

**Unit 2 Prose A Nice Cup of Tea**

**I. Choose the correct synonym for the following sentences.**

**1. But there is not much stimulation in it.**

- a) energy
- b) acceptance
- c) respect
- d) excitement

Answer :- d) excitement

**2. One does not feel wiser, braver or more optimistic after drinking it.**

- a) positive
- b) negative
- c) oppressed
- d) hopeless

Answer :- a) positive

**Choose the appropriate antonyms for the underlined word :**

**3. ....which are not to be despised.**

- a) hated
- b) liked
- c) respected
- d) defeated

Answer :- b) liked

**4. ....but they are sufficient to show how subtilized the whole business has become**

- a) enough
- b) suffocative
- c) inadequate
- d) submissive

Answer :- c) inadequate

**5. Form a new word by adding a suitable suffix respectively for the root word „ambitious“**

- A) ful
- b) ly
- c) ity
- d) ness

Answer :- b) ly

**6. Choose the correct preposition :**

**Yuvan has been playing cricket well .....2011.**

- a) in
- b) at
- c) since
- d) before

Answer :- c) since

**7. Choose the trisyllabic word:**

- a) biology
- b) drive
- c) careful
- d) educate

Answer :- a) biology

**Fill in the right option.**

**8. Neither Sudha nor Leela.....been selected.**

- a) has
- b) was
- c) is
- d) have

Answer :- a) has

**9. Choose clipped word for "Perambulator"**

- a) Pram
- b) Peram
- c) ramtor
- d) rambol

Answer :- a) Pram

**10. Choose the American word for "queue"**

- a) straight
- b) level
- c) line
- d) order

Answer :- c) line

**II. Answer the following questions in one or two lines.**

**1. What seems curious to the author?**

Preparing a nice cup of tea seems curious to the author.

**2. Which tea does the author prefer – China tea or Indian tea ?**

The author prefers Indian tea to China tea.

**3. What is the second golden rule in the preparation of tea?**

The second golden rule is that tea should be made in small quantities-that is, in a teapot. The teapot should be made of China or earthenware

**4. How does army tea taste?**

Army tea, made in a Cauldron, tastes of grease and whitewash.

**5. Why does the author advice removing cream from the milk?**

Milk that is too creamy always gives tea a sickly taste. So the author advises to remove cream from the milk.

**III. Answer the following questions in three or four lines.**

**1. What are the author's views on China tea?**

China tea has virtues which are not to be despised, it is economic. One can drink it without milk, but there is not much stimulation in it. One does not feel wiser, braver or more optimistic after drinking it.

**2. Elucidate the author's ideas about teapots?**

The teapot should be made of China or earthen ware. Silver or Britannia ware teapot produce inferior quality tea. Enamel pots are worse. Though curiously enough a pewter teapot, a rarity nowadays, is not so bad.

**3. Whom does the author call „misguided people“? What is his advice to them ?**

Some misguided people admit that they drink tea for stimulation and warmth. They are not interested in tea. So, they add sugar to take the taste away. He advises them to drink tea without adding sugar for a fortnight. They would never again ruin the real taste of tea by adding sugar.

**4. How does adding sugar affect the taste of tea?**

Adding sugar affects the taste of tea to a greater extent. If the tea is sweetened it means one is merely tasting the sugar and not the tea. It is just similar to that of dissolving sugar in plain hot water

**5. Does the author drinking tea with sugar? give reasons.**

Adding sugar to tea will deprive tea of its real taste. Misguided people who take tea do it because of the sweetness and not because of the taste of tea.

**IV. Write in detail.**

**1. Discuss the Eleven Golden Rules in the preparation of a nice cup of tea.**

Summarize George Orwell's distinctive ideas in „A Nice Cup Of Tea „

**Unit 2 – Poetry  
Our Casuarina Tree**

**I. Choose the correct answer for the following sentences.**

**Which tree is mentioned by the poet ?**

- a) Neem tree
- b) Palm tree
- c) Banyan tree
- d) Casuarina tree

Answer :- d) Casuarina tree

**What is the tree compared to ?**

- a) man
- b) giant
- c) lady
- d) animal

Answer :- b) giant

**What is the colour of the flowers ?**

- a) blue
- b) yellow
- c) crimson
- d) white

Answer :- c) crimson

**4. What does „Fain“ mean ?**

- a) eagerly
- b) fail
- c) success
- d) pass

Answer :- a) eagerly

**5. What springs in the tank ?**

- a) water lilies
- b) lotus

c) jasmine

d) rose

Answer :- a) water lilies

**6. Who sits like a statue on the branch of the tree?**

a) bird

b) cat

c) boon

d) tiger

Answer :- c) boon

**7. What embraces the casuarina tree**

a) creeper

b) snake

c) monkey

d) lady

Answer :- a) creeper

**8. What is the creeper compared to?**

a) umbrella

b) lion

c) flower

d) python

Answer :- d) python

**9. Name the bird that sings in the poet's garden.**

a) Kokila

b) skylark

c) crow

d) parrot

Answer :- a) Kokila

**10. "It is the tree's lament, an eerie speech" What is the figure of speech employed here?**

a) simile

b) personification

c) metaphor

d) repetition

Answer :- b) personification

**II. Answer the following questions in one or two lines.**

**1. Why is the scarf colourful?**

The crimson flowers are bright and colourful in the tree. So the scarf (crimson flower around the tree seems like a scarf) is colourful.

