

First Flight Chapter 7 Glimpses of India

I. A Baker from Goa

Oral Comprehension Check (Page 86)

Question 1: What are the elders in Goa nostalgic about?

Answer: The elders in Goa have fond memories of the early Portuguese era and their adoration of the renowned bread loaves. The author also notes that while bread consumers are no longer around, bread manufacturers are still around.

Question 2: Is bread-making still popular in Goa? How do you know?

Answer: Yes, baking bread is still a common activity in Goa. It is clear from the fact that there are still people who manufacture bread even though there are no longer any bread consumers. They can be identified by the fact that there are mixers, moulders, bakers, and furnaces that have stood the test of time.

Question 3: What is the baker called?

Answer: In Goa, a baker is commonly referred to as a pader.

Question 4: When would the baker come everyday? Why did the children run to meet him?

Answer: Every day, the baker would visit twice: once when he left early in the morning and again when he came back after emptying his large basket by selling all of his bread.

The kids would hurry to meet him because they loved to eat bread and wanted properly chosen bread bracelets. Sometimes it was specially made sweet bread.

Oral Comprehension Check (Page 87)

Question 1: Match the following. What is a must

- (i) as marriage gifts? cakes and bolinhas
- (ii) for a party or a feast? sweet bread called bol
- (iii) for a daughter's engagement? bread
- (iv) for Christmas? sandwiches



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Answer:

- (i) as marriage gifts? sweet bread called bol
- (ii) for a party or a feast? bread
- (iii) for a daughter's engagement? sandwiches
- (iv) for Christmas? cakes and bolinhas

Question 2: What did the bakers wear: (i) in the Portuguese days? (ii) when the author was young?

Answer:

- (i) Back in the days of the Portuguese empire, bakers were frequently attired in an odd garment known as the kabai. It was a long, one-piece dress that reached to her knees.
- (ii) The author recalls seeing bakers in his youth wearing shirts and pants that were longer than half-pants but shorter than full-length ones.

Question 3: Who invites the comment — "he is dressed like a pader"? Why?

Answer: Anyone sporting a half-pant that falls just below the knees is sure to receive the remark, "He is dressed like a pader." This is due to the fact that bakers, also known as paders in Goa, used to dress similarly.

Question 4: Where were the monthly accounts of the baker recorded?

Answer: The bakers typically paid their bills at the end of the month, and their monthly accounts were written down in pencil on a wall somewhere in the house.

Question 5: What does a 'jackfruit-like appearance' mean?

Answer: A "jackfruit-like look" refers to a bulky frame. A baker formerly had this physique because it was thought that he and his family never went hungry. The baker, his family, and his servants always appeared content and wealthy due to the lucrative nature of their occupation.



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Thinking about the Text (Page 88)

Question 1: Which of these statements are correct?

- (i) The pader was an important person in the village in old times.
- (ii) Paders still exist in Goan villages.
- (iii) The paders went away with the Portuguese.
- (iv) The paders continue to wear a single-piece long frock.
- (v) Bread and cakes were an integral part of Goan life in the old days.
- (vi) Traditional bread-baking is still a very profitable business.
- (vii) Paders and their families starve in the present times.

Answer:

- 1. Correct
- 2. Correct
- 3. Incorrect. The paders still exist in Goan villages.
- 4. Incorrect. The bakers wear a shirt and trousers that are shorter than full-length ones and longer than half pants.
- 5. Correct
- 6. Correct
- 7. Incorrect. Baking happens to be a profitable business in Goa.

Question 2: Is bread an important part of Goan life? How do you know this?

Answer: Yes, bread plays a significant role in Goan culture. It is frequently used for feasts and gifts at weddings. During their daughters' engagements, mothers also make sandwiches with bread. Everyone in Goa enjoys the aroma of freshly baked bread, according to the author. The young yearn for bread bracelets while the elderly are served loaves. Therefore, every home has to have bread on hand for all circumstances. In Goa, baking is therefore regarded as a lucrative industry because the population has always loved scrumptious bread.



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Question 3: Tick the right answer. What is the tone of the author when he says the following?

- (i) The thud and the jingle of the traditional baker's bamboo can still be heard in some places. (nostalgic, hopeful, sad)
- (ii) Maybe the father is not alive but the son still carries on the family profession. (nostalgic, hopeful, sad)
- (iii) I still recall the typical fragrance of those loaves. (nostalgic, hopeful, naughty)
- (iv) The tiger never brushed his teeth. Hot tea could wash and clean up everything so nicely, after all. (naughty, angry, funny)
- (v) Cakes and bolinhas are a must for Christmas as well as other festivals. (sad, hopeful, matter-of-fact)
- (vi) The baker and his family never starved. They always looked happy and prosperous. (matter-of-fact, hopeful, sad)

(i) nostalgic(ii) hopeful(iii) nostalgic

(v) matter-of-fact

(iv) funny

Answer:

(vi) matter-of-fact



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II- Coorg

Thinking about the Text (Page 92-93)

Question 1: Where is Coorg?

Answer: Coorg or Kodagu is the smallest district of Karnataka that is located midway between Mysore and Mangalore.

Question 2: What is the story about the Kodavu people's descent?

Answer: The fiercely independent people of Coorg are believed to be the descendants of people of Greek or Arabic origin. As the story goes, a section of Alexander's army moved south along the coast and settled there when they could not return to their country. These people married amongst the locals and their culture is apparent in the martial traditions, marriage and religious rites, which are distinct from the Hindu mainstream. This is the beautiful story about the Kodavu people's descent.

Question 3: What are some of the things you now know about

- (i) the people of Coorg?
- (ii) the main crop of Coorg?
- (iii) the sports it offers to tourists?
- (iv) the animals you are likely to see in Coorg?
- (v) its distance from Bangalore, and how to get there?

