

**International Indian School, Riyadh**  
**VI-VIII Section**  
**Academic Year 2016-2017**  
**English Worksheet –(2): S.A.-II**  
**(Class-VIII)**

**Topic: Literature**  
**Portion Covered:**  
**(Poem: Mother to Son**  
**Poem: The Louse and the Mosquito**  
**Prose: The Postmaster**  
**Porse: Cricket for the Crocodile**  
**Prose: The Quality of Mercy)**

**Answer the following Extracts:**

1) "It's had tacks in it,  
And splinters."

- (a) Who is the speaker of the above lines?
- (b) To whom are the above lines spoken?
- (c) Give the meaning of the word "tacks".

2) "I've been a-climbn' on,  
And reachin' landin's,"

- (a) Whom does "I" refer to?
- (b) Give the meaning of the word "landin's".
- (c) Name the poem and the poet.

3) "Her father had been fonder of her than her mother; him she recollected more vividly."

- (a) Whom does "her" refer to?
- (b) Give the meaning of the word "vividly".
- (c) Name the lesson and the author.

4) "I must get a transfer."

- a) Who is the speaker of the above line?
- b) To whom is the above line spoken?
- c) Where did the speaker want to get transferred?

5) "Well, son, I'll tell you:

Life for me ain't been no crystal stair."

- (a) Who is speaking the above lines?
- (b) Whom does 'you' refer to?
- (c) What is meant by 'no crystal stair'?

6) "It's had tacks in it,  
And splinters,  
And boards torn up,  
And places with no carpet on the floor—  
Bare."

- (a) Has the narrator had an easy life?
- (b) What evidence from this stanza supports your answer?
- (c) The stanza ends with the word 'bare'. Besides the stairs being bare, what else does the narrator mean is bare?
- (d) Name the poet and the poem.

7) "Have by some surgeon, Shylock, on your charge  
To stop his wounds, lest he do bleed to death."

- (a) Who is saying these words?
- (b) Why does the speaker want Shylock to have a surgeon nearby?
- (c) Does Shylock succeed in his desires towards the end of the play? Why/ why not?

8) "Thus they talked about half forgotten incidents, forgetting about matters of greater importance, and often it would get very late."

- (a) Who does 'they' refer to?
- (b) What would they talk about?
- (c) What happened when it got very late?
- (d) What does "forgetting about matters of greater importance" mean?

9) "Relieved from her nursing duties, Ratan once again took up her old place outside the door, but now she no longer heard the familiar call."

- (a) Who was Ratan nursing and why?
- (b) How did the illness affect her patient?
- (c) Name the author.

- 10) "He did not care for people, especially cricketers."
  - (a) Whom does he refer to?
  - (b) Why did he not care for cricketers?
  - (c) Name the lesson.
- 11) "Sunder has them"
  - (a) What did Sunder have?
  - (b) Who is the speaker?
  - (c) To which team did Sunder belong?
- 12) "Sheroo opened the bowling for the village team"
  - (a) Who was bowled out by Sheroo?
  - (b) With whom did Sheroo toss a coin?
  - (c) Name the author?
- 13) "Help" he shouted.
  - (a) Who shouted for help?
  - (b) Why does the speaker say so?
  - (c) Whom did he shout for help?
- 14) "I'm the guardian of this house".
  - (a) Who is the speaker in the above line?
  - (b) Who were the people living in the house?
  - (c) Whom was this said?
- 15) "Lovely! Just the place for me."
  - (a) Did the mosquito like the place he landed on?
  - (b) Why did he like it?
  - (c) Name the poet.
- 16) "I've been bitten! Search the bed!"
  - (a) Who was bitten?
  - (b) To whom was the order given?
  - (c) What was the result of the search?
- 17) "The mosquito almost died from excitement, shock and sweat".
  - (a) Why was the mosquito excited?
  - (b) When did the mosquito get excited?
  - (c) Name the poem.
- 18) "O noble Judge! O excellent young man".
  - (a) Whom does Shylock call a noble judge?
  - (b) Why does he say so?
  - (c) Name the Lesson.
- 19) "Is that the law?"
  - (a) Who is the speaker in the above line?
  - (b) What is the law?
  - (c) Name the author.