**2. How does the creeper appear on the tree?**

The creepers appear like a rugged trunk with deep scars. The tree is the giant here

**3. Why casuarina tree is dear to the poet's heart?**

The poet feels that the tree is dear to her not for its impressive appearance but for the nostalgic memories of her happy childhood that it brings.

**4. How does the poet spend her winter?**

The poet spends her winter by seeing a gray monkey sitting like a statue on top of the tree and watching the activities of the younger monkey on the tree.

**5. What has Wordsworth sanctified in his poem?**

The poet Wordsworth has sanctified the yew tree of Borrowdale in verse.

**III. Answer the following questions in three or four lines.**

**1. The casuarina tree will be remembered for ever. Why?**

The tree will be remembered out of love and not just because it cannot be forgotten. So the tree will be remembered for ever

**2. Describe the garden during the night.**

At night, the garden overflows with an endless melodious song sung by the dark king from the Casuarina Tree when the men are sleeping

**3. What does the poet convey through the expression „Fear, trembling, hope“?**

The poet conveys the deep feeling of her love towards the tree through the expression ‘fear, trembling hope’. The poet hopes that the tree will be remembered forever as the yew trees of Borrowdale immortalized by Wordsworth are still remembered

**4. What does the poet mean by the expression „May love defend thee from oblivion“s curse“?**

It means that the tree should be remembered out of love and not just because it cannot be forgotten.

**5. Write about the monkey and its offspring in the casuarina tree.**

The poet sees a grey monkey sitting like a statue on top of the casuarina tree

**IV. Write in detail**

**1. The poet immortalizes the tree – Elucidate.**

The Poet describes the lasting impression that the tree has left on her mind. She describes the baboon sitting like a statue on the top of the tree while its young ones play on the lower branches. She also describes the sleepy cows moving slowly to their pastures.

**2. How does nature communicate with the poet?**

Communication with the tree:

The poet could communicate with the tree even when she was in a far off land as she could hear the tree lamenting her absence. The poet immortalizes the tree through her poem like poet Wordsworth who sanctified the yew tree of Borrowdale in verse

**Unit 2 – Supplementary - Life of Pi**

**I. Choose the correct answer for the following sentences.**

**1. Who is called the Super alpha in the boat?**

- a) Pi
- b) Hyena
- c) Orange Juice
- d) Richard Parker

Answer :- b) Hyena

**2. Pi was weak as he had nothing to drink or eat for ..... days.**

- a) one
- b) two
- c) three

d) four

Answer :- c) three

**3.Pi is an Indian boy from .....**

a) Pondicherry

b) Bengal

c) Goa

d) Canada

Answer :- a) Pondicherry

**4.Pi got angry with the .... and called him, "You ugly, foul creature".**

a) Tiger

b) hyena

c) Orang-utan

d) Zebra

Answer :- b) hyena

**5."I lost interest in the question. Only \_ interested me".**

a) food

b) tiger

c) water

d) thirst

Answer :- c) water

**6.His heart began to beat like a merry .... when he drank water.**

a) drum

b) clock

c) go round

d) player

Answer :- a) drum

**7..... gave him the will to live.**

a) Parents

b) Water

c) Hyena

d) Richard Parker

Answer :- d) Richard Parker

**8.Pi says that drinking ..... is disgraceful**

a) alcohol

b) water

c) orange juice

d) sedatives

Answer :- a) alcohol

**9.While comparing with the tiger, Pi calls hyena as ridiculous .....**

a) pig

b) dog

c) monkey

d) donkey

Answer :- b) dog

**10.At last, Pi left Richard Parker in a .....**

a) boat

b) ship

c) zoo

d) jungle

Answer :- d) jungle

**II. Answer the following questions in one or two lines.**

**1. Describe the appearance of Richard Parker?**

Richard Parker is a 450 pound Bengal tiger in a lifeboat twenty-six feet long was a conundrum. From tip of nose to tip of tail he took up over a third of the length of the ship he was on

**2. Why Pi says that orange is the colour of survival?**

Pi says that it seems orange is the color of survival because the whole inside of the boat and the tarpaulin and the life jackets and the lifebuoy and the oars and most every other significant object aboard was orange. Even the plastic, headless whistles were orange

**3. While comparing himself with a tennis challenger, what Pi says of that player, when he has nothing to lose in the game?**

