young man is in despair because the young man loves Anne very much and becomes speechless of seeing exquisite beauty.

Q3. What did the religious man tell the poet?

Ans- The religious man told the poet that he found a book to prove that only god could love her for her spiritual beauty and not for his physical beauty.

Q4. Between whom does the conversation take place?

Ans- The poem is about a conversation between a young man and a young woman who could be the poet himself, or Anne's lover or friend and Anne herself.

Q5. Why do young men love Anne for her hair and not for herself alone?

Ans- Anne is so beautiful that no man has power to ignore her exquisite beauty and looking inside her real nature. Anne's sharp feature misleads the man from knowing the real person. This shows that man loves Anne for her hair and not for her inner quality.

Q6. Why only God loves Anne for herself ?

Ans- God loves Anne for herself because only god can love us for who we are on the inside without caring for outer beauty.

Reference to context questions:-

A. Read the given stanza and answer the questions that follow:

"Never shall a young man,
Thrown into despair
By those great honey-coloured
Ramparts at your ear,
Love you for yourself alone
And not your yellow hair."

Q1. From which poem this extract has been taken?

Ans- "For Anne Gregory"

Q2. Who is the poet of the above given lines?

Ans- William Butler Yeats

Q3. Why is the young man in despair?

Ans- The young man is in despair because he has seen the white hair of his beloved.

Q4. What will the young man love according to the speaker?

Ans- The young man will love her because of her hair. He will not love her for her own sake.

Q5. Pick out the word from the given stanza which means the same as 'hopelessness'?

Ans- Despair

B. "But I can get a hair-dye
And set such colour there,
Brown, or black, or carrot,
That young men in despair
May love me for myself alone
And not my yellow hair."

Q1. From which poem this extract has been taken?

Ans- "For Anne Gregory"

Q2. Who is the poet of the above given lines?

Ans- William Butler Yeats

Q3. What colour would she dye her hair?

Ans- She would dye her hair in brown or black or in carrot like colour.

Q4. Who is the speaker in these lines?

Ans- Anne Gregory is the speaker.

Q5. Pick out the word from the given stanza which means the same as 'a substance that is used to change the colour of something'?

Ans- Dye

C. "I heard an old religious man
But yesternight declare
That he had found a text to prove
That only God, my dear,
Could love you for yourself alone
And not your yellow hair."

Q1. From which poem this extract has been taken?

Ans- "For Anne Gregory"

Q2. Who is the poet of the above given lines?

Ans- William Butler Yeats

Q3. Who is 'I' in the first line?

Ans- 'I' refers to the poet -W.B. Yeats

Q4. What did the poet hear an old religious man declare?

Ans- The poet heard an old religious man declared that only God could love a woman for herself alone without caring for her beautiful yellow hair.

Q5. Pick out the word from the given stanza which means the same as 'last night'?

Ans- Yesternight

MCQ

Q1. What did the young lady expect?

- a. her lover should love her for wealth
- b. her lover should love her for herself only.
- c. her lover should love her for behaviour only.
- d. none of the above

Q2. Who was it that the poet had heard?

- a. a priest
- b. an old religious man.
- c. a king
- d. none of the above

Q3. What matters more to God than loving human beings?

- a. the outer qualities of human beings
- b. the inner qualities of human beings
- c. their rituals
- d. none of the above

Q4. What is the colour of the ramparts of the young lady?

- a. golden
- b. honey
- c. silver
- d. brown

Q5. How will the young man react to seeing the honey coloured ramparts?

- a. he will be thrown into despair.
- b. he will be thrown into happiness.
- c. he will be thrown into confusion.
- d. none of the Above

Q6. What does the girl want?

- a. to be loved for herself.
- b. to be loved for her hair
- c. to be loved for her appearance
- d. to be loved for her riches.

Q7. What colour will the girl dye her hair into?

- a. black b. brown
- c. carrot d. all of them

Q8. Who can love us for who we are and not for how we look?

- a. poet b. young boy
- c. god d. none of these

Q9. Who is the poet of the poem "For Anne Gregory"

- a. Carl Sandburg.
- b. William Butler Yeats
- c. Carolyn
- d. Walt Whitman

Q10. This poem is a conversation between.....?

- a. a young man and an old woman
- b. a old man and a young woman
- c. a old man and an old woman
- d. a young man and a young woman

Answer Key

- 1. b. her lover should love her for herself only.
- 2. b. an old religious man.
- 3. b. the inner qualities of human beings
- 4. b. honey
- 5. a. he will be thrown into despair.
- 6. a. to be loved for herself.
- 7. d. all of them
- 8. c. god
- 9. b. William Butler Yeats
- 10. d. a young man and a young woman