



# Comprehension Passage

## Learning Outcomes

- Students will learn how to read and understand a passage.
- They will practice answering questions based on the passage to check their understanding.

### 1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Karl Benz, a German scientist invented the modern car in 1888. Emile Roger worked for Benz in France. He had made cars in France. By 1900, many people were making cars in France and in the U.S. The first company to make only cars was Panhard et Levassor in France. Panhard started in 1889. The Peugeot car company started in 1891 in France. In the US, Frank and Charles Duryea started the Duryea Motor Wagon Company in 1893. It was the first US car company. By 1902, Ransom E. Olds started the Olds Motor Vehicle Company. A year later, Henry Ford started the Ford Motor Company. It produced the Cadillac. All these early modern cars burned gasoline in France and Britain in 1911. Then they opened a Factory in Denmark in 1923. Later they opened a factory in Germany in 1925. Ford was one of the first manufacturers to use an assembly line. With an assembly line factory workers could produce cars faster and safer than other production systems. Most modern cars still burn gasoline or diesel fuel. These cars cause air pollution. They make the air dirty. Now many people are looking for cleaner car fuel options and many car manufacturing companies are looking for cleaner fuels.



### A. Tick (✓) the correct option.



**Skills/Level**  
READING/A1



1. Which company first built any car?

(a) Benz

☐

(b) Ford

☐

(c) Duryea

☐

(d) Panhard et Levassor

☐

2. When did the Peugeot car company start?

(a) 1861

☐

(b) 1871

☐

(c) 1881

☐

(d) 1891

☐

3. What was the first car company?

(a) Ford

☐

(b) Olds

☐

(c) Cadillac

☐

(d) Duryea

☐

4. Which company was one of the first manufacturers to use an assembly line?

(a) Ford

☐

(b) BMW

☐

(c) Maruti

☐

(d) None

☐



**2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

"If a country is to be corruption free and become a nation of beautiful minds, I strongly feel there are three key societal members who can make a difference. They are the father, the mother and the teacher." These golden words are remembered by the people of the country as they mourn the death of Dr A P J Abdul Kalam; the great scientist and former President of India. Throughout his lifetime, he had been an inspiration for the students, the youth who are the aspirants of great India. And these 'ignited minds' illuminated by the character and influence of this great soul will keep spreading the light of their wisdom and virtues across the world. Kalam was born into a poor South Indian family in Rameshwaram. His family lived a very frugal life and could hardly make both ends meet. It was difficult for his father to pay even the school fees on time. So, Kalam had a habit of using his resources sparingly. Despite all unfavourable circumstances, he worked very hard and continued with his education and consequently became a highly respected aerospace scientist in the country. His journey to success was not an easy affair. India's 'Missile Man' also had some failure stories. He had narrowly missed his dream of becoming a fighter pilot as he ranked 9th in the list and there were only eight positions in the IAF. Also, when he was pursuing aerospace engineering in Madras Institute of Technology, his Dean was dissatisfied with the lack of progress that he exhibited in a project. It is another fact that he later accomplished it within the deadline of three days and impressed the Dean. Abdul Kalam received Honorary doctorates from 40 universities. The Government of India awarded him the Padma Bhushan in 1981, and the Padma Vibhushan in 1990 for his work with ISRO and DRDO and as a scientific advisor to the government. The government also awarded him the highest civilian award 'Bharat Ratna' for his contribution to the Missile Programme in 1997. Kalam's message for the youth was that they should have the courage to think differently, to travel the unexplored path, discover the impossible and to overcome their problems and succeed. Above all they should work towards achieving 'excellence' was his most important lesson for the youth of the country. He didn't believe in doling out advice about the things he didn't do himself. It is said that amidst his tight schedule, Kalam found time to put pen to paper, almost everyday. His urge for excellence and fear of intellectual stagnation always provoked him to stretch his schedule beyond the daily routine. When Kalam was President, a reporter who was interviewing him was referring to him as 'Your Excellency'. Kalam cut him short, saying, 'call me Kalam'. This is the key to Kalam's personality. He was modest to the core. This great philosopher and scientist who spread the message of spirituality, inspiration, and hardwork in the country passed away due to a cardiac attack while he was delivering a lecture on 'Creating a liveable Planet Earth' at the Indian Institute of Management in Shillong on the 27th July, 2015.



