

READING COMPREHENSIONS_17

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

During Emperor Akbar's reign, there was a poor man in Agra, who was thought to bring bad luck. People believed that if any one looked at his face in the morning, they would have a bad day.

"Get lost, you ugly fellow!" he would be cursed by one and all. "**Hide** your face before you kill someone with your evil eye!"

The emperor soon heard of this man's reputation and wanted to see him. The poor fellow, who had not harmed a single person in his life, was brought to Akbar

Akbar took a look at him and asked him to be brought back in the evening.

That particular day was an especially full and tiring day for the emperor and his courtiers.

So, many matters had to be attended to that Akbar even forgot to eat. By the end of the day, the emperor was **exhausted**. To make matters worse, Akbar was informed that his favourite child, little Prince Salim, had fallen ill.

Then the emperor suddenly remembered that he had seen the face of the 'unlucky' man that morning.

That was it. It was that man's entire fault, Akbar decided.

Akbar called his courtiers and told them that he was going to have 'unlucky' man executed. All of them agreed immediately.

That is all except Birbal. Instead, Birbal let out a short laugh.

"What is the matter, Birbal?" asked the emperor "You seem to find something funny!"

"Nothing, your majesty, "replied Birbal

"You say this man brings bad luck because you had to go without food ever since you saw him this morn ing. Look at his luck. Yours was the first face he saw today, and has to die because to it."

Akbar immediately realized his folly and rewarded Birbal for his wisdom.

1. Why had the king not eaten his food?

- a) He was very busy that day
- b) He had seen the face of the unlucky fellow
- c) He was not feeling well
- d) None of these

2. Who was not well on that particular day?

- a) King Akbar
- b) The King's courtiers
- c) Birbal
- d) Prince Salim

3. Which of the following describes Birbal?

- a) He was a famous merchant
- b) He had lost his senses
- c) He was very poor
- d) He possessed good logical thinking

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

- a) The poor man wanted to see the king
- b) The poor man was well educated
- c) The courtiers were sympathetic with the poor man
- d) King Akbar realized his mistake

5. What was Birbal's initial reaction when he heard that the poor man would be executed?

- a) He was angry because Akbar had not taken his advice
- b) He laughed slightly
- c) He was silent and wanted to give a change to the poor man
- d) None of these

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

Reputation

- a) Character
- b) Respect
- c) Fame
- d) Report

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

Folly

- a) Argument
- b) Mistake
- c) Words
- d) Conflict

8. Choose the word which is the most opposite in meaning of the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

Hide

- a) Seek
- b) Show
- c) Go away
- d) Indicate

9. Choose the word which is the most opposite in meaning of the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

Exhausted

- a) Consumed
- b) Drained
- c) Restless
- d) Energetic

Answer :

1. Answer: D
2. Answer: D
3. Answer: D
4. Answer: D
5. Answer: D
- 6 . Answer: D
7. Answer: B
8. Answer: B
9. Answer: D