Answer: (i) The Coorgi or Kodagu people are fiercely independent people comprising martial men and beautiful women who are believed to have descended from the Greeks or the Arabs. They have a



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strong tradition of hospitality and they are more than willing to recount numerous tales of bravery that are related to the men of this region. As a matter of fact, the Kodavus are the only people in India who are permitted to carry firearms without a licence.

- (ii) Coffee is the main crop of Coorg. The air smells of invigorating coffee. Coffee estates and colonial bungalows stand tucked under tree canopies in prime corners of the town.
- (iii) Coorg offers a variety of high-energy adventure sports that include river rafting, canoeing, rappelling, rock climbing, mountain biking and trekking.
- (iv) The animals that you are likely to see in Coorg include Macaques, Malabar squirrels, langurs, slender lorises, wild elephants, etc. You can also see birds, bees and butterflies giving you company around the corner.
- (v) By road, Coorg is around 250 260 kilometres from Bangalore and there are two routes to reach there. One route is via Mysore, which is the most frequented one. The other route is via Neelamangal, Kunigal and Chanrayanapatna.

Question 4: Here are six sentences with some words in italics. Find phrases from the text that have the same meaning. (Look in the paragraphs indicated)

- (i) During monsoons it rains so heavily that tourists do not visit Coorg. (para 2)
- (ii) Some people say that Alexander's army moved south along the coast and settled there. (para 3)
- (iii) The Coorg people are always ready to tell stories of their sons' and fathers' valour. (para 4)
- (iv) Even people who normally lead an easy and slow life get smitten by the high-energy adventure sports of Coorg. (para 6)
- (v) The theory of the Arab origin *is supported by* the long coat with embroidered waist-belt they wear. (para 3)
- (vi) Macaques, Malabar squirrels observe you carefully from the tree canopy. (para 7)

Answer: (i) to keep many visitors away

- (ii) As one story goes
- (iii) are more than willing to recount
- (iv) The most laidback individuals become converts to



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(v) draws	support	from
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(vi)	keep	a	watchful	eye

III- Tea From Assam

Thinking about the Text (Page 96-97)

Question I:

1. Look at these words: upkeep, downpour, undergo, dropout, walk-in. They are built up from a verb (keep, pour, go, drop, walk) and an adverb or a particle (up, down, under, out, in).

Use these words appropriately in the sentences below. You may consult a dictionary.

(i) A heavyl	has been forecast due to low pressure in the Bay of Bengal
(ii) Rakesh will	major surgery tomorrow morning.
(iii) My brother is responsible for the	of our family property.
(iv) The	rate for this accountancy course is very high.
(v) She went to the Enterprise Compar	ny to attend a interview.
Answer:	
(i) A heavy downpour has been foreca	st due to low pressure in the Bay of Bengal.

- (ii) Rakesh will undergo major surgery tomorrow morning.



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(iii) My brother is responsible for the upkeep of our family property.		
(iv) The dropout rate for this accountancy course is very high.		
(v) She went to the Enterprise Company to attend a walk-in interview.		
2. Now fill in the blanks in the sentences given below by combining the verb given in brackets		
with one of the words from the box as appropriate.		
over by through out up down		
(i) The Army attempted unsuccessfully to the Government. (throw)		
(ii) Scientists are on the brink of a major in cancer research. (break)		
(iii) The State Government plans to build a for Bhubaneswar to speed up traffic		
on the main highway. (pass)		
(iv) Gautama's on life changed when he realised that the world is full of sorrow. (look)		
(v) Rakesh seemed unusually after the game. (cast)		
Answer:		
(i) The Army attempted unsuccessfully to overthrow the Government.		
(ii) Scientists are on the brink of a major breakthrough in cancer research.		
(iii) The State Government plans to build a bypass for Bhubaneswar to speed up traffic on the main highway. (pass)		



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- (iv) Gautama's outlook on life changed when he realised that the world is full of sorrow.
- (v) Rakesh seemed unusually downcast after the game.

Question II: Notice how these -ing and -ed adjectives are used.

(a) Chess is an interesting game.	I am very interested in chess.
(b) Going trekking in the Himalayas this summer is an exciting idea.	We are very excited about the trek.
(c) Are all your school books this boring?	He was bored as he had no friends there.

The -ing adjectives show the qualities that chess, trekking, or these books have: they cause interest, excitement, or boredom in you. The —ed/—en adjectives show your mental state, or your physical state: how you feel in response to ideas, events or things.

1. Think of suitable -ing or -ed adjectives to answer the following questions. You may also use words from those given above.

How would you describe

(i) a	good (detective serial	l on television?	



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(ii) a debate on your favourite topic 'Homework Should Be Banned'?
(iii) how you feel when you stay indoors due to incessant rain?
(iv) how you feel when you open a present?
(v) how you feel when you watch your favourite programme on television?
(vi) the look on your mother's face as you waited in a queue?
(vii) how you feel when tracking a tiger in a tiger reserve forest?
(viii) the story you have recently read, or a film you have seen?



- (i) a good detective serial on television? Interesting
- (ii) a debate on your favourite topic 'Homework Should Be Banned'? Exciting
- (iii) how you feel when you stay indoors due to incessant rain? Bored
- (iv) how you feel when you open a present? Excited
- (v) how you feel when you watch your favourite programme on television? Interested
- (vi) the look on your mother's face as you waited in a queue? Fatigued
- (vii) how you feel when tracking a tiger in a tiger reserve forest? Thrilled
- (viii) the story you have recently read, or a film you have seen? Interesting
- 2. Now use the adjectives in the exercise above, as appropriate, to write a paragraph about Coorg.



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Answer:

Students have to do this by themselves.

