



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
CLASS XI
QUESTION BANK ON DISCOVERING TUT THE
SAGA CONTINUES - (2024-25)

King Tut: The last heir of a powerful family that had ruled Egypt and its empire for centuries. His preserved body was the first to be scanned.

Howard Carter: The British archaeologist who in 1922 discovered King Tut's tomb. His search caused great damage to the King's preserved body.

Zahi Hawass: The Secretary General of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities. He scanned King Tut's mummy for an accurate forensic reconstruction.

Amenhotep III: King Tut's father or grandfather, was a powerful ruler who ruled for almost four decades.

Amenhotep IV: He promoted the worship of Aten and changed his name to Akhenaten. He outraged the country by attacking Amun, a major God, by smashing his images and closing his temples.

DISCOVERING TUT: THEME

The lesson deals with the last ruler of the powerful Pharaoh dynasty, Tutankhamun, who died at a young age in a very mysterious way, and it deals with finding out the possible causes of his death and curse. Egyptians believe there is life after death, which is why they were buried with daily provisions to be used after reincarnation.

SUMMARY OF DISCOVERING TUT THE SAGA CONTINUES

At 6 pm on 5th January, 2005, the mummy of Tut was moved smoothly and quietly into a CT scanner to conduct medical mysteries of this young ruler who died thousands of years ago. He was buried and forgotten until in 1922 the pyramid was discovered by Howard Carter. He found the golden tomb with beautiful artefacts, board games, bronze razors, cases for food and wine, and linen undergarments. The coffin was buried with everyday life items which might be used in the afterlife. After that, they all began to examine the three nested coffins of King Tut.

In the first coffin, they found a shroud covered with garlands of olives, lotus petals, and cornflowers indicating that he might be buried during March and April. Carter was worried as soon the mummy was loosening the resins, so he carried out the mummy in the scorching heat of Egypt to loosen resins. But 149 degrees of temperature also could not help to melt those resins.

Archaeologists mentioned that advanced technology would help them to examine the coffin accurately. To the surprise, they all came to know that in 1968 when a professor examined the body, he found that the ribs and breast bones were missing.

King Tutankhamun's mysterious demise brought an end to his dynasty, it was a great event in history. Amenhotep III was the father of King Tut, was an extremely powerful king who ruled for over 40 years. He changed his name to Akhenaten or the servant of the sun god. He promoted the sun god's worship and moved to Amman's city.

King Tut was one of the first mummies to be discovered after his mysterious death. While working on the mummy scan, the CT scanner stopped working suddenly. Many assumed it was the mummy's curse, and they all were scared. After using the fans, the scan was made possible. After that, they were relieved of no data was lost and carried him back to his tomb.

After that, they all were astonished at discovering images on a computer screen. A grey head was made using scattered pixels. Zahi Hawass was relaxed that nothing had gone wrong. They all left the sandy ground where the wind stopped through the valley. Above the tomb, the Orion star has shone brightly over the young king.

VALUE BASED QUESTION

1. In 1922 Tut's tomb was discovered. Much of the treasure buried in the tomb had already been plundered. The materialistic attitude of a man does not allow even the dead to sleep in peace. Will there be any end to this attitude? Discuss.

Ans. For a handful of gold, man can go to any extent. Tut's mummy was buried deep in the desert with a lot of gold and other things believing that the dead Pharaoh would need those things in the afterlife. It was a matter of faith. When Tut's tomb was discovered, much of treasure had already been looted. The thieves did it being driven by the mad force of materialism. Materialistic attitude attaches no importance to beliefs, religious sentiments and social rites and rituals. But when Carter finally succeeded in discovering Tut's tomb, he found the richest royal collection-all made of solid gold-in the tomb. Even the coffin was made of gold. In order to remove Tut from his coffin, Carter had to cut the body from its joints. So, man doesn't allow even the dead to sleep in peace.

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IN 100-120 WORDS.

1. "He was the last of his family line." What do you learn about Tut's dynasty from the extract 'Discovering Tut: The Saga Continues'?

