**Chapter- 3 English Language and Literature- First Flight**

**Two Stories About Flying Part-II**

**By– Frederick Forsyth**

**[PAGE 37] : Looking forward to = waiting eagerly**

**immediately = at once**

**compass = Instrument for telling direction**

**huge = big**

**risk = danger**

**twisted = shook**

**[PAGE 38]: Instruments = machines**

**waved = shook**

**follow = come after**

**obedient = one who obeys the orders**

**[PAGE 39] : Fuel = petrol, diesel etc.**

**frightened = terrified**

**runway = the narrow strip the plane lands on or takes off from**

**strangely = in a strange manner**

**arrive = reach**

**Read the following passages and answer the questions that follow**

**PASSAGE 1**

**The moon was coming up in the east, behind me, and stars were shining in the clear sky above me. There wasn’t a cloud in the sky. I was happy to be alone high up above the sleeping countryside. I was flying my old Dakota aeroplane over France back to England. I was dreaming of my holiday and looking forward to being with my family. I looked at my watch: one thirty in the morning. ‘**

**I should call Paris Control soon,’ I thought. As I looked down past the nose of the aeroplane. I saw the lights of a big city in front of me. I switched on the radio and said, “Paris Control, Dakota DS 088 here. Can you hear me? I’m on my way to England. Over.”**

**The voice from the radio answered me immediately: “DS 088. I can hear you. You ought to turn twelve degrees west now, DS 088. Over.”**

**(a) Name the chapter and its author.**

**(b) Which aeroplane was the pilot flying?**

**(c) Why was the pilot unhappy?**

**(d) What did he see in front of him?**

**(e) Which phrases in the passage mean `hopping with pleasure’**

**Answers:**

**(a) ‘The Black Aeroplane’, Fredrick Forsyth.**

**(b) The pilot was flying the Dakota aeroplane.**

**(c) Because he was dreaming of his holiday.**

**(d) He saw the lights of a big city in front of him.**

**(e) ‘Looking forward to’.**

**PASSAGE 2**

**I checked the map and the compass switched over to my second and last fuel tank and turned the Dakota twelve degrees west towards England.**

**‘I’ll be in time for breakfast,’ I thought. A good big English breakfast! Everything was going well it was an easy flight.**

**Paris was about 150 kilometres behind me when I saw the clouds. Storm clouds. They were huge. They looked like black mountains standing in front of me across the sky. I knew I could not fly up and over them, and I did not have enough fuel to fly around them to the north or south.**

**“I ought to go back to Paris,” I thought, but I wanted to get home. I wanted that breakfast.**

**‘I’ll take the risk.’ I thought and flew that old Dakota straight into the storm.**

**Questions :**

**(a) Where did the writer turn his aeroplane?**

**(b) What did he think about his breakfast?**

**(c) When did he see the clouds?**

**(d) How did the clouds look?**

**(e) Find words from the passage which mean the same as (i) big, (ii) danger.**

**Answers :**

**(a) The writer turned his aeroplane twelve degrees west towards England.**

**(b) He thought that he would be in time for breakfast.**

**(c) He saw the clouds when he was about 150 kilometres from Paris.**

**(d) The clouds looked like huge mountains. (e) (I) huge, (ii) risk.**

**PASSAGE 3**

**Inside the clouds, everything was suddenly black. It was impossible to see anything outside the aeroplane. The old aeroplane jumped and twisted in the air. I looked at the compass. I couldn’t believe my eyes: the compass was turning round and round and round. It was dead. It would not work! The other instruments were suddenly dead, too. I tried the radio.**

**“Paris control ? Paris control ? Can you hear me ?”**

**There was no answer. The radio was dead too. I had no radio, no compass. .m(II, said not see where I was. I was lost in the storm.**

