Vocabulary

Immemorial- ancient, very old

Spontaneity- agility, fast, quick

Garishly- very bright, gaudy, showy

1. Marks play an interesting tool for entertaining and a powerful instrument for conducting different rituals.
2. The masks are made of many different materials and their shapes and sizes vary from one geographical region to another. India has a tradition of mask making and masks in our country are unique and truly beautiful.
3. Folk dances of Kerala are- Padayani, Theyyam, Kodiattam, Kathakali.
4. In Sahi Jatra theatre, actors wear elaborate masks and headgear made from sponge and wood. There is no dialogue but actions by the masked players.
5. According to the writer, our face characterises us and gives us our identity as a person. When we wear a mask we can completely transform our personalities into something totally different. Also a mask can conceal, highlight and change the image of the wearer.

Key points for précis

India has unique masks and truly beautiful.

In Bihar, Chhau dance depicts nature and animal world

In Varanasi, the brass masks portray Hanuman and Durga.

In Arunachal Pradesh, the masks worn are of animals and demons.

In other towns, masks of ugly demons protruding tongues are hung outside homes and buildings to ward off evil eyes of passers- by.