Ans. Tut's grandfather, Amenhotep III was a powerful Pharaoh who ruled for almost four decades at the height of the dynasty's golden age. His son Amenhotep IV promoted the worship of the Aten, the sun disk. He changed his name to Akhenaten. He further shocked the country by attacking Amun, a major God, breaking his images and closing his temples. Thus, the King started one of the strongest periods in the history of ancient Egypt. After Akhenaten's death a mysterious ruler named Smenkhare appeared briefly and departed without leaving any sign. Then a very young Tutankhaten took the throne. He is widely known today as King Tut. The boy King soon changed his name to Tutankhamun 'living image of Amun'. He supervised the restoration of the old ways. Tutankhamun ruled for about nine years and then died unexpectedly. The details of his passing away are not available. The modern world has speculated about what happened to him. How did he die and how old was he at the time of his death are two unanswered questions.

2. How has Tut's mummy fascinated the scientists and commoners alike over the previous decades?

Ans. King Tutankhamun was the last Pharaoh left of his line. His funeral marked the end of a dynasty. He was laid to rest laden with gold as the royals in Tut's time were extremely wealthy and thought they could take their riches with them. His tomb was discovered by Howard Carter, an English archaeologist in 1922, more than 3000 years after his death. The rich royal collection of jewellery and golden artifacts fascinated Carter. Visitors thronged the boy King's tomb. The breastbone and front ribs of Tut were missing. On 5th January, 2005 a CT scan was done to obtain precise data for an accurate forensic reconstruction of King Tut. It was hoped that it would offer new clues about his life and death. Thus, Tut's mummy has been the centre of fascination throughout the previous decades.

3. Do you think Carter was justified in removing the hardened ritual resin deposits on Tut's mummy? Why/ Why not?

Carter was investigating the tomb of King Tut in 1922. Amazingly, the tomb's contents were in fact in spite of having been ransacked in antiquity. Carter found King Tut's Mummy in three nested coffins, the most important find of all. To Carter's dismay he found he could not study the mummy as it was stuck to the bottom of the coffin due to the hardening of the funerary resins. Carter tried 'legitimate force' but could not dislodge the mummy from its place in the coffin. So, he cut the mummy in several parts, removed its head and severed almost all the joints. Carter's action was highly condemnable as he nearly destroyed the mummy. His defense was that if not the robbers and vandals would have done the same. Historians, however, have not forgiven Carter for this disfigurement.

4. "The mummy is in very bad condition because of what Carter did in the 1920s," said Zahi Hawass, the expert on Egyptian antiquity. How far is the statement true? Discuss.

The above statement is partially true. Carter easily opened two of the three nested coffins and established the time of burial by the presence of lotus petals and dried cornflowers. In the third coffin, the ritual resins had hardened, cementing the body to the bottom of the coffin. Placing the coffin in 149 degrees temperature was of no avail. Thus, Carter cut the mummy free. To separate Tut from the ornaments he was covered with, Carter's men severed the head and every major joint. They had reassembled them on a layer of sand and laid it back in a padded box, concealing the damage. Had thieves reached there ahead of Carter, they would have circumvented the guards and ripped apart the mummy to take away the gold. Also, archaeology in those times lacked sophisticated tools. Thus, Carter's actions were dictated by circumstances and not willful destruction.

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IN 30-40 WORDS.

1. Who was King Tut? Why was a CT scan done on him?

Ans. King Tut was a boy King of Egypt who was the last heir of his powerful family. This family ruled it for centuries. His tomb was discovered in 1922 by Howard Carter. A CT scan was done on his mummy to get new clues about his life and death.

2. How had King Tut been lavished the royals when he was buried?

Ans. King Tut had been lavished with glittering goods. These were precious collars, necklaces, bracelets, rings, amulets, a ceremonial apron, sandals, sheaths, etc. All these things including the coffin were made of pure gold. It was believed that he would take them with him in his journey beyond after death.

3. What effect did Tut's demise have on the dynasty?

Ans. King Tutankhamun was the last pharaoh of his dynasty that ruled Egypt for a decade. The dynasty rattled down after the demise of King Tut.

4. What problem did Carter face when he reached the mummy of King Tut? How did he find a way out?

Ans. King Tut's mummy was stuck to the bottom of the coffin because the resins had melted and hardened. Carter decided to chisel the hardened resin from beneath the mummy.

