

## Poets and Pancakes Previous Year Questions (with model answers)

**Q1. Stephen Spender's visit to the Gemini Studios was viewed as an unexplained mystery by the Gemini family. How did Asokamitran solve this mystery years later? [CBSE 2024]**

**Ans.** Asokamitran solved the mystery by discovering Stephen Spender's identity through a chance encounter with a book review in a periodical. He learned that Spender was a renowned poet and editor, explaining his visit to Gemini Studios.

**Q2. What does 'The God That Failed' refer to? [CBSE 2024]**

**Ans.** 'The God That Failed' was a compilation of six essays written by six eminent writers, namely, Andre Gide, Richard Wright, Ignazio Silone, Arthur Koestler, Louis Fischer and Stephen Spender. In each of the essays, the respective writers described «their journeys into Communism and their disillusioned return».

**Q3. In the chapter 'Poets and Pancakes', the author has used gentle humour to point out human foibles. Pick out instances of this to show how it served to make the extract engaging. [CBSE 2023]**

**Ans.** The author makes use of humour to highlight the peculiarities and idiosyncrasies of the characters but avoids making any overtly critical or insulting remarks about any of the characters. For instance, the author presents the make-up artists and the use of the pancakes in an innovative manner. Even the caricature of Subbu makes you laugh out loud. It is extremely funny to watch how he attempts to assist his principal by providing speedy solutions to the issues he is facing. Another illustration of this can be found in the episode of the legal adviser called "Accidentally Causes the End of an Actress's Career." The author has sprinkled some light humour throughout the text, and some examples of this include the office boy's impatience, the author's shallow praise of Gandhi, his dislike of communism, and the 'mystery' that surrounds Stephen Spender.

**Q4. Why was Kothamangalam Subbu considered No. 2 in Gemini Studios? [CBSE 2020]**

**Ans.** Kothamangalam Subbu succeeded in securing the place closest to The Boss by means of flattery. He was not brilliant but a rather cheerful person and exceedingly loyal to The Boss. He offered solutions whenever. The Boss was in a fix. Thus, the other employees considered him No.2 in Gemini Studios. Also, his multitalented personality made him a go-to person who could fit into various roles.

**Q5. What caused the lack of communication between the Englishman and the people of Gemini Studio? [CBSE 2020]**

**Ans.** Most of the 600 odd people at Gemini Studios were Tamil speakers. The Englishman was addressing them in his own language-English. He had a peculiar accent. Hence, there was a lack of Communication between the Englishman and the people at who could not follow what he was saying.

For the complete set of previous year questions of Poets and Pancakes, [Click Here](#)

Poets and Pancakes Summary, Word meanings, [Click Here](#)

Poets and Pancakes Important Questions, [Click Here](#)

Poets and Pancakes MCQs, [Click Here](#)

Flamingo Book Word meanings of all lessons, [Click Here](#)

Poets and Pancakes Character Sketches, [Click Here](#)