

READING COMPREHENSIONS_23

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

During the reign of King, Veer, there lived a wise magistrate. Haripant's verdicts were always just and people from all over the vast kingdom came to him in order to settle their disputes. In the city where Haripant lived, there was a greedy ghee merchant named Niranjana. He always kept twenty barrels of ghee. Of these, fifteen would contain good quality ghee and the remaining would be adulterated, he would mix into and sell it. This went on for a time, till finally the people fed up being **cheated** and complained to Haripant.

Haripant had the ghee examined and found it to be adulterated. He gave Niranjana a choice of punishment drink the five barrels of adulterated ghee from his shop or receive a hundred lashings or pay a thousand gold coins in the treasury. Niranjana thought for a while. Losing a thousand gold coins was too much and a hundred lashings are painful. So, he decided to drink the barrels of ghee.

Though Niranjana adulterated goods in his shop, they made sure his own food was of the best quality. So, after drinking one barrel of ghee, he began to feel sick. By the second barrel, he was vomiting. At this point he decided to opt for the lashings instead. But he was pampered and his body was **unused** to any harsh treatment. After ten lashes, he started trembling and by twenty he was giddy. Stop! He screamed 'I will pay the thousand gold coins!' and he handed them.

So, he ended up **suffering** all three punishments something he did not forget in a hurry and the people of the city got to use only the best quality ghee in their food from then on!

1. Why did the people decide to go to Haripant with their complaint?

- a) He was close to the King and would get justice for them
- b) They knew Niranjana was afraid of Haripant, who punished people severely
- c) They were confident that he would listen to their complaint and give a fair judgement
- d) He was the only magistrate in the entire kingdom

2. Why did Haripant allow Niranjan to choose his own punishment?

- a) He felt sorry for Niranjan
- b) Niranjan's offence was minor
- c) He did not want Niranjan to appeal of the king for leniency
- d) None of these

3. Why did Niranjan decide to drink adulterated ghee for his punishment?

- a) Since the barrels were from his shop he thought he could substitute the adulterated ghee with good ghee
- b) He wanted to prove that the quality of ghee he sold was good
- c) He was greedy and had a big appetite so he thought he would easily drink the ghee
- d) He considered it the easiest of the punishments as he did not realise what effect the ghee would have on him

4. Why did Niranjan suffer three punishments?

- a) He had cheated so many people that his punishment had to be severe
- b) Haripant had ordered this so that Niranjan would never repeat his offence
- c) Haripant wanted to make an example of him so that other merchants would not cheat their customers
- d) Niranjan could not decide which punishment to undergo. So, Haripant awarded him all three punishments.

5. Choose the word which is most similar in meaning as the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

Cheated

- a) Unfaithful
- b) Blamed
- c) Exploited
- d) Dodged

6. Choose the word which is most similar in meaning as the wordprinted in bold as used in the passage.

Suffering

- a) Hardship
- b) Distressing
- c) Hurting
- d) Experiencing

7. Choose the word which is most opposite in meaning to the wordprinted in bold as used in the passage.

Best

- a) Damaged
- b) Inferior
- c) Spoiled
- d) Defective

8. Choose the word which is most opposite in meaning to the wordprinted in bold as used in the passage.

Unused

- a) Accustomed
- b) Routine
- c) Often
- d) Normal

Answer:-

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