5. How was King Tut's mummy scanned by the portable CT scanner?

Ans. King Tut's mummy was scanned on 5 January 2005. It was a historic archaeological

event. The mummy was brought out of the burial chamber at 6 p.m. for about three hours and a CT scan was carried out.

6. Why has Amenhotep IV reign been described as one of the strangest periods in ‘the history of ancient Egypt’?

Amenhotep IV promoted the worship of Aten, the sun disk, and attacked Amun, a major god, smashing his images and closing his temples. He also shifted the religious capital from the old city of Thebes to the new city of Akhenaten, known as Amarna.

7. “King Tut’s body had been subjected to repeated scrutiny”. Why?

King Tut’s body and burial chamber were found intact. The archaeologists hoped to discover many truths about King Tut and Egypt of his time. Therefore, they investigated them repeatedly.

ASSERTION AND REASONING BASED QUESTIONS.

Q1: Assertion: The scanning of Tut's mummy couldn't definitively determine the cause of his death.

Reason: The breastbone and Ribs of Tut were missing in the X-rays and C.T. scan.

- (a) Both Assertion and Reason are true, and Reason is the correct explanation of Assertion.
- (b) Both Assertion and Reason are true, but Reason is not the correct explanation of Assertion.
- (c) Assertion is true, but Reason is false.
- (d) Assertion is false, but Reason is true.

Ans: (a)

The assertion is true as the cause of Tut's death remained uncertain despite scanning. The reason is also true and explains that missing body parts contributed to this uncertainty.

Q2: Assertion: The burial items of Tut were meant to ensure his resurrection.

Reason: Tut had everyday items like collars, necklaces, and sandals buried with him.

- (a) Both Assertion and Reason are true, and Reason is the correct explanation of Assertion.
- (b) Both Assertion and Reason are true, but Reason is not the correct explanation of Assertion.
- (c) Assertion is true, but Reason is false.
- (d) Assertion is false, but Reason is true.

Ans: (b)

While it's true that Tut had everyday items buried with him, the assertion about ensuring his resurrection is a simplification of ancient Egyptian beliefs about the afterlife. These items were meant to ensure his well-being in the afterlife rather than resurrection.

Q3: Assertion: King Tut's death has remained a mystery for centuries.

Reason: Technology has provided a direction to think and proceed in solving the mystery.

- (a) Both Assertion and Reason are true, and Reason is the correct explanation of Assertion.

(b) Both Assertion and Reason are true, but Reason is not the correct explanation of Assertion.

(c) Assertion is true, but Reason is false.

(d) Assertion is false, but Reason is true.

Ans: (a)

The assertion is true, and the reason correctly explains that modern technology has directed efforts to uncover the mystery of Tut's death.

EXTRACT BASED QUESTIONS-

A. The boy king soon changed his name to Tutankhamun, 'living image of Amun,' and oversaw a restoration of the old ways. He reigned for about nine years — and then died unexpectedly. Regardless of his fame and the speculations about his fate, Tut is one mummy among many in Egypt. How many? No one knows. The Egyptian Mummy Project, which began an inventory in late 2003, has recorded almost 600 so far and is still counting.

1. Why has the phrase 'boy king' been used for Tut?

- A. He awarded every boy of his kingdom
- B. He was very young when he became king
- C. Boys of his kingdom liked him
- D. All of the above

Ans- B. He was very young when he became king

2. For how many years Tut ruled?

- A. Less than nine years
- B. More than nine years
- C. Nine years
- D. About nine years

Ans- D. About nine years

3. How many mummies are there in Egypt?

- A. About 600
- B. More than 1000
- C. No one knows exact number
- D. Numbers are confidential

Ans- C. No one knows exact number

4. When was the Egyptian Mummy Project started?

- A. 1992
- B. 2003
- C. 1999
- D. 2002

Ans- B. 2003

5. Which of the following was not done by Tut

- A. He changed his name to Tutankhamun

- B. He restored old ways
- C. He ruled for far more than nine years
- D. All of the above

Ans- C. He ruled for far more than nine years

B. Carter really had little choice. If he hadn't cut the mummy free, thieves most certainly would have circumvented the guards and ripped it apart to remove the gold. In Tut's time the royals were fabulously wealthy, and they thought — or hoped — they could take their riches with them. For his journey to the great beyond, King Tut was lavished with glittering goods: precious collars, inlaid necklaces and bracelets, rings, amulets, a ceremonial apron, sandals, sheaths for his fingers and toes, and the now iconic inner coffin and mask — all of pure gold. To separate Tut from his adornments, Carter's men removed the mummy's head and severed nearly every major joint. Once they had finished, they reassembled the remains on a layer of sand in a wooden box with padding that concealed the damage, the bed where Tut now rests.

