

**DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL
BOKARO STEEL CITY**

ASSIGNMENT FOR THE SESSION 2009-2010

Class : VIII

Subject : English

Assign. No. 3

Section – A (Reading)

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

I am sure you have all heard the story of Cinderella. You know, the beautiful girl with the two mean step sisters and a wicked stepmother. Well you already know the ending, the beautiful girl marries the handsome prince, and they live happily ever after. Well, that was the fairy tale; this is the real story.

My name is Oscar and I am a mouse.

I live in the attic in Cinderella's house. You might say Cindy and I were room-mates before she became a princess.

When she was small, and her father was alive, we shared a beautiful room downstairs. But after her father died, she was put in the attic. I naturally followed, because I knew she would need my company. And need me she did.

At first, she saw thought of me only as a common ordinary mouse. Night after night, she would throw me crumbs. I thought she was very kind. Then one night, after her stepmother locked the door, she began to cry. I climbed up on Cindy's lap. She talked to me and gave me my name, Oscar. I did not like the name at first, but I am used to it now. I even like it.

Everyday I watched Cindy work very hard. Finally, one day, quite by accident, I found a way to help her. You see, her stepsisters were ordering her around, and they made her cry. Cindy cried a lot. Anyway, I ran to Cindy and they saw me. You should have seen them clear the room! Faster than a speeding bullet they almost broke their necks as they ran screaming from the room. You should have heard them! 'Eeek...a mouse!'. "Mother!" "Help!". Cindy and I laughed so hard. It was really a good moment.

Then there was a time when I hid on a plate of food that was meant for Cindy's stepmother. When she saw me, first she fainted, then she had hysterics for three days! Three days of peace! That was really nice!

The only other person who was not afraid of me was Esmerelda. She was Cindy's fairy godmother. We called her Essie for short. She just popped up on the day of the big ball. Poor Cindy had run herself ragged waiting on those step sisters, trying to do the impossible, and make them...not beautiful, but just presentable.

Any way Cindy was talking tome in the garden when this strange-looking woman walked through the gate. Most people think she magically appeared in a beautiful white light, but she didn't.

She just walked in the yard with a brown shopping bag in her hand. I really thought she was here for a handout. Cindy must have thought the same thing, because she offered her a glass of milk and some cookies. She didn't look much like a fairy godmother. Her dress was torn and her shoes had holes. I mean, this fairy godmother looked like she needed a fairy godmother.

I was about to say something when Essie asked Cindy why she was not preparing to go to the ball. Cindy told her she had no clothes or transportation. Well, faster than you could say, 'the rat ate the cheese,' the old woman reached her bag and pulled out a beautiful blue gown you ever saw!

Then she told Cindy to hurry up and change her clothes, while she saw to the transportation.

The old lady put her hand into her bag again and pulled out a small coach. It was just my size. She put it on the ground and I was most surprised to see the thing grow. I ran for cover. Right then Essie called me and foolishly I went. Before I knew what had hit me, I had four hoofs and a tail. Seeing my alarm, Essie assured me it was only temporary. I didn't mind a little sacrifice for the cause...(but I hate oats!)

A1. On the basis of your understanding, answer the following questions:

- a. Who is the speaker and where did he dwell?
- b. Describe Cinderella's circumstances before and after her father died.
- c. How did Esmerelda appear in the garden?

A2. Complete the following statements with relevant information from the text:

- a. When Cindy first saw the mouse, she thought of it as -----
- b. Cindy and Oscar had a hard laugh because
- c. Cindy offered the old woman

A3. Find out the meanings of the following expressions from the passage and answer in a word:

- a. a room under the room mostly used as a storage
- b. was very upset
- c. fit to be seen

Section – B (Writing)

- B1. Your friend Rohit is feeling very dejected that he has not made it to the Genius All India Quiz Competition. Write a letter to Rohit, comforting him and asking him not to give up. OR
- B2. You have been spellbound by a display which had you watching with wonder. It may be a fly past/ air display/ fireworks / or a show. Make a diary entry about your experience describing the forms, colours, movements on display.
- B3. Write a article on about 150 words on "Electronic Entertainment." You may include- television, computers, music system, laser shows.

Section – C (Grammar)

- C1. Given below are a few guidelines to beat the stress during examinations. Read them and thereafter process the information to complete the following passage:

A FEW STUDY TIPS:

- As we near exam date, respect your body.
- Stick to a routine where your study, sleep and eating cycles are concerned.
- Evaluate each subject and identify the topics that need more attention.
- Tackle difficult areas.
- Avoid late nights and late mornings.
- Train your body to be at its alert best when you are actually giving the paper.
- Use your time realistically.

As we near the exam date, your body _____1._____ respected. A routine _____2._____ to where study, sleep and eating cycles are concerned. Each subject should _____3._____ and topics _____4._____. Difficult areas _____5._____ tackled Late nights and late mornings _____6._____. Your body _____7._____ to be at its alert best when you are actually giving the paper.

C2. In the passage given below, word has been omitted in each line. Find the word and write it down correctly in the blank space provided:

A harp a musical instrument _____
with strings stretched vertically _____
within brass or wood sound box _____
triangular shape.
Orchestral harp is the largest _____
instrument of its type. Harp _____
have been used in folk music as _____
accompanying instrument and _____
associated with the Wales and Ireland _____

Section D - (Literature)

- D1. "Rise, brothers, rise; the wakening skies pray to the morning light.
The wind lies asleep in the arms of the dawn like a child that has cried all night."
a. Who is the speaker?
b. Whom is he calling and why?
c. How doe she speaker describe the wind?.
- D2. 'As the human brain takes over, more of our energy can be directed into peacetime pursuits and the effect of war on the ordinary men man will be less.'
a. Who said this and to whom?
b. Was the advantage gained by using human power really used for peaceful processes? What was it actually used for?
- D3. Who according to Gardiner is a perfect neighbour? Give reasons for your answer.
- D4. What part of Tom's dream was sad and tragic, or even scary?
- D5. Why do tigers end up in the 'Skin Market' and the 'Bone Bazaar'? Who sends them there? How do you think we can stop this practice?

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