

Read the following extracts and answer the questions given below it.

1. From the minute he stepped out of his house he scanned the landscape for a familiar face, pounced hawk like on the unwary victim, and held him in thrall; he even stopped the vagrant on the culvert one day in order to describe the Grand Canyon. “Actually there is nothing like it anywhere in the world”, he concluded and gave him five paise for listening. It was a matter of luck for another as to whether he could slip away in time or got entangled in American lore.

- (i.) What is the context of the above extract?
- (ii.) How do some people become lucky in the situation mentioned in this extract?
- (iii.) Write meanings of the followings in your own words.
 - a. thrawl-
 - b. unwary –
- (iv.) Why does “He” behave in the manner described in this extract? What aspect of the character of “he” is revealed from his conduct?

2. The surroundings were hushed when the master counted his earnings for the day. Although the boy in the front stall received all the cash, he was not supposed to know the total. He just dropped every paisa he received into a long necked bronze jug, and brought it in at six O’ clock, returned to his seat and brought in another instalment in a smaller container at seven, when the shutters were drawn.

- (i.) What is the context of the above extract?
- (ii.) About whom is the text?
- (iii.) Write the meanings of the following in your words.
 - a.) Shutters were drawn
 - b.) Surroundings were hushed
- (iv.) What does this extract reveal about “the master” mentioned here?

Essay Type Question.

- 1. ‘Conflict between western and Eastern cultures is expressed in Narayan’s “Vendor of Sweets”. Support your answer referring to the text.