



QUESTION BANK  
MY CHILDHOOD (BEEHIVE)

Class: IX

(2023-24)

Subject: ENGLISH

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**Multiple Choice questions:**

1. Name the place of birth of A P J Abdul Kalam.
  - (a) Chennai in Madras
  - (b) **Rameswaram in Madras**
  - (c) Thenkashi
  - (d) Tanjavoor
2. Abdul Kalam's father was \_\_\_\_\_
  - (a) **Jainulabdeen**
  - (b) Samsuddin
  - (c) Jallaluddin
  - (d) Abdul Hamid
3. Abdul Kalam's mother was \_\_\_\_\_
  - (a) Zainaba
  - (b) Fatima
  - (c) Safiya
  - (d) **Ashiamma**
4. The best adjective to describe Kalam's father is
  - (a) Mean
  - (b) Egoistic
  - (c) **Strict and severe**
  - (d) Introvert
5. The Second World War broke out in
  - (a) **1939**
  - (b) 1963
  - (c) 1857
  - (d) None of the above
6. "I used to collect the seeds and sell them to a provision shop on Mosque Street. Which is the seed mentioned?
  - (a) Jack fruit seed
  - (b) sunflower seed

- (c) Tamarind seed
  - (d) Cumin seed
7. What is 'Dinamani'?
- (a) Name of his friend
  - (b) Newspaper**
  - (c) Name of his teacher
  - (d) Name of the servant
8. Who distributed newspapers in Rameswaram?
- (a) Ashiamma
  - (b) Ramanadha Sastry
  - (c) Samsuddin**
  - (d) Sivaprakasan
9. What did Abdul Kalam inherit from his parents?
- (a) Honesty
  - (b) Self-discipline
  - (c) Faith in goodness & deep kindness
  - (d) All of the above**
10. Who changed Abdul Kalam's place on the back bench?
- (a) Ramanadha Sastry
  - (b) The new teacher**
  - (c) Lakshmana Sastry
  - (d) The headmaster
11. Who was 'something of a rebel'?
- (a) Wife of the science teacher
  - (b) Gandhiji
  - (c) Ramanadha Sastry
  - (d) Sivasubramania Iyer**
12. "Indians will build their own India", who is the speaker?
- (a) Subhash Chandra Bose
  - (b) Gandhiji**
  - (c) Jawaharlal Nehru
  - (d) Swami Vivekananda

#### SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:

Answer the following questions:

1. How did Abdul gather information about the world war?  
His brother-in-law Jallaluddin would tell him stories about the war which he would later attempt to trace in the headlines in Dinamani.
2. What characteristics did Abdul inherit from his parents?  
Abdul's parents were simple but full of wisdom. His father avoided all inessential comforts and luxuries. Abdul inherited honesty and self-discipline from his father and faith in goodness and deep kindness from his mother.

3. What did Abdul ask his father for?

Abdul wanted to educate himself and go out of the small village. He asked his father for permission to leave Rameswaram and study at the district headquarters in Rameswaram.

4. What did the new teacher do in the classroom?

The new teacher tried to isolate Kalam from his friends. He could not see a Muslim boy sitting with a Brahmin boy. He asked Abdul to sit in the last row of the class. He hurt the feelings of the children.

5. What lesson did the priest Lakshman Sastry teach the new teacher?

The young teacher asked Abdul not to sit in the front row with the son of the priest as he was a Muslim. When Lakshman Sastry came to know about this, he scolded the teacher and told him not to spread the poison of social inequality and communal intolerance in the minds of innocent children.

6. How was Abdul treated by the wife of his science teacher when he was invited to have a meal?

Sivasubramania's wife was a conservative lady. She didn't like the idea that a Muslim boy should come and eat in her ritually pure kitchen. She didn't allow Abdul to eat in her kitchen. However, for the second time, she changed her stand and gave food to Abdul with her own hands.

7. Why was the science teacher called a rebel?

Mr. Sivasubrahmania, a science teacher, was a rebel of his kind. He did not believe in social barriers. He held these barriers responsible for social division and communal hatred. He wanted to break all the social barriers.

#### LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS:

1. Do you think the qualities of Kalam's father made Kalam what he was? How? What characteristics have you inherited from your parents?

Yes, I think that Kalam's father's qualities made him what he was. He possessed all the qualities from his father. Some qualities like innate wisdom, truth, generosity of spirit, honesty, and self-discipline make us a good human being. Abdul became a successful scientist and a great leader because of all these qualities. He had been a focussed student and a hardworking scientist. I have also learnt all these qualities from my father. I have inherited honesty, humbleness and self-discipline. All the inherited qualities make us determined and focussed in our work. I was motivated by my father, both mentally and emotionally.

2. A secure childhood like Kalam's is very important for a child's growth. Do you agree?

A secure childhood like Kalam's is very important for a child's growth. Childhood experiences go a very long way. If one is brought up in a good environment, one learns good values and these values help in a long way. Secure childhood is very important for growth. Kalam had a secure childhood. He inherited good values from his parents. He had a good environment at home, He

was secured both materially and emotionally. Children with insecure childhood do not grow properly. They never inculcate good values. They have insecure life.

3. Subramania Iyer was a rebel by nature. Discuss.

Mr. Subramania Iyer did not believe in social barriers and wanted to break them. When he invited Abdul Kalam to his house, his conservative wife refused to serve food to a Muslim boy. But Iyer served him with his own hands and ate his meals sitting beside him. He proved it by serving Abdul food with his own hands. He inspired his wife also to serve food when he visited the second time. When Iyer's wife refused to serve him food, Abdul was hesitated. Iyer remarked, "Once you decide to change the system, such problems have to be confronted". He was a rebel and persistent in his efforts. He was not an orthodox. He proved that an individual can bring change in the system.

#### REFERENCE-TO-CONTEXT QUESTIONS:

1. "A day's collection would fetch me the princely some of one anna. My brother-in-law Jallaluddin would tell me stories about the war which I would later attempt to trace in the headlines in Dinamani. Our area, being isolated, was completely unaffected by the war".

(a) What was Abdul's source of first income?

Abdul earned his first wages by working as a helping hand to his cousin, Samsuddin who distributed newspapers in Rameswaram. His first income was from selling tamarind seed in the market.

(b) How did Abdul gather information about the world war?

His brother-in-law, Jallaluddin would tell him stories about the war which he would later attempt to trace in the headlines in Dinamani.

2. "During the annual Shri Sita Rama Kalyanam ceremony, our family used to arrange boats with a special platform for carrying idols of the Lord from the temple to the marriage site, situated in the middle of the pond called Rama Tirtha which was near our house".

(a) Which ceremony in the village used to take place annually?

Shri Sita Rama Kalyanam ceremony used to take place in the village annually. It was celebrated in the middle of the pond called Rama Tirtha.

(b) What was the role of the family of Abdul?

During the ceremony, his family used to arrange boats with a special platform for carrying idols of the Lord from the temple to the marriage site, situated in the middle of the pond called Rama Tirtha. It was near his house.

3. The whole country was filled with an unprecedented optimism. I asked my father for permission to leave Rameswaram and study at the district headquarters in Ramanathapuram.

(a) What was the situation in the country that time?

It was the time of world war. There was uncertainty and fear in the world but the whole country was filled with an unprecedented optimism.

(b) What did Abdul ask his father for?

Abdul wanted to educate himself and go out of the small village. He asked his father for permission to leave Rameswaram and study at the district headquarters in Ramanathapuram.