Q1. What made Carter cut the mummy free?

Ans. Carter cut the mummy free as he was afraid of the thieves.

Q2. Identify the literary device used in “glittering goods”

Ans. Alliteration

Q3. What belief did ancient Egyptians hold?

Ans. Ancient Egyptians believed that they could take their riches with them posthumously.

Q4. What do you understand by the word “circumvent”?

Ans. Here, circumvent means to find a way around an obstacle or problem.

TEXTUAL QUESTION AND ANSWER

Page No 22:

Question 1:

Notice these expressions in the text. Infer their meaning from the context.

- *forensic reconstruction*
- *scudded across*
- *casket grey*
- *Resurrection*
- *funerary treasures*
- *Circumvented*
- *computed tomography*
- *eerie detail*

Answer:

- *Forensic reconstruction*- It refers to the process of creating a face on the skull and see how the owner of the skull looked like. Here, it refers to the construction of the bust of King Tut based on the data received from CT scan.

- *Scudded across*- It refers to moving quickly. The phrase is used with reference to the movement of the ‘dark-bellied clouds.’
- *Casket grey*- The words point out to the covering of the stars by the ‘dark-bellied clouds’, the way jewels are kept in a casket (a jewel box).
- *Resurrection*- It refers to a new beginning for something which is old and long forgotten. Here, it refers to the new life after death.
- *Funerary treasures*- The valuable things with which the king was buried were no less than treasures as most of the items were made of pure gold. They are, thus, referred to as ‘funerary treasures.’
- *Circumvented*- The thieves would easily bypass the guards with artfulness and rip the mummy apart to remove the gold.
- *Computed tomography*- Also known as CT scan, it provides X-ray image of a body in cross section. It is used for diagnostic purposes.
- *Eerie detail*- Uncanny description of the resulting image of the head of Tut visible through the CT scan.

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Question 1(i):

King Tut’s body has been subjected to repeated scrutiny.

Answer:

Since the time King Tut’s body was first discovered in 1922, it has been subjected to repeated scrutiny. This is due to the fact that King Tut died at a very young age. He died as a “boyish pharaoh” leaving behind numerous mysteries associated with his death.

Various investigations, from discovering his remains to excavating his body and studying it under the CT scan, have been done just to find out the medical mysteries of his death.

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Question 1(ii):

Howard Carter’s investigation was resented.

Answer:

Howard Carter, a British archaeologist, was the first archaeologist to discover King Tut’s tomb in the year 1922. His was a great discovery but during the investigation process, he damaged the mummy to a great extent. As the body was found cemented to its gold coffin, it was impossible to move it. Finally, to separate the mummy from its adornments, Carter decided to remove its head and break nearly every major joint. Due to this his investigation was resented.

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Question 1(iii):

Carter had to chisel away the solidified resins to raise the king’s remains.

Answer:

Due to the hardened resins, the King's body was found cemented to the solid gold-bottom of the coffin such that "no amount of legitimate force could move them". The mummy had to be separated as the thieves would escape the eyes of guards and rip the mummy apart to steal away the gold. He even tried to loosen the resins by putting the mummy under the blazing sun. However, every effort went in vain. The only way left for him was to "chisel" it "beneath the limbs and trunk". Thus, Carter decided to remove the mummy's head and break the major joints to separate it from its coffin.

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Question 1(iv):

Tut's body was buried along with gilded treasures.

Answer:

King Tut was buried in a coffin made of pure gold "lavished with glittering goods". The gilded treasures found included precious collars, inland necklaces and bracelets, rings, amulets, a ceremonial apron, sandals, sheaths for his fingers and toes. In those times, the royals believed in the idea of taking their wealth with them. Tut was adorned with all such riches for his journey after life. It also gives the idea of the Egyptian belief in resurrection.

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Question 1(v):

The boy king changed his name from Tutankhaten to Tutankhamun.

Answer:