

## READING COMPREHENSIONS\_24

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

Many years ago, I was the chief guest at a function. This was held in a hostel for poor students that had been built by a philanthropist. Food and shelter were free, but students had to **bear** other expenses like tuition and clothing.

In my younger days, I have come across many families, who would look after students who were economically backward but otherwise bright. They used to help them with their fees or clothing and often with their food as well. In those days, most colleges were located in larger towns. Many poor students, who came to study in these towns used to stay with these families and would be treated as a part of the family. The woman of the house considered this a good deed and helped the poor students whole heartedly. Today, the situation is different. Even smaller towns have schools and colleges, so this custom has disappeared.

While I was sitting on the dais, I remembered the past and congratulated the person, who had built the hostel. It was a good deed and of great help to many students. The hostel secretary told me about some of the students in the hostel, who had secured ranks but had a problem paying their tuition fees.

He said, “Madam, this year we have three students from different disciplines who have secured ranks. All of these are from extremely poor families. They have one more year to complete their degrees”. “What are they studying?” “One is in medicine, the second in engineering and the third in commerce.” “Can I meet them after the function?”

The function went on as usual. Often, at such functions too much praise is lavished on the chief guest. Sometimes, they even make exaggerated and false claims about the chief guest. I feel this unnecessary praising is the highest form of corruption where people are easily fooled, and it encourages those who are praised to develop an inflated opinion of themselves. That’s why in the twelfth century, in Karnataka, the great revolutionary leader Basaveshwara warned in his teaching that praise is like a golden gallows.

After the function, I met the three poor bright boys whom the secretary had told me about. They were a little puzzled, shy and nervous. All of them had the same story

father in a small job unable to make ends meet, a large family back in the village, no land or any other asset. Only sheer determination to excel in studies had brought them here against all odds.

1. How did poor students manage their expenses in towns, if a college education was not available to them in their villages?

- a) They used to get regular help from the philanthropist
- b) Their fees and clothing expenses were borne by the colleges
- c) Many families used to provide them facilities on payment
- d) None of these

2. Why has the practice of students from villages staying with families in towns stopped now a days?

- a) Families have found education has become very expensive
- b) Higher education is available to students even in smaller towns
- c) There is no need for students to go in for higher education these days
- d) The situation is altogether different as the educational structure has changed

3. What does the author dislike about functions?

- a) The false or exaggerated praise showered on the chief guest
- b) Selection of corrupt persons as chief guests
- c) The awkward situation created by the audience
- d) The shyness and nervousness of the audience

4. Which of the following was not a common factor among the three students?

- a) Subjects of study
- b) Family background
- c) Lack of resources
- d) Intelligence

5. Choose the word which is most nearly the same in meaning to the word given in bold as used in the passage.

**Bear**

- a) Tolerate
- b) Ensure
- c) Pay
- d) Receive

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

**Lavished**

- a) Showered
- b) Taken
- c) Abundant
- d) Warranted

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

**Bright**

- a) Light
- b) Dark
- c) Unintelligent
- d) Glowing

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

**Exaggerated**

- a) Narranted
- b) Expelled
- c) Stopped
- d) Understand

**Answer:-**

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