

English Core

D. Com

Class 12

Poets and Poems

- Abanindran

Questions/Answers:

1. What does the writer mean by 'the fiery misery' of those subjected to make-up?

Ans → The make-up room had many kind of incandescent lights. It had the look of a hair-cutting salon with lights at all angles around half a dozen large mirrors. Those who were sent for make-up had to bear scorching heat miserably.

2. What is the example of national integration that the author refers to?

Ans → The author describes the make-up department as the symbol of national integration - the make-up department was first headed by a Bengali, then Maharashtrai, who was assisted by a Orissai, a Kannadiga, an Andhra, a Madras Indian Christian, an Anglo-Burmese and the usual local Tamils. This is an example of national integration that the author and the usual local Tamils. This is an example

of national integration that the author refers to. It means that people from various parts of the country worked together there.

Q. What work did the 'office boy' do in the Crematorium studios? Why did he join the studios? Why was he disappointed?

Ans → The players who played the crowd were the responsibility of the office boy. Whenever there was crowd-shooting in the Crematorium studios, the 'office boy' would mix his paint in a giant wheel and slip it on the crowd players. He joined the studios in the hope of becoming a star actor, a top screen writer, director or lyrics writer. He was disappointed because he felt that his talent was going waste.

Q. Why did the author appear to be doing nothing at the studios?

Ans → The author appeared to be doing nothing at studios because he would sit at his chair and leave up newspapers day in and day out. Most of the people thought that he was doing next to nothing.

5. Why was the office boy frustrated? Who did he show his anger on?

ans → The office boy was frustrated because he felt that his anger on Kotha Mangalam Subbu who was the No. 2 in Gemini Studios. He blamed Subbu for his neglect and disgrace.

6. Who was Subbu's principal?

ans → Mr. Vasu, The Boss, was Subbu's principal.

7. Subbu is described as many-sided genius. List four of his special abilities.

ans → Subbu is described as many-sided genius. His four special abilities were -

(i) He had the ability to look cheerful at all times even after having had a hand in a flop film.

(ii) He always had work for somebody.

(iii) He was a fine novelist.

(iv) He was tailor-made for films.

Q. Why was the legal adviser referred to as the opposite by others?

Ans → The legal adviser was referred to as the opposite by others because he created legal problems for others instead of solving them. In the same way, while every other member of the department wore a kind of uniform - khadi chahi with a slightly oversized and skimily tailored white khadi shirt, the legal adviser wore pants and a tie and sometimes a coat that looked like a coat of mail. Sometimes he could unwittingly bring out sad end to a talent person's life. For example, he ruined the career of a talented person by switching on the recording equipment. When she heard her own voice she felt that she had committed a crime.

Q. What made the lawyer stand out from the others at Gemini Studios?

Ans → His wearing pants and a tie and sometimes a coat made him stand out from the others at Gemini Studios.

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10. Did the people at Gemini Studios have any particular political affiliations?

Ans → No, ~~at~~ the people at Gemini Studios did not have any particular political affiliations. They were only khadi and worshipped Gandhiji.

11. Why was the Moral Re-orientation Army welcomed at the Studios?

Ans → The Moral Re-orientation Army was welcomed at the Studios because the group was known as 'International Circus'. They weren't very good on trapeze and their acquaintance with animals was only at the dinner table, but they presented two plays in a most professional manner.

12. Name one example to show that Gemini Studios was influenced by the plays staged by M.R.A.

Ans → The studios was mainly influenced by the sunrise and sunset scenes presented by M.R.A. in their play Sotham Valley. These scenes were played on a bare stage having a white background and a tune played on flute. These scenes were followed at the Studios.

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13. Who was the Boss of Gemini Studios?

Ans → Mr. Udayan was the Boss of Gemini Studios.

14. What caused the lack of communication between the Englishman and the people at Gemini Studios?

Ans → People at the Gemini Studios did not know what the Englishman was talking about. Besides, his peculiar ways of speaking English and accent made it absolutely impossible to understand him.

15. Why is the Englishman's visit referred to as an unexplained mystery?

Ans → The Englishman's visit is referred to as an unexplained mystery because no one knew what he was talking about. No one could understand the purpose of an Englishman's visit to a film studio. So, the visit remained an unexplained mystery.

16. Who was the English visitor to the Studios?

Ans → Stephen Spender, an English poet, was the visitor.

to the studios. He was the editor of the Encounter.

17. How did the author discover who the English visitor to the studios was?

Ans → The author wanted to send an entry into a contest organised by a British periodical 'The Encounter'. He went to the British Council library to get an idea about the periodical. There, he found copies of the Encounter. He read the name of the editor and discovered that he was the Englishman who had visited the Gemini studios.

18. What does 'The God that failed' refer to?

Ans → The God that failed refers to the special low-priced student edition, in connection with the 50th Anniversary of the Russian Revolution. It is a collection of six essays written by six different writers. They described their journey into communism and their disillusioned return.

19. Why was Rothamangalam Sathya considered No. 2 in Gemini Studios?

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As → Kothamangalam Subbu was considered No. 2 in Gemini Studios because he was a talented person. The boss used to seek his opinions on matters of importance. So, he was considered No. 2 in Gemini Studios.

Long question / Answers -

1. The author has used gentle humour to point out human foibles. Pick out instances of this to show how this 'seems to make piece interesting'.

Ans → The author has used gentle humour to point out human foibles. There are many instances of gentle humour to make this piece interesting. Especially, the description of the make-up department which consumed whole truck-loads of pancakes and a number of other locally made pastries and lozenges is very interesting. The author describes that the make-up department is a symbol of national integration. The author describes that a strict hierarchy was maintained in the make up department. The chief make-up man made the chief actors and actresses ugly, his senior assistant the 'second' hero and heroine, the junior assistant and the main ~~com~~ comedian and so forth.

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The players who played the crowd were the responsibility of the office boy. He wasn't exactly a 'boy', he was in his early forties, having entered the studios year ago in the hope of becoming a star actor or a top screen writer, director or lyrics writer. The 'boy' in the make-up department had decided that the writer should be enlightened on how great literary talent was going waste. Soon the writer was praying for crowd-shooting all the time to get out of a genius of a bore.

2. How does the author describe the incongruity of an English poet addressing the audience at Gemini Studios?

Ans → According to the author, Gemini Studios made Tamil films for simple and ordinary people who had nothing to do with English poetry. It could not be expected that the English poet's visit and his speech could create their interest in English poetry. So, the author could not see any logic in English poet's addressing the audience at the Gemini Studios.

3. What do you understand about the author's literary inclinations from the account?

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Ans → The author's work in the Gemini Studios was considered to be the cutting out of a newspaper clippings of different subjects. His literary taste was immense. He had a good knowledge of English literature. He had described the name of a few poets such as Wordsworth, Tennyson, Keats, Shelly and Byron. He had also described Stephen Spender, an English poet, who addressed the audience at the Gemini Studios. He sent his entry to a short story contest organised by a British periodical 'The Encounter'. He also bought a copy of the book 'The God That Failed'. This all shows his literary inclination.