

Revision Test -2

Read the passage carefully:

10 marks

How my Life changed its Course

1. Ever since I can remember, I always felt I was stupid, really stupid. I lost my father when I was three. Since I was a sick child, a polio victim, I lived with my grandmother in Mumbai so I could avail of the metro's advanced medical facilities. I remember being on the streets all day, playing or lazing around.

2. When I turned ten, my mother and my sister came to live in Mumbai too. My sister was a bright student, always securing high grades. She and my mother encouraged me to study, but I just could not bring myself to concentrate on any subject. I would get bored and feel sleepy when forced to open my books. After innumerable lectures on the importance of studying had failed, mother tried threats as well, but nothing worked. I truly believed I was stupid; no matter how much I worked, it wouldn't help.

3. One afternoon, as always, I was sitting under a tree in the school premises eating potato wafers when I saw a former classmate approaching me. Aditi and I had been in the same class the year before. I had failed sixth grade and had to repeat the year; Aditi had topped the class and was the brightest student of the seventh grade too. I flinched a little Aditi as I saw her walk towards me. 'Hi,' she said. 'Hi,' I replied, but not with much enthusiasm; I wanted her to leave. I continued to eat my chips. Ignoring my coldness, she sat down next to me. For five minutes neither of us spoke and then she asked, 'Is Devika your real sister?' 'Yes, she is,' I answered.

4. 'So how come she doesn't teach you so that you too can do well? she asked. I peered at her, wondering if she was making fun of me, but all I could see on her face was earnestness. No, she is not trying to tease me, I decided. This time I answered a little more warmly, 'She tries to, but I don't like studying.' 'Why not? I'm sure you can get good grades too,' she said emphatically. 'No, I can't. I have no brains. God forgot to give me brains, health or beauty. He gave me nothing.'

5. "That's not true. And anyway, health and beauty can't be helped, but God has given brains to everyone, we only have to learn to use it.' I shook my head, 'No, I have difficulty in concentrating, and books bore me; there is no hope for me. Please leave me alone. I am stupid, and always will be.' With the gentlest tone that she could muster she said, 'I can prove it to you that you are not stupid. Give me one chance, I will teach you to study.'

6. Though I was softening from inside, I still held on to my low self-esteem. 'You'll be wasting your time. I cannot study, I am not as bright as you are nor lucky as my sister,' I said 'Let me try and help you, please. I will show you the right way to study. You just have to cooperate with me.'

Will you try?’ Her belief in me proved more powerful than my doubts about myself. She won and I relented.

A4.1 Give reasons for the following- 4 marks

- a) The writer believed that she was stupid.
- b) The writer flinched as she saw her friend walking towards her.
- c) The writer lacked interest in her studies.
- d) The writer was not a very confident or assertive girl.

4.2 Complete the following 4 marks

- a) When she had to study she felt _____ and _____.
- b) The writer said that God had forgotten to give her brains _____ and _____
- c) Her mother tried to convince her to study by _____ and _____.
- d) _____ was the writer’s sister and _____ was a classmate in the previous year.

4.3 From the passage find one word which means the same as – 2 marks

- a) Make a sudden movement as a result of pain, fear , surprise etc. (para 3)
- b) Find as much support, courage etc as you can (para5)
- c) Finally agree to something after refusing (para 6)
- d) To look carefully at something, to see it clearly (para 4)

Write a letter to M/s Laxmi Stationary Mart, Chawri Bazar Delhi asking them to send their rates and terms of supply of stationary items. You are R. K. Mittal, Office Superintendent, Bundelkhand Public School, Jhansi. (Word limit 125 – 150 words.)