Unseen Passage Worksheet with Answers

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A. Passage 1 (discursive)

Read the passage and answer the questions.

Screen Time: Servant or Master?

1 Walk into any Indian home in the evening and you will probably see the same picture. A child watches videos on a phone, a father reads the news on a tablet and a mother answers messages while the television plays in the background. Screens have become so common that we hardly notice how much time we spend looking at them.

2 There is no doubt that screens are useful. During the lockdown years, millions of students kept learning because of online classes. A farmer in a small village can check the price of onions without travelling to the market, and a girl in a town without a good library can read hundreds of books for free. Used wisely, a screen is a window to the world.

3 However, too much screen time brings problems. Doctors warn that children who stare at screens for hours complain of tired eyes and headaches. Many of them sleep late, because the bright light of a phone keeps the brain awake. Others stop playing outside, so they miss exercise and the joy of meeting friends face to face.

4 The problem is not the screen itself but the way we use it. A student who watches a lesson on fractions and then practises sums in a notebook is using technology well. A student who scrolls through short videos for three hours is simply wasting time. The difference lies in having a purpose.

5 Families can solve this problem together. Fixing a time limit, keeping phones away from the dinner table and switching off screens an hour before bed are small steps that really work. Parents should follow the rules too, because children learn more from what they see than from what they are told. If we control our screens instead of letting them control us, they will remain good servants and not become bad masters.

1. What picture of an Indian home does the writer describe in paragraph 1? (a) a family busy with different screens (b) children playing cricket outside (c) people watching a film together

2. State whether true or false: The writer believes that screens are not useful at all.

3. How are screens useful to a farmer in a small village and to a girl in a town without a good library? Answer in 30-40 words.

4. Find a word from paragraph 2 that means "in a sensible way".

5. Complete the sentence: Doctors warn that children who stare at screens for hours complain of _____ _____ and headaches.

6. Find a word from paragraph 3 that means "to look at something for a long time without looking away".

7. Why do many children sleep late? Answer in one or two sentences.

8. What does the writer mean by "The problem is not the screen itself"? (a) Screens are harmless. (b) The problem lies in how people use screens. (c) Screens should be thrown away.

9. State whether true or false: According to paragraph 4, a student who scrolls through videos for three hours is using technology well.

10. Which small steps can a family take to control screen time? Answer in 30-40 words.

11. Why does the writer say that parents should follow the rules too? (Inference)

12. Complete the sentence: If we control our screens, they will remain good _____ and not become bad _____.

B. Passage 2 (factual)

Read the passage and answer the questions.

The Scientist Who Asked Why the Sea Is Blue

1 Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman, known as C. V. Raman, was born on 7 November 1888 in Tiruchirappalli, in what is now Tamil Nadu. His father taught physics and mathematics at a college, so the house was full of books. Raman was a brilliant student, and he finished his degree in physics at Presidency College, Madras, while he was still very young.

2 In 1907 Raman joined the government's finance service in Kolkata. His days were spent in an office, but his evenings and holidays belonged to science. He did experiments at the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, studying the sound of the violin and of Indian drums.

3 In 1921 Raman travelled to Europe by ship. As he looked at the deep blue sea, he began to wonder about its colour. Many people believed that the sea was blue only because it reflected the sky. Raman disagreed. After returning home, he showed that the colour comes from the way water scatters sunlight.

4 His studies of light led him to a new discovery in 1928. When a beam of light passes through a transparent material, a small part of it changes colour. This became known as the Raman Effect. For this work Raman won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930, and he became the first Asian to win a Nobel Prize in science. India celebrates National Science Day on 28 February, the day in 1928 when he announced his discovery.

5 Later, Raman worked at the Indian Institute of Science in Bengaluru, and in 1948 he set up the Raman Research Institute there. The Government of India gave him its highest award, the Bharat Ratna, in 1954. He died in 1970, but his curiosity still inspires young scientists.

1. Where was C. V. Raman born? (a) Kolkata (b) Tiruchirappalli (c) Bengaluru (d) Mumbai

2. State whether true or false: Raman's father taught at a college.

3. Complete the sentence: In 1907 Raman joined the government's _____ service in Kolkata.

4. How did Raman find time for research while he had an office job? Answer in 30-40 words.

5. What did many people believe about the colour of the sea? (a) It reflects the sky. (b) It comes from the fish in it. (c) It comes from the sand below.

6. Find a word from paragraph 3 that means "did not agree".

7. What did Raman find to be the real reason for the blue colour of the sea? Answer in one or two sentences.

8. State whether true or false: Raman discovered the Raman Effect in 1930.

9. Complete the sentence: Raman won the Nobel Prize in _____ in 1930.

10. Why is 28 February important in India? Answer in 30-40 words.

11. Name two honours that Raman received.

12. What kind of person does the passage show Raman to have been? Give one reason from the passage. (Inference)

Answer Key

A. Passage 1 (discursive)

1. (a) a family busy with different screens
2. False. The writer says, "There is no doubt that screens are useful."
3. A farmer can check the price of onions on a screen without travelling to the market. A girl who has no good library nearby can read hundreds of books for free. (Answers may vary slightly.)
4. wisely
5. tired eyes
6. stare
7. The bright light of a phone keeps the brain awake, so they cannot fall asleep early.
8. (b) The problem lies in how people use screens.
9. False. The writer says such a student is "simply wasting time".
10. A family can fix a time limit, keep phones away from the dinner table and switch off screens an hour before bed. These small steps really work when everyone follows them. (Answers may vary slightly.)
11. Because children learn more from what they see their parents do than from what they are told, so parents must set an example.
12. servants, masters

B. Passage 2 (factual)

1. (b) Tiruchirappalli
2. True
3. finance
4. He spent his evenings and holidays doing experiments at the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, where he studied the sound of the violin and Indian drums, while his days went to his office job. (Answers may vary slightly.)
5. (a) It reflects the sky.
6. disagreed
7. He showed that the colour comes from the way water scatters sunlight.
8. False. He discovered it in 1928; 1930 is the year he won the Nobel Prize.
9. Physics
10. India celebrates National Science Day on 28 February, because it was on that day in 1928 that C. V. Raman announced the Raman Effect, his important new discovery about light. (Answers may vary slightly.)
11. The Nobel Prize in Physics (1930) and the Bharat Ratna (1954). (The passage names only these two.)
12. He was curious and hardworking. He wondered why the sea is blue instead of accepting the common belief, and he did experiments in his spare time while holding an office job. (Answers may vary slightly.)

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