**(a) Name the chapter these lines have been taken from.**

**(b) How was the scene inside the clouds?**

**(c) How did the old aeroplane behave?**

**(d) What happened to the compass and other instruments?**

**(e) Why did the writer not receive a reply from the Paris Control?**

**Answers :**

**(a) These lines have been taken from the chapter ‘The Black Aeroplane’.**

**(b) Inside the clouds, everything was suddenly black.**

**(c) ‘According to the writer, the aeroplane jumped and twisted in the air.**

**(d) The compass and other instruments went dead.**

**(e) He did not receive a reply because his radio was dead.**

**PASSAGE 4**

**“Paris Control? Paris Control? Can you hear me?”**

**There was no answer. The radio was dead too. I had no radio, no compass, and I could not see where I was. I was lost in the storm. Then, in the black clouds quite near me, I saw another aeroplane. It had no lights on its wings, but I could see it lying next to me through the storm. I could see the pilot’s face — turned towards me. I was very glad to see another person. He lifted one hand and waved. [H.B.S.E. March 2017 (Set-A)]**

**“Follow me,” he was saying. “Follow me.”**

**“He knows that I am lost,” I thought. “He’s trying to help me.” He turned his aeroplane slowly to the north, in front of my Dakota, so that it would be easier for me to follow him. I was very happy to go behind the strange aeroplane like an obedient child.**

**Questions :**

**(a) How do you know that the pilot was completely lost in the storm?**

**(b) Where did the writer see another plane?**

**(c) According to the writer, why was another plane there?**

**(d) What did the pilot of Dakota do when the other pilot gave him a signal?**

**(e) Which word in the passage means the same as ‘an instrument used to know the direction?**

**Answers:**

**(a) The pilot had no radio, no compass and he could not see where he was.**

**(b) He saw another plane in the black cloud just near him.**

**(c) According to the writer, another plane was there to help him.**

**(d) The pilot of Dakota followed the other plane like an obedient boy.**

**(e) ‘Compass’.**

**PASSAGE 5**

**After half an hour the strange black aeroplane was still there in front of me in the clouds. Now there was only enough fuel in the old Dakota’s last tank to fly for five or ten minutes more. I was starting to feel frightened again. But then he started to go down and I followed through the storm.**

**Suddenly I came out of the clouds and saw two long straight lines of lights in front of me. It was a runway! An airport! I was safe! I turned to look for my friend in the black aeroplane, but the sky was empty. There was nothing there. The black aeroplane was gone. I could not see it anywhere.**

**Questions :**

**a) Name the chapter these lines have been taken from. ,**

**(b) What was still there after half an hour?**

**(c) Why did the writer start to feel frightened again?**

**(d) What did he see when he came out of the clouds?**

**(e) Could the writer see the black aeroplane?**

**Answers :**

**(a) These lines have been taken from the chapter ‘The Black Aeroplane’.**

**(b) The black aeroplane was still there after half an hour.**

**(c) He started to feel frightened again because there was only five or ten minutes’ fuel in the tank.**

**(d) He saw the runway before him.**

**(e) No, he could not see the black aeroplane.**

**Short Answer Type Important Questions**

***Answer the following questions in 30.40 words:***

**1. What happened when the author turned the aeroplane twelve degrees west towards England?**

**Ans. The author saw the huge storm clouds that looked like black mountains standing in front of him across the sky.**

**2. Explain the statement: ‘I was very happy to go behind the strange aeroplane like an obedient child.**

**Ans. The pilot came across huge storm clouds. He could neither go above them nor go around them due to lack of fuel. Then, he saw a black plane without lights on wings, flying near his plane. Its pilot waved and signalled him to follow him. The author did not have much choice but to follow him.**

**3. “I’ll take the risk.” What is the risk? Why does the pilot of the old Dakota take it?**

**Ans. The risk is that of going through the storm in the narrator’s old Dakota aeroplane. He flew through as he did not have fuel to fly around them, and couldn’t fly over them. Also, he wanted to get home for a big English breakfast.**

