

# DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL, GAYA

## WORKSHEET-2

**Subject : English**

**Class : IX**

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1. Read the following passage carefully:

Spices bring to mind images of tempting culinary art, fascinating travels and the bitter struggle for supremacy. Expressions like 'Variety is the spice of life' and 'sugar and spice and all that's nice' show how spellbound were men of letters about spices.

To Orientals, spices are indeed the soul of food. In the western world, it evokes dreams of exotic tropical islands, exciting expeditions to find routes to the source and rise and fall of empires. Columbus went westwards in 1492 from Europe to find a sea route to the land of spices but found the New world. Eight years later, Vasco da Gama went round Africa and touched Kozhikode on the South-West coast of India. Long before that, Arabs started trading with the Orient through land routes. During the 13th century, Marco Polo experienced the attraction of spices in his travels. Even the European conquests and trade arrangements in India and the East Indies had a lot to do with spices.

Thousands of years ago, great masters of Ayurveda (the Indian system of medicine), notably Susruta and Charaka, discussed in detail the use of spices for culinary and medicinal purposes. Enterprising soldiers of fortune took the knowledge of spices to Egypt. There they used spices and aromatic herbs in food, medicine, cosmetics and for embalming. The conquests of Egypt and Asia by Alexander the Great, made spices an article of commerce in Mediterranean countries and later in central and northern Europe. There are reports of pepper being used in meta, both to add preservation, and to mask the unwelcome colour of deterioration of quality, during the long winter storage.

Hippocrates, the father of modern medicine, and Theophrastus, a Greek scholar and botanist, wrote treatises on medicinal plants, including spices. India has been home to most of the major spices of the world with varieties from Kerela dominating international trade.

1.1 Answer the following questions based on your reading:

- a. Why do spices fascinate people?
- b. Where do Orientals live?
- c. Where did Columbus want to reach?
- d. What is meant by 'culinary skills'?
- e. What did Susruta and Charaka discuss in detail?
- f. What made spices an article of commerce in Mediterranean countries?
- g. Who have written treatises on medicinal plants, including spices?
- h. Give an expression from the passage that uses the word 'spice' in it.

2. Read the passage carefully:

Happiness is like the sun; it is often hidden by the clouds of thoughts, worries and desires. We have to scatter and dissolve them to experience happiness. You don't have to create happiness. All you have to do is calm your mind because when there is a quiet mind and inner peace, there is happiness. Happiness is not something far away and unattainable. Happiness does not depend on circumstances, objects or events. It is an inseparable part of our consciousness, of our essence, but hidden and covered from sight by our thoughts, desires and worries. The mind is always in a constant race from one thought to another, from one worry to another. It constantly moves from one object or task to another, never standing still. This restlessness hides the happiness that is within you. It is like a choppy sea that hides the bottom. When the sea gets calm, you see the bottom. In the same way, when the mind gets quiet, you sense the happiness that is within you.

You can't see a treasure at the bottom of a stormy and muddy lake, although, it is there. However, when the wind stops, the water becomes still and the mud sinks, you can see the treasure. The treasure is there, whether you see it or not. So is happiness. It is always there, only hidden by thoughts, desires and worries.

You can experience more and more happiness in your life. Only your thought stands in the way of experiencing it. Net time you feel happy, stop for a moment and watch the state of your mind. You will be surprised to discover that it is calm, and there are almost no thoughts in your mind. Since the mind is not accustomed to stay in this peaceful state for long, it soon becomes active again, and the sense of happiness disappears.

2.2 Answer the following questions based on your reading:

- a. What is common between happiness and the sun?
- b. How can we enjoy the moments of happiness in our life?
- c. How does the restlessness of our mind come in the way of our happiness?
- d. How can we detect the treasure at the bottom of a stormy and muddy lake?
- e. What is the synonym of 'concealed'? (paragraph 2)
- f. Write a word similar in meaning to the word 'habituated'. (paragraph 3)
- g. What does happiness not depend on?
- h. What stands in the way of your experiencing happiness?

3. Using the hints given below, develop a story in about 200-250 words.

'Sitting alone on a beach, I felt myself like a speck of sand against the vastness of the sea. Suddenly I saw a boat coming towards the shore..... .' Also give it a suitable title.

4. Fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate options from the ones given below.

(a) ..... peeling the sweet lime and oranges (b) ..... careful so that the segments are not mashed. The lettuce leaves are (c)..... into pieces. They are kept in ice-cold water (d)..... ten minutes.

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|-----|------------|------------|--------------|-------------|
| (a) | (i) When   | (ii) Why   | (iii) What   | (iv) Where  |
| (b) | (i) was    | (ii) is    | (iii) be     | (iv) will   |
| (c) | (i) broken | (ii) break | (iii) breaks | (iv) broke  |
| (d) | (i) with   | (ii) for   | (iii) on     | (iv) during |

5. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Identify the error and write it with the correction in the space given :

	<b>Incorrect</b>	<b>Correct</b>
e.g. Students are generally immature in his mental	his	their
(a) faculties. They are rash and hot-blood.	_____	_____
(b) They are not suppose to be wise and balanced	_____	_____
(c) in their judgement. His active participation in	_____	_____
(d) politics can lead in dangerous consequences.	_____	_____

6. Rearrange the following words/ phrases to form meaningful sentences.

- (a) places/Reena/which give/ museums and art/are/stores/pleasure
- (b) memories/ of his/ Mohan/ America/ has/ fond/ time/ in
- (c) the beginning of/ third day/ the snow ceased on the/ the storm/ after
- (d) an antidote/ and pain/ it is/ to stress