

**Class: IX**

**[Session: 2020-21]**

**Subject: English**

**Topic: The Sound of Music Part: 1[Evelyn Glennie]**

**LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:**

**1. How did Evelyn become a source of inspiration for the deaf children?**

**Ans.** Evelyn Glennie was a deaf child but she accepted her challenges of life and got her potentiality recognised. In spite of being deaf she did not restrict herself for her disabilities. Her deafness was first noticed at the age of eight and confirmed at the age of eleven. When everything seemed to turn black for Evelyn she did not give up for her desire. Amidst all the difficulties she decided to take music as her career. Initially she was rejected by many percussionists to be her master, but Evelyn did not lose hope and fulfilled her dream and she could make it possible for her master Ron Forbes.

Along with her sheer determination and hard work it was Ron Forbes who taught Evelyn to sense music. She was taught not to listen to music but feel it. Certainly she was taught of music in a different way. She felt the vibrations of the higher drum from the waist above and the lower drum from the waist down. In fact she became capable to feel the vibrations in every part of her body. Hence, she learnt how to open her body and mind to the sound and vibrations. Then, she never looked back. She was presented with the Soloist of the Year Award by the Royal Philharmonic Society. Obviously, she was the inspiration for many deaf children. They believed that if Evelyn could, they of course can do everything possible and fulfil their own dreams.

**Q.2. How does Evelyn hear music?**

**Ans.** Evelyn has accomplished more than most people twice her age. But just at the age of eleven she lost her hearing ability. But she did not give up. She was determined to lead a normal life and pursue her interest in music. Ron Forbes, the

great percussionist spotted her potential. He trained Evelyn not to listen to music but to sense it in some other way. She realised that she could feel the higher drum from the waist up and the lower one from the waist down. Forbes repeated the exercise with Evelyn and soon she discovered that she could sense certain notes in different parts of her body. She learnt to open her body and mind to sound and vibrations. She herself explained, "It pours in through every part of my body. It tingles in the skin, my cheekbones and even in my hair." When she played on the xylophone, she could sense the sound passing up the stick into her fingertips. By leaning against the drums, she could feel the resonances flowing into her body. On the wooden floor she used to remove her shoes so that the vibrations may pass through her bare feet and up her legs. She cannot listen to music like others but sensed it in some other ways and so she could express music beautifully, more than any of us.