

# RTC

## Vocation

1. *When the gong sounds ten in the morning and  
I walk to school by our lane,  
Every day I meet the hawker crying, "Bangles,  
crystal bangles!"*

*There is nothing to hurry him on, there is no  
road he must take, no place he must go to, no  
time when he must come home.*

*I wish I were a hawker, spending my day in  
the road, crying, "Bangles, crystal bangles!"*

- A. *What is the source of the following lines?*
- B. *What does the poet strongly dislike?*
- C. *What does the poet envy ?*
- D. *What is the noun form of meet ?*

2. *When at four in the afternoon I come back from  
the school,*

*I can see through the gate of that house the  
gardener digging the ground.*

*He does what he likes with his spade, he soils  
his clothes with dust, nobody takes him to  
task, if he gets baked in the sun or gets wet.*

*I wish I were a gardener digging away at the  
garden with nobody to stop me from digging.*

- A. *What does the poet long for ?*
- B. *Who is scolded for being out in the sun ?*
- C. *What is the meaning of soils here?*
- D. *Where does the gardener work?*

3. *Just as it gets dark in the evening and my  
mother sends me to bed,*

*I can see through my open window the  
watchman walking up and down.*

*The lane is dark and lonely, and the streetlamp  
stands like a giant with one red eye in its head.*

*The watchman swings his lantern walks  
with his shadow at his side, and never once  
goes to bed in his life.*

*I wish I were a watchman walking the street  
all night, chasing the shadows with my  
lantern.*

- A. *Why does the mother send the poet to bed when it is dark?*
- B. *Why is the lane lonely?*
- C. *What is the meaning of 'single red eye'?*

**D. What does the watchman do ?**

**A Game of Chance**

- 1. Presently he came. He looked at me and said, "Rasheed, you look upset. What is the matter?" I did not say anything . Bhaiya told him what had happened. Uncle was neither angry nor sad. He smiled and patted me.**
  - A. Who is 'he' in the extract?**
  - B. Why did Rasheed look upset?**
  - C. Why did uncle smile and pat Rasheed?**
  - D. Why didn't Rasheed make any reply to uncle's query?**
- 2. When he tried again he got a table lamp worth more than 10 rupees. The boy was happy and went away with a smile and good deal of cash. I wanted to try my luck too . I looked at Bhaiya.**
  - A. Who is 'he' in this extract?**
  - B. What did the boy win in his previous attempt?**
  - C. What did he try?**
  - D. Why did the speaker look at Bhaiya?**

**Kalpana Chawala**

- 1. The town of Karnal spent a sleepless night as thousands of households stayed glued to their television sets in the hope that Kalpana and the crew had somehow survived.**
  - A. Why did the town of Karna spend a sleepless night?**
  - B. Why did the people stay glued to their television sets?**
  - C. What were the people hoping kalpana to survive?**
  - D. Where is karnal?**
- 2. After qualifying as a pilot, Kalpana began to consider another challenge: applying to NASA's space shuttle program. She was first hired as a research scientist at NASA. In 1994 she was selected by NASA for training as an astronaut.**
  - A. What were Kalpana's academic qualifications?**
  - B. What was the challenge before Kalpana?**
  - C. What is NASA?**
  - D. From where has the extract been taken?**