



মহাশিক্ষা বিভাগ (সংস্কৃত)

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (S)

Government of Manipur

CLASS IX
ENGLISH LITERATURE READER (DRAMA)
CHAPTER 4
CHILDHOOD SUMMER
(R.K. NARAYANAN)

SOLUTIONS

A. Answer the following questions in a sentence each:

- i. How was *Shiva Ratri* festival relevant to the author's going to his hometown?

Ans: *Shiva Ratri* festival was relevant to the author's going to his hometown because the preparation for the trip would start in about ten days after the festival.

- ii. What time did the author's grandmother select to visit the store?

Ans: The author's grandmother selected a quiet afternoon to visit the store which sold her indent.

- iii. How did the author scare away the crows?

Ans: The author scared away the crows by screaming at them.

- iv. The author's grandmother was often busy trimming off unwanted branches in the garden. What other activity did she carry on at the same time?

Ans: While trimming off unwanted branches in the garden, the author's grandmother would also carry on discussions on vital matters with her friends.



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- v. What was the grandmother's opinion about the curing ability of *sanjivini*?

Ans: The author's grandmother said that *Sanjivini* could save a person even from the venom of the darkest cobra.

B. Answer the following questions briefly:

- i. Why did the author's uncle dislike his mother's (author's grandmother's) certain activity?

Ans: As the floor was strewn with gunny bags and paper parcels of her indent bought from the co-operative consumer store, the author's uncle disliked certain activity of his mother.

- ii. "She needs more help than anyone else. She's helpless if I don't help." Why did grandmother say so about Gnana?

Ans: It was because her daughter, **Gnana** was very sickly and weak because of many child-births that she could not do a thing for herself.

- iii. In what sense was the author's grandmother a matchmaker?

Ans: The author's grandmother was a matchmaker in the sense that she would read the horoscopes of others attentively, give advice and use her influence to get marriages settled.

- iv. Why did grandmother keep an exercise book?

Ans: The author's grandmother kept an exercise book to note some special prescription for whooping cough or paralysis to be consulted later on.



- v. **Why had the author no one to escort him to Chennapatna other than his grandmother?**

Ans: The author had no one to escort him to **Chennapatna** other than his grandmother because Chennapatna was a place which normally no one visited or heard of.

C. Answer the following questions in about 80 words:

- i. **Describe the grandmother's activity prior to her leaving for Chennapatna.**

Ans: Prior to leaving for Chennapatna, the author's grandmother made elaborate preparations for making various sun-dried edibles out of rice and pulses to be stored and used all through the year. In about ten days after the *Shiva Ratri* festival, she bought indent from the co-operative consumer store. Then, she would have a battalion of helpers around the house, pounding, sifting, grinding, mixing and kneading the ingredients on a large scale. Differently shaped edibles would issue from little brass hand-pressers, and be set on the mats and left there to dry in the blazing sun. Eventually, jars and containers would be filled and store away for distribution at the appropriate time to various members of the family living far and near.

- ii. **"She was versatile and helpful." How was the grandmother versatile and helpful?**

Ans: The author's grandmother was a versatile and helpful person. She would make sun-dried edibles from rice and pulses, store them in jars and containers to be distributed to various members of the family. She was a key figure in the lives of many. To some, she was a match-maker who would pore over horoscopes, give advice and use her influence to settle marriages. In her spare time, she would trim off unwanted branches in the garden and carry on discussions on vital matters with her friends at the same time. She was also consulted when someone had scorpion bite, whooping cough, paralysis or convulsions. She had the remedy for such bites and sicknesses.