**4. Why did the pilot think of going back to Paris?**

**Ans. The pilot came across huge storm clouds that seemed to him like black mountains. He could neither go above them nor go around them due to lack of fuel. That was when he thought of returning to Paris.**

**5. Which two options did the pilot of’ the Dakota plane have when he encountered the storm clouds on his way? What did he decide to do? Why?**

**Ans. The two options he had were: either to go back to Paris or to go through the storm clouds. He decided to go through the storm clouds because he wanted to reach home and spend the holiday with his family.**

**6. Why could the woman in the control room not help the pilot of Dakota?**

**Ans. When the pilot of the Dakota plane asked the woman in the control centre about the black aeroplane and its pilot, she could not help him because she had seen no other plane flying that night on the radar.**

**7. Describe the black clouds from the point of view of the pilot.**

**Ans. The writer was going from France to England. He was flying his Dakota aeroplane. When he had gone 150 kilometres from France, he saw storm clouds. They were huge. They looked like black mountains standing in front of him across the sky.**

**8. Recount the experience of the pilot of the Dakota inside the black clouds.**

**Ans. The pilot found that everything was black inside the clouds. It was impossible to see anything outside the aeroplane. The old aeroplane rolled and jumped in the air. The compass and other instruments stopped working. Suddenly his radio also went dead.**

***Important Long/ Detailed Answer Type Questions- to be answered in about 100 -150 words each***

**Answer the following questions in 100-120 words :**

**1. The narrator made every possible endeavour to save himself. He did not lose hope in direct situations. What values helped him endure the critical situation bravely? Discuss in 100-120 words.                                                Or**

**The narrator knew that he could not fly up due to storm and lack of fuel but still, he continued. What kind of person was he? Was it not in his nature to accept defeat? Discuss the values one should possess to accept failures to be able to move ahead in life in 100-120 words.**

**Ans. The author’s plane did not have enough fuel. He knew that because of the paucity of fuel, he could not fly up and over the clouds nor he could fly around them to the north or south. But then he decided to take the risk to enter his plane in the clouds because he wanted to go home and wanted to join his family at breakfast. This shows that he was a family-loving person. He was courageous as he knew that it would be risky to enter the clouds, but he did so in order to save his fuel.**

**2. Your friend was the pilot who was flying from Paris to England when he was lost in the storm clouds. Narrate his experience to your family and tell them how he was rescued by a strange black plane and its pilot.**

**Ans. Last week, my friend, who is a pilot had a mysterious experience.**

**During his flight from Paris to England, he was lost in the storm clouds. His compass, radio and other instruments had gone dead. He did not know which direction to go. He was lost and panicked (too much frightened).**

**Then, he saw a strange black aeroplane without lights on wings, flying near his plane. Its pilot lifted one hand, waved and signalled my friend to follow him. He guided my friend through the storm clouds and helped him land safely when my friend looked back to thank the pilot of the black aeroplane, he found neither the pilot nor the aeroplane.**

**When he asked the control about the strange black plane and its pilot. The reply was, no other plane was seen on the radar except his Dakota. Then who rescued him? There was no answer. It was a mystery.**

**3.”Everything was going well. It was an easy flight.” What went wrong suddenly?**

**Or**

**Describe the flight of the Dakota aeroplane until it landed safely at the airport.**

**Ans. The flight of old Dakota started in Paris and headed towards England. It was an easy flight, the sky was clear and the weather fine. When it reached 150 km away from Paris, it suddenly confronted huge black storm clouds. He had limited fuel only to take him to England. He could go back to Paris but he decided to take the risk and go through the storm clouds because he wanted to spend the holiday with his family.**

**In the storm clouds, it was pitch day. His compass, radio and some other instruments stopped working. He could not contact Paris control room to know the direction. Suddenly he saw a black aeroplane. Its pilot guided and brought him safely out of storm clouds. He saw the runway and landed at the airport.**