

Lost Spring Stories of Stolen Childhood Previous Year Questions

(with model answers)

Q1. Compose an oral presentation to be shared with your peers on what Gandhi's advice (Indigo) would be to the bangle makers of Firozabad (Lost Spring). [CSBE 2024]

Ans. Gandhi would advice the bangle-makers to come together and involve in non-cooperation. We see that he employed peaceful means like non-cooperation and self rule to put the idea forward that Indians would not tolerate being ordered around in their own land. Similarly, the bangle-makers should also unite and take steps against the nexus of politicians and money lenders. They must get the weapon of education which will enable them on the path of self reliance and self dependence.

Q2. In spite of the conditions prevailing in Seemapuri, children like Saheb and Mukesh are not devoid of hope. How far do you agree? [CBSE 2024]

Ans. I agree with the statement. In the story we see the ragpicker boy named Saheb-e-Alam who wants to go to school, play tennis and wants a pair of shoes. All these wishes indicate his ambitions. He has desires which shows that he has hopes that they will get fulfilled. Another young boy named Mukesh dares to dream and become a mechanic. He dares to pursue a profession which is different from the traditional family occupation of bangle-making.

Q3. The description of Seemapuri creates a very dismal picture. Explain. [CBSE 2023]

Ans. Seemapuri is a garbage dump on the outskirts of Delhi. The writer says that it is miles away from the city to indicate that it is strikingly opposite to the city of Delhi in terms of amenities and infrastructure. The slum is occupied by Bangladeshi refugees who came there in 1971. It was then a wilderness devoid of sewage, drainage and running water till date. Thus, we see a dismal picture of the area.

Q4. Mention any two difficulties faced by the bangle sellers of Firozabad. [CBSE 2020]

Ans. The bangle-makers of Firozabad have to work in unhealthy conditions which harm their health permanently. They do not earn much and are forced into a vicious cycle of poverty controlled by the moneylenders, police and politicians. They do not dare think of following any other profession due to the fear of these powerful people.

Q5. How bad were the living conditions in which Mukesh and his family survived? [CBSE 2020]

Ans. They lived in utter poverty. Stinking lanes choked with garbage led to the house with a wobbly door. Humans and animals co-existed and it was a half-built shack. The walls were damaged and the entire family – Mukesh, his brothers, their wives and the parents lived in a small single room.

Q6. What is Mukesh's dream? How can he achieve it? [CBSE 2019]

Ans. Mukesh dreams to be a motor mechanic. He does not want to go for the traditional profession of glass bangle-making which harms their health and does not provide much income. He plans to learn to drive a car, go to a garage and learn the work of a motor mechanic. He is ready to walk to the garage which is far from his home.

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