

Read the following passage and answer the questions in complete sentences

**Dr. Lester James Peries**

1. Lester James Peries was born on 5 April 1919 in Dehiwela, Colombo, Ceylon. His father, Dr. James Francis Peries, studied medicine in Scotland and was also a cricketer for a Scottish club. His mother, Ann Gertrude Winifred Jayasuria, was a graduate of St. Bridget's Convent in Colombo. **Peries had three siblings**: Erica, Ivan and Noel.
2. The Peries family was a staunch Roman Catholic family that had become Anglicised. Growing up, **Peries only spoke English at home and celebrated Christian traditions**. **His only link to Sinhala culture was his grandmother** who always didn't trust Western medicine and spoke proper Sinhalese. **At the age of eleven, Peries was given a 8mm Kodascope projector by his father as a gift**, which ran Chaplin's silent movies. At that time, his only interest in films was when he and his brother Ivan would haunt the cinema to watch foreign film serials which ran day after day. Peries was never involved in school drama productions, and had no idea he was going to be a film director especially since British Ceylon did not have its own national film industry at that time.
3. He attended St. Peter's College- one of the leading Catholic schools in Colombo- as a teenager, before dropping out to pursue a career in journalism at the age of 17. **He found his first work with the Daily News writing for the blue pages which was an arts supplementation**. In 1939 he joined The Times of Ceylon working under Indian editor Frank Moraes. He also reviewed books on Radio Ceylon for a short period.
4. **Peries' first real work with production came when he joined a theatre group called Drama Circle**. This was a group of likeminded individuals which regularly produced modern English plays. Here Peries was engaged in all aspects of the productions other than acting.

5. Peries met his wife, Sumitra, who is also a film director, in Paris at the home of a mutual friend and married in 1964 at All Saints Church in Borella. Peries' brother was artist Ivan Peries.
6. In 1956, Peries made his entry into national cinema with the globally acclaimed "Rekava", which was a story based on village life. It was nominated for the Palme d'Or at the 1957 Cannes Film Festival. With this film he revolutionized Ceylonese cinema, giving it a unique identity. It was the first Ceylonese movie to be shot outdoors. Although it was acclaimed internationally it was not a commercial success. Afterward he made many award-winning films such as "Gamperaliya" in 1964 based on Martin Wickramasinghe's famous novel; "Delowak Athara" in 1966; "Golu Hadawatha" in 1968 based on the novel by Karunasena Jayalath; "Nidhanaya" in 1970; "Yuganthaya" in 1983 and many more. He has directed over 20 feature films. Dr. Lester James Peries died on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 2018 at the age of 99.

1. How old was Dr. Peries when he received the 8mm Kodascope projector? Who gave it to him? .....He was eleven years old when he received the 8mm Kodascope projector by his father.....
2. Who was the only link that Dr. Peries had for the Sinhala culture?  
.....His grandmother was the only link that Dr. Peries had for the Sinhala culture.....
3. Write three things about Dr Peries' childhood.
  - Dr. Peries had three siblings
  - Peries only spoke English at home
  - He celebrated Christian traditions
4. What was Dr. Peries' first job?  
Dr. Peries' first job was writing for the blue pages to the Daily News.
5. Name three movies Dr Peries made.
  - Gamperaliya
  - Delowak Athara
  - Golu Hadawatha

6. What was the name of Dr Peries' wife? Where did he meet her?  
.....**Dr. Peries' wife was Sumitra, he meet her in Paris at the home of a mutual friend**.....
7. What was the first Sri Lankan Movie to be shot outdoors?  
.....**Rekava was the first Sri Lankan Movie to be shot outdoors**.....
8. Name the first theater group Dr. Peries joined.
9. What did not he do in terms of film production while he was working with his theater group?  
.....**He did not action while he was working with his theater group**.....
10. Find similar words from the passage for the words or phrases given below.
  - a. loyal - .....**staunch**..... (paragraph 2)
  - b. find - ..... **dropping out to pursue** ....(paragraph 3)
  - c. facets - ..... **aspects** ..... (paragraph 4)
  - d. much admired - ..... **acclaimed** .....(paragraph 6)
  - e. developed - ..... **made** ..... (paragraph 6)

**Put in the correct preposition (choose in / on / at). If no preposition is needed put in (-).**

1. Lucy is arriving .....**on**..... February the 13th .....**at**..... 8 o'clock  
.....**in**..... the morning.
2. We're meeting .....**at**..... lunchtime .....**on**..... next Tuesday.
3. Unfortunately, Mrs Brown is .....**in**..... hospital.
4. I usually go to my parents' house ...**in**..... Christmas. We eat turkey together  
.....**on**..... Christmas Day.
5. It's better to get a taxi if you are out alone .....**at**..... night.