- 20) "I cannot find it. It is not in the bond."  
 (a) What could Shylock not find in the bond?  
 (b) Why does Shylock not agree to Portia's request?  
 (c) What was Antonio's reaction to Shylock's reply?
- 21) "What mercy can you render him, Antonio?"  
 (a) What mercy does Antonio show to Shylock?  
 (b) Is Shylock happy with the decision of Antonio?
- 22) "You might need match to work out yours batting average.  
 And as for history, wouldn't you like to be a point of history?"  
 (a) Why does the speaker make such a comment?  
 (b) Explain the phrase "to be a part of history", what does it mean?
- 23) "Revenge was sweet, and the ball tasted good too. The combination of leather and cork was just right."  
 (a) Explain the phrase 'Revenge was sweet'.  
 (b) Who tasted the ball and why was it tasted?
- 24) "O noble Judge! O excellent young man."  
 (a) Whom does Shylock call a noble judge?  
 (b) Why does he say so?  
 (c) Name the lesson.
- 25) "Who may you be, lady louse?  
 I'm the guardian of this house."  
 a) Who is the speaker?  
 b) What is referred as "this house"?  
 c) Name 'the poem and the poet.'
- 26) "You, I fear would cause all three  
 I can't rise my family."  
 a) Who spoke these words and to whom?  
 b) What are the 'three causes' referred by the speaker?  
 c) Give the meaning of the second line in the extract.
- 27) "Keep your stale advice."  
 a) Who is the speaker?  
 b) Give the meaning of stale advice  
 c) What is the state advice mentioned by the speaker?

**Read the extracts below and choose the correct option:-**

1. 'I don't think it wants us to play' said Sheroo.  
 a) Whom does it refer to?  
 (1) Sheroo (2) Prem (3) Nakoo, the crocodile.  
 b) Name the author.  
 (1) Vikram Seth (2) Rustin Bond (3) R.K. Narayan
2. "Sunder has them."

- a) Who said to whom  
 (1) Ranji said to Nathu (2) Sheroo said to Nathu (3) Nathu said to Ran
- b) What did Sunder have with him.  
 (1) ball (2) bat (3) stumps
- c) To which team did Sunder belong ?  
 (1) Ranji' team (2) Village boys team (3) Grown up's team
3. "It is so nominated in the bond?"
- a) What does "it" refer to in the above sentence?  
 (1) Only one pound of flesh (2) A surgeon  
 (3) Not a single drop of blood
- b) Who is the speaker and to whom is it said to?  
 (1) Portia to Bassanio (2) Shylock to Portia
- c) Give the meaning of the word 'nominated'  
 (1) agreement (b) appointed (c) written/spelled out

**Answer in brief:-**

1. Do you think the boys were right in disturbing the crocodile while basking in the soft warm sunlight? Why?
2. Bassanio is the true friend of Antonio. Was it wise of Bassanio to hold Antonio in high esteem than his wife Portia? Why?
3. In the lesson 'Cricket for the Crocodile', was Nakoo a dangerous man – eating crocodile. What kind of relationship did he share with the children?
4. Study Portia's opening lines beginning with "The quality of mercy is not shared.....". What are the different qualities of mercy that she talks about? Do they have any effect on Shylock?
5. Imagine yourself to be Portia in the play. The 'quality of Mercy' and write how you helped Antonio from Shylock and what logic you used to trap Shylock in about 100 words.
6. In the lesson "The Quality of Mercy" do you think the punishment Shylock receives is fair

**II. Answer in brief:**

1. Do you think the louse and her family deserved the kind of death they met with? Why?
2. Do you think the boys were right in disturbing the crocodile while basking in the soft warm sunlight? Why?
3. Bassanio is the true friend of Antonio. Was it wise of Bassanio to hold Antonio in high esteem than his wife Portia? Why?

**III. Write the CHARACTER SKETCH of the following:**

1. Portia.                      2. Elder brother.                      3. Ranji.

**IV. Write the summary of the poem 'The Louse and the Mosquito'.**

V. In the lesson 'Cricket for the Crocodile', the bank manager had a terribly frightening experience with Nakoo the crocodile. Imagine you are the bank manager, make a diary entry about your experience about the incident with the crocodile.

**Note :- Revise all the Questions and Answers, Exercises, meanings, extracts , the poems and lessons for the exam.**

**Practice the writing tasks in the form of -----**

- **Diary Entry**
- **Summary of the poem**
- **Imagine yourself as ----- any character**
- **Character sketch should be written using suitable adjectives.**