



BK BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION
SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
SENIOR SECONDARY CO-ED DAY CUM BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
POST MID TERM EXAMINATION 2024-25
ENGLISH CORE (301)



Class: XI

Date: 04.12.24

Duration: 1 hr.

Max Marks: 25

I. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: (7 marks)

1. Whatever name we prefer to give the Supreme Being-Jehovah, Allah, Buddha, Shakti, Vishnu or Krishna -the concept of a Supreme Creator is that He is of extraordinary attributes, and is universally attractive. The name Krishna means 'the all-attractive One'. "Sarva akarshati iti Krishna"-this describes the attractive nature of the Lord and so describes the absolute Truth, the supreme personality of Godhead, in full.
2. The Lord administers the world through the laws of material nature gross such as the law of gravitation and subtle such as the law of karma. But when predominance of materialism over spirituality disturbs the universal order, the Lord descends "to deliver the pious, annihilate the miscreant. and re-establish divine principles", says the Bhagavad Gita.
3. Krishna descends not just to maintain law, but to awaken love. The love that our heart longs for through relationships with various persons finds fulfilment only when it is reposed in the Supreme. When we love Krishna, our love is never interrupted, never betrayed, never let down, never disappointed.
4. Unfortunately, in this world of matter, all living beings are attracted not to the Lord of their heart but to matter and material enjoyment. However, matter being limited and finite, it can never fulfil the unlimited desires of our spirit; material enjoyment satiates, but never satisfies.
5. God comes to the material world and performs superhuman activities which reveal His supreme nature and unparalleled love for all. Krishna lifted the Govardhan mountain in order to protect His devotees from rains. Such acts appear impossible to the sceptical mind, but an ant would similarly consider the lifting of a book by a human being as 'impossible'.
6. For Krishna possessing unlimited power, such an act is not at all difficult. Realising the infinite love of Krishna enables us to return to the kingdom of God, with Him.
7. On Janmashtami, Krishna entered the material world at midnight. This is significant. Midnight is the time of maximum darkness and from the moment the Lord appeared, the darkness started diminishing. Similarly, our heart is dark being afflicted by multiple anxieties and miseries. But in the darkest hour of our lives, when we turn to Krishna, He appears in our heart, and all the darkness recedes and the light of eternal hope starts streaming in. The Lord appeared in a prison cell and then freed His parents of their shackles. This indicates that all of us who are shackled by our own self-destructive desires can be freed by the Lord who appears in our heart which is obscured in darkness.

8. Janmashtami celebrates Krishna's presence in our hearts. Indeed, amidst all the chaos and disorder prevalent in this Kalyuga, why has the Lord not appeared as per His eternal promise in the Bhagavad Gita? The Vedic scriptures declare, "kali kale nama rupe Krishna avatar"-that in Kali Yuga the Lord incarnates in the form of His Holy Name.

9. All religions recommend chanting the names of God. The Bible says "Let the Lord always be on your lips", Islam exhorts the chanting of the 99 names of Allah. And among all the mantras empowered sound vibrations mentioned in Vedic scriptures, the maha-mantra "Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare, Hare Ram Hare Ram Ram Ram Hare Hare" is specially recommended for our age. So let us experience the love, care, protection and happiness of Janmashtami- appearance of lord in our heart by devotedly chanting his holy names.

1. What does the name 'Krishna' signify?

- a) The protector of devotees
- b) The all-attractive One
- c) The destroyer of miscreants
- d) The upholder of the law

2. Explain how Krishna's descent into the material world helps restore universal order. Provide examples from the text to support your answer.

3. Why did Krishna lift the Govardhan mountain?

- a) To prove His power to the miscreants
- b) To protect His devotees from rain
- c) To demonstrate the law of karma
- d) To punish those indulging in materialism

4. How does the metaphor of Krishna appearing in a prison cell connect with the challenges and desires of human life?

5. According to the text, what is significant about Krishna's appearance at midnight?

- a) It symbolizes His ability to change the course of time.
- b) It represents the diminishing of darkness and miseries in our lives.
- c) It demonstrates His supremacy over natural laws.
- d) It highlights the importance of Janmashtami as a festival.

6. Krishna's appearance at midnight symbolizes the diminishing of darkness and miseries in our lives. State whether the statement is true or false.

7. Assertion (A): Krishna descended into the material world to awaken love and fulfil the longing of the human heart.

Reason (R): Material enjoyment is finite and cannot satisfy the unlimited desires of the human spirit.

Options:

- a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

- b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
- c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.
- d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

II. Sunrise Global School, Agra is going to organize a one-act play competition in the school auditorium. You have decided to invite noted stage artist, Nalini to grace the occasion. Draft a formal invitation in card format for her in about 50 words. You are Karuna/Karan, Cultural Secretary. **(4)**

III. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the error along with its correction in the space provided. **(1x4=4)**

		Error	Correction
Today the girls have broke the	(a)
five-foot barrier and on some	(b)
cases is a half foot taller	(c)
then their grandmothers.	(d)

IV. Multiple Choice Questions: **(1x3=3)**

- (a) Antithesis is where two opposite words are used together in a sentence in a poem, where did the poet use it?
 - (i) Infant’s face
 - (ii) Forgotten place
 - (iii) Hell, and Heaven
 - (iv) Preached of love

- (b) Which is the refrain (a literary device) used in the poem ‘Childhood’?
 - (i) When did my childhood go?
 - (ii) There is no difference
 - (iii) Could not be found in Geography
 - (iv) That’s all I know

- (c) Who is the poet of the poem ‘Childhood’?
 - (i) Shirley Toulson
 - (ii) Walt Whitman
 - (iii) Marcus Natten
 - (iv) V S Naipaul

V. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following questions in about 40 words each. **(2x2=4)**

- (a) ‘This is a disgrace,’ says the king. When does he say so and how is it a ‘disgrace’?
- (b) Why does the father wonder he has ‘killed the seed’?
- (c) In the end who puts the throne and why?

VI. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following questions: **(3x1=3)**

- (a) What in your opinion about the king’s sense of justice?

(b) In spite of his indifferent attitude the father is still ready to pardon his son. What light does it reflect on him?