

Module – 5

Section – A (Reading)

A. Read the passage carefully:

In the olden times, there lived a semi-barbaric king. He had a daughter with a soul as fervent and imperious as his own. She was the apple of his eye and was loved by him above all humanity. Among his courtiers was a young man. He was handsome and brave to a degree unsurpassed in this entire kingdom and the royal maiden loved him with intense ardor. This love affair moved on happily for many months, until one day the king happened to discover its existence. The youth was immediately cast into prison, and a day was appointed for his trial in the King's arena.

The appointed day arrived. From far and near the people arrived and thronged the galleries of the arena. The King and his court were in their places, opposite the twin doors. One had a ferocious tiger behind it – ready to devour the person who opened the door-and the other had a beautiful lady behind it. If the young man chose that door, he was to get the lady's hand in marriage, as per the king's orders.

All was ready. The signal was given. A door below the royal party opened, and the young noble walked into the arena. Tall, beautiful, fair, his appearance was greeted with a low hum of admiration and anxiety. Half the audience had not known so grand a youth lived among them. No wonder the princess loved him! What a terrible thing for him to be there.

As the youth advanced into the arena he turned, as was the custom, to bow to the king, but he did not think of that royal personage at all. His eyes were fixed on the princess, who sat to the right of her father.

Possessed of more power and influence, the princess had possessed herself of the secret of the doors. She knew in which of the two rooms, that lay behind those doors, stood the cage of the tiger, with its open front, and in which, the lady.

And not only did she know in which room stood the lady to emerge, all blushing and radiant, should the door be opened, but she also knew who the lady was. And the princess hated her.

When the youth turned and looked at her, his eyes met hers as she sat there. Her right arm lay on the cushioned parapet before her. She raised her hand and made a slight, quick movement toward the right. No one but the youth saw her. Every eye was fixed on the man in the arena. He turned and with a firm and rapid step and walked across the empty space. Every heart stopped beating, every breath was held, every eye was fixed immovable upon that man. Without the slightest hesitation, he went to the door on right and opened it.

Now the point of the story is this: Did the tiger come out of the door or the lady?

(Abridged from *The lady or The Tiger?* By Frank Stockton)

A.1. Complete the following statements..

- (i) The princess was attracted towards the youth because _____
- (ii) Behind each of the doors in the arena, could be seen _____
- (iii) The princess hated the lady behind the door as _____
- (iv) The princess signaled to the youth by _____
- (v) The expression, 'apple of his eye' means
 - (a) pleasing to the eye
 - (b) most loved
 - (c) pain in the eye
- (vi) Find words in the passage that have the same meaning as the words given below.
 - (a) passionate
 - (b) eat
 - (c) quick, brisk

Section – B (Writing)

- B.1. Write a letter to your friend Sumit/ Sumita, suggesting an excursion to Mussoorie. You live in Dehradun. Also ask if he / she would be interested in trekking to Musoorie so that you can make necessary arrangements.**
- B.2. A famous celebrity recently moved in as your next-door neighbour. Write a letter to your friend, telling him/her about your new neighbour.**

Section – D (Literature)

The Microscope

D.1. 'This Anton's crazy in the head'

- (i) Who is Anton?
- (ii) Why is he referred to as 'crazy in the head'?
- (iii) Who calls him 'crazy'?

D.2. Anton preferred

- (a) lazing around in the sun
- (b) grinding special lenses for the microscope
- (c) preparing a telescope
- (d) preparing a lexicon

D.3. Do you think people often don't recognize a genius when they see one? Why?

English is Fun- 3

Read, understand and complete.

I.	weigh	weight
	_____	prosperity
	conquer	_____
	know	_____
	please	_____
	_____	applause
	_____	long
	_____	fructifictaion
	sweeten	_____
II.	office	official
	history	historical
	beauty	_____
	describe	_____
	_____	lively
	_____	grievous
	victory	_____
	vigour	_____
	note	_____
	_____	wholesome
	_____	curly

Proverb Time

- P.10.** A monkey in silk is a monkey – No matter how someone dresses, it's the
no less. person underneath.
- P.11.** Better lose the saddle than the – It's better to stop and accept a small loss,
horse. rather than continue and risk losing
everything.

=====