



1. Match the following statements in a way that challenges stereotypes:

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|---|---|
| (a) Two surgeons were sitting down to lunch when one of them made a call on the mobile phone. | 1. Suffers from chronic asthma                                  |
| (b) The boy who won the drawing competition went to the dias                                  | 2. to become an astronaut which she did.                        |
| (c) One of the fastest athletes in the world  | 3. to speak with her daughter who had just returned from school |
| (d) She was not that well-off but had a dream   | 4. on a wheelchair to collect his prize                         |

Ans: (a) 3

Remark: Many people have formed a stereotype that people living in cities or having influential jobs like surgeon are busy and do not give time to their family. But this example proves that feelings for the family are universal and the surgeon wanted to talk to her daughter.

(b) 4

Remark: This challenges the stereotype that crippled children are good for nothing. But the truth is that they have only one, or probably two defective organs, but they can still use their mind and talent and win prizes like this boy. .

(c) 1

Remark: This challenges the stereotype that chronic asthma patients can not run fast or take part in sports.

(d) 2

Remark: This challenges the stereotype that only influential and high- class people can dream big. Even poor people can dream big and prove themselves.

2. How can the stereotype that girls are a burden on their parents affects the life of a daughter? Imagine this situation and list at least Jive different effects that this stereotype can have on the way daughters get treated in the house.

Ans: Girls have been treated as a burden since time immemorial. Even today their condition has not changed. Whether it is home or outside, they are not given due opportunity. The mental set-up of the parents is such that it never accepts the birth of a daughter wholeheartedly. As a result girls' life is badly affected. Here is the list of five different effects that this stereotype can have on the way daughters get treated.

- Girls would feel discouraged and they would not concentrate to their studies.
- All their dreams to achieve separate identity in the society would be shattered.
- Sometimes girls are not allowed to join any school or college. This ruthless altitude of the parents towards their daughters ruin their career. They feel helpless even in their parents' house.
- Even marriage does not bring fortune to the girls all the time. Some in-laws prove themselves good by giving proper treatment to the newly married girls. But most of the time we find that they are ill-treated in their in-laws' house. They are subject to exploitation.

3. What does the Constitution say with regard to equality? Why do

you think it is important for all people to be equal?

Ans: Our Constitution provides that the state shall not discriminate against any citizen on the basis of religion, race, caste, sex or region.

It is important for all people to be equal because only then our society would develop in true sense of the term. It is our right to be treated equally. It is our right to be given due respect. It is our right to be given equal opportunities. In absence of all these, our life would be hell. Our personality would be suppressed. Hence, we need equality so that we may go ahead without any hindrances. We may prove ourselves helpful in the development of the society and country.

4. Sometimes people make prejudiced comments in our presence. We are often not in a position to do anything about this because it is difficult to say something right then and there. Divide the class into groups and each group discuss what they could do in one of the following situations:

- (a) A friend begins to tease a classmate because he is poor.
- (b) You are watching TV with your family and one of them makes a prejudicial comment about a particular religious community.
- (c) Children in your class refuse to share their food with a particular person because they think she is dirty.
- (d) Someone tells you a joke that makes fun of a community because of their accent.
- (e) Some boys make remarks about girls not being able to play games as well as them.

Discuss in class what the different groups have suggested for the above situations, and also talk about the problems that can come up when raising the issue.

Ans: (a) I would try to convince my friend that being a poor is not a crime nor a matter of laughter. Hence, he should not tease his classmate. Instead, he should take care of his dignity and self-respect.

(b) I would stop him/her to do that.

(c) I would advise my classmates to be friendly with one and all.

(d) I would not get involved in the joke and would proceed from their immediately

(e) I would try to convince those boys that girls are in no way less efficient than their male counterparts. I would give examples of Kalpana Chawla and Sunita Williams who did what many men could not think of.

#### I. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Choose the correct option to complete the statements given below:

(i) The number of major religions in the world is .....

- (a) six
- (b) seven
- (c) eight
- (d) nine.

(ii) An important reason why Muslim girls do not attend school or drop out from school after a few years is .....

- (a) poverty
- (b) superstition
- (c) lack of willingness to go to school
- (d) None of the above.

(iii) ..... community was treated as untouchables in the Bombay Presidency.

- (a) Koli
- (b) Mahar
- (c) Nayar
- (d) Munda.

(iv) ..... is known as the leader of the Dalits.

- (a) Dr. Rajendra Prasad

- (b) Guru Teg Bahadur
  - (c) Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar
  - (d) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
  - (v) India is a secular country—It means .....
  - (a) People of different religions have the freedom to practise their religion with any discrimination.
  - (b) People of single religion, i.e. Hinduism are allowed to live in the country.
  - (c) People of India have the freedom to live in any part of the country.
  - (d) All Indians are equal on the basis of caste and creed.
- Ans. (i)—(c), (ii)—(a), (iii)—(b), (iv)—(c), (v)—(a).

## II. FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in the blanks with appropriate word to complete each sentence.

- (i) .....fought for the rights of the Dalits.
  - (ii) The upper castes did not give the so-called ..... the same rights as they enjoyed.
  - (iii) If you do something to put other people down, you are ..... against them.
  - (iv) People usually form certain attitudes and opinions about others who are not ..... them.
  - (v) ..... stop us from looking at each person as a unique individual with his/her own special qualities and skills that are different from others.
- Ans:
- (i) Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar
  - (ii) untouchables
  - (iii) discriminating
  - (iv) like
  - (v) Stereotypes.

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