

READING COMPREHENSIONS_16

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words are printed in bold to help you to locate them while answering some of the questions.

The yearly festival was close at hand. The store room was **packed** with silk fabrics, gold ornaments, clay bowls full of sweet curd and platefuls of sweetmeats. The orders had been placed with shops well in advance. The mother was sending out gifts to everyone.

The eldest son, a government servant, lived with his wife and children in far off lands. The second son had left home at an early age. As a merchant he travelled all over the World. The other sons had split up over petty squabbles and they now lived in homes of their own. The relatives were spread all across the World. They rarely visited. The youngest son, left in the company of a servant, was soon bored left her and stood at the door all day long, waiting and watching. His mother, thrilled and excited, loaded the presents on trays and plates, covered them with colourful kerchiefs, and sent them off with maids and servants. The neighbours looked on.

The day came to an end. All the presents had been sent off.

The child came back into the house and **dejectedly** said to his mother, "Maa, you gave present to everyone, but you didn't give me anything!"

His mother laughed, "I have given all the gifts away to everyone, now see what's **left** for you." She kissed him on the forehead.

The child said in a tearful voice. "Don't get a gift?"

"You'll get it when you go far away." "But when I am close to you, don't I get something from your own hands?"

His mother reached out her arms and drew him to her "This is all I have in my own hands. It is the most precious of all."

1. Why did the woman's second son travel?

- a) He was restless by nature
- b) He did not want to stay at home

- c) He was rich and could afford to travel
- d) His job was such that he had to travel

2. Why did the woman's eldest son not attend the festival?

- a) He was not on good terms with his youngest brother who lived at home
- b) He had quarrelled with his mother
- c) His wife did not allow him to return home
- d) None of these

3. Which of the following can be said about the woman?

- a) She was a widow who had brought up her children single handedly
- b) She was not a good mother since her children had left home at an early age
- c) She enjoyed sending her family gifts at festival time
- d) She gave expensive presents to show that she was wealthy

4. What did the boy receive from his mother?

- a) She taught him the value of patience
- b) She encouraged him to grow up and live independently like his brother
- c) She showed him the importance of giving expensive gifts
- d) She gave him a hug to express her love

5. Which of the following is true in the context of the passage?

- a) The woman usually ignored her youngest son
- b) The woman's eldest son lived abroad
- c) The members of the woman's family did not care about her
- d) The woman made all the preparations herself since she did not want to burden the servants

6. Choose the word which is most nearly the same in meaning as the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

Left

- a) Gone
- b) Quit
- c) Remaining
- d) Disappeared

7. Choose the word which is most nearly the same in meaning as the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

Packed

- a) Filled
- b) Squeezed
- c) Crowd
- d) Collected

8. Choose the word which is most opposite in meaning of the word 'Dejectedly' as used in the passage.

- a) Calmly
- b) Happily
- c) Willingly
- d) Fortunately

Answer :

1. Option D
2. Option D
3. Option C
4. Option D
5. Option D
6. Option C
7. Option A
8. Option B