

# 1. A Work of Artifice

## (a) Text-based Multiple Choice Questions

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| 1. (b) | 2. (a) | 3. (b) | 4. (d) | 5. (d)  |
| 6. (c) | 7. (d) | 8. (b) | 9. (b) | 10. (b) |

## (b) Comprehension Passages

### PASSAGE 1

- (i) The bonsai is a small decorative tree that is grown in a pot. It is prevented from reaching its normal size. In the poem it stands for a woman oppressed and suppressed in a male-dominated society.
- (ii) It could have grown fully outside in nature, on the side of a mountain. It could have grown there up to eight feet high. Its branches continue to be pruned. It prevents its growth.
- (iii) The gardener stands for a man – a lover or a husband – in the poem. He continues to prune the bonsai tree and does not let it grow. He believes that it has to remain small and weak to look attractive.
- (iv) The bonsai tree is not allowed to grow to its full potential deliberately. In the poem, it stands for a woman. Like the bonsai tree, woman in male-dominated world is prevented from growing and showing her capabilities fully. She is made to accept her subordinate position by keeping her confined to the four walls of her home.
- (v) The main idea projected in the poem is that if anything or anybody is not allowed to grow, it will remain underdeveloped and weak. This is true in the case of bonsai tree and a woman in the male-dominated society.