**B. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false statements.**

1. Abdul Kalam was a second President of India.
2. Abdul Kalam was an inspiration for the children and the youth.
3. Kalam was known as Missile Man.
4. Abdul Kalam received Doctorates from more than 40 Universities.
5. The Government of India awarded Kalam the Padma Bhusan in 1970.

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**3. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

Rudyard Kipling, the great achiever of the honourable Nobel Prize for Literature in 1907, was a versatile writer with an articulate style of writing. He was an English short story writer, poet and novelist. He was the first English language writer to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature. On one hand, his writings depicted an aureate style of writing. Whereas, on the other hand, his works have also shown





careless and colloquial styles. Rudyard Kipling was born in Mumbai, on 30th December, 1865 to John Lockwood Kipling and Alice Kipling. His father who was a professor and archaeological sculptor, was appointed curator of the Government Museum in Lahore. So, his family had to move to Lahore, soon after his birth. At the age of six, he was sent to England for schooling. He did his further education from the United Service College, Devon. When he returned to India, he was a reporter for the Lahore Civil and Military Gazette and the Allahabad Pioneer. After this he sailed back to England and also travelled through China, Japan and the United States. Kipling was a versatile personality and had many qualities that made him extremely popular. He was more than a writer or journalist. His works include stories of Indian people, of children and of animals. His articles also talked about the value machines, his belief in progress, benefits of civilisation to the rest of the world. All these things carved for him a niche in the hearts of many readers. He wrote about everything from adventure, to supernatural activities to romance and filled everything with a special feeling. Although many of his writings were very much different from those of the contemporary writers, he won the popularity of readers. He put a new life into the literature of 1890s. After his daughter's death, Kipling collected stories for 'The Children.' They were published in 1902. This was the year when he gained highest popularity. Till the first decade of the 20th century, he was at the height of popularity. One critic described Kipling as, "A versatile and luminous narrative gift". Henry James, the well known writer once said, "Kipling strikes me personally as the most complete man of genius that I have ever known". In 1936, when Kipling was 70, he underwent a surgery; a few days after which he died.

**C. Tick (✓) the correct option.**

1. Rudyard Kipling had won Nobel Prize for :

(a) Literature

☐

(b) Physics

☐

(c) Peace

☐

(d) Chemistry

☐

2. Rudyard Kipling was born in :

(a) Dubai

☐

(b) Mumbai

☐

(c) Delhi

☐

(d) London

☐

3. Rudyard Kipling put a new life in the Literature of:

(a) 1850s

☐

(b) 1860s

☐

(c) 1880s

☐

(d) 1890s

☐

4. After the death of his daughter, Kipling collected stories for the :

(a) old

☐

(b) children

☐

(c) both

☐

(d) none

☐

5. Rudyard Kipling was at the height of popularity till the first decade of:

(a) 18th century

☐

(b) 19th century

☐

(c) 20th century

☐

(d) 21st century

☐

**4. Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

You are who?

The land owner,

Or the scarecrow?

You wear his shirt,

You hold his bow,

You wear his pants.





You are who?  
The land owner,  
Or the scarecrow?

You do his job;  
Scare the crow,  
Scare the birds,  
And other animals too.

You are who?  
The land owner,  
Or the scarecrow?

You are a look-alike;  
A semian twin,  
Who knows?  
Who knows?

Is your owner,  
Hiding behind you?  
I walk too early,

No intention to spoil or steal,  
But you naughty dare  
To scare me too.

You are who?  
The land owner,  
Or the scarecrow?



**D. Tick (✓) the correct option.**

1. The scarecrow does not:

(a) scare the crow

☐

(b) scare birds

☐

(c) dig the land

☐

(d) none

☐

2. The scarecrow:

(a) wears the shirt of the land owner

☐

(b) wears the pant of the land owner

☐

(c) both (a) & (b)

☐

(d) none

☐

3. The poet wants to:

(a) steal the landowner's fruits

☐

(b) see the scarecrow

☐

(c) both (a) & (b)

☐

(d) none

☐

4. The poet confuses the scarecrow with the land owner because:

(a) the scarecrow wears his pant

☐

(b) wears his shirt

☐

(c) wear both his pant and shirt

☐

(d) none

☐