Pi says that the tennis challenger starts strong but soon loses confidence in his playing. The champion racks up the games. But in the final set, when the challenger has nothing left to lose, he becomes relaxed again, insouciant, daring, suddenly he's playing like the devil and champion must work hard to get those last points

**4. Describe Pi's struggle to find drinking water?**

Pi was just two feet above Richard Parker. He moved the yellow tarpaulin. Thirst egged him on to unroll the tight tarpaulin. He saw the bow and it had an end bench. Upon it, a harp glittered like a diamond. He found a lid shaped like a rounded-out triangle. He found a pile of orange life jackets. He undid the harp and opened the lid. It opened on to a locker. The open locker shined with new things. He found water cans piled up.

**5. Why Pi was grateful to Richard Parker at the end?**

Pi said that Richard Parker kept him from thinking too much about my family and my tragic circumstances. He pushed him to go on living. Pi hated him for it, yet at the same time, he was grateful. It's the plain truth: without Richard Parker, he wouldn't be alive today to tell us his story

**III. Answer the following questions in three or four lines.**

**1. What are the elements that allowed Pi to live, when he was left alone in the middle of the Pacific?**

The following elements allowed Pi to go on living, The lifeboat did not sink, Richard Parker kept out of sight. The sharks prowled but did not attack. The waves splashed him but did not pull him off

**2. Which one is worst according to Pi, hunger or thirst? Why?**

According to Pi, thirst is worst, He has never known a worse physical hell than this putrid taste and pasty feeling in the mouth, this unbearable pressure at the back of the throat, this sensation that his blood was turning to a thick syrup that barely flowed. Truly, by comparison, a tiger was nothing, and so he pushed aside all thoughts of Richard Parker and fearlessly went exploring for fresh water

**3. "In the face of superior predator, all of us were prey". Explain this statement with the strange behaviour of the animals in that boat.**

At first Pi could not understand the strange behavior of the animals on the boat. Then it was clear to him why the hyena had confined itself to such an absurdly small space behind the zebra and why it had waited so long before killing it. It was fear of the greater beast and the fear of touching the greater beast's food. Pi reprieved the hyena due to the same reason thinking that in the face of such a superior predator all of them were prey.

#### **4. Describe the lifeboat.**

The lifeboat was three and a half feet deep, eight feet wide and twenty-six feet long exactly. It was designed to accommodate a maximum of thirty-two people. But just the presence of three (i.e.) Zebra, hyena, and the tiger along with him made it appear that the boat was already crowded. In the lower part, there were many orange lifeboats and packaged drinking water kept in a closed box.

#### **5. How did Pi feel after drinking water?**

After drinking water, he felt great. A sense of well being quickly overcame him. His mouth became moist and soft. His skin relaxed. His joints moved with greater ease. His heart began to beat like a merry drum. Blood started flowing through his veins like cars from a wedding party honking their way through town. Strength and suppleness came back to his muscles. His head became clearer. In fact, he felt like returning from the world of the dead to life.

### **IV. Write in detail.**

#### **1. Summarise the incidents of „Life of Pi“ logically in your own words.**

1. Pi was stranded in the Pacific on a lifeboat.
2. He was pinned by weakness having had no food, water or even sleep for nearly three days.
3. As he looked around, he was shocked to find Richard Parker on board.
4. Strangely his thirst overpowered his fear of Richard Parker and he went about exploring for fresh water.
5. His search for water took him dangerously close to Richard Parker but nothing could stop him neither Richard Parker nor the hyena.
6. A little later, he succeeded in his search, when he found stacks of cans of drinking water.
7. Pi came back to life and his senses after drinking the elixir of life.
8. He understood that it was Richard Parker who helped him survive for 227 days.
9. Then, he realized that Parker who scared him earlier brought him peace, purpose and wholeness.
10. Pi left Richard Parker in a jungle and reunited with his family.

#### **2. How did the presence of Richard Parker influence the attitude of Pi?**

It was Richard Parker who calmed down Pi. The irony of life is that the animal that scared him witless to start with was the same who brought him peace, purpose and even wholeness. They were literally and figuratively in the same boat. They had to live together. A part of Pi's personality was glad about Parker's presence, who gave him the will to hang on to life under the toughest conditions.

He realized danger and peace can co-exist when one is aware of one's innate strength. He realizes the fact that staying with a tiger is less tormenting than living alone with despair. Loneliness and despair can easily kill a person. He decided to focus on the



chances of survival and shut off the tragic circumstances he was placed in a lonely boat in the middle of Pacific Ocean. In short, he became optimistic, balanced and stoical in his attitude to life thanks to the presence of Richard Parker.

Categories

www.grlvidya.in

**Prepared By**  
**Mrs. C.Rema M.A., B.Ed.**  
**SRM Nightingale Mat. Hr. Sec. School,**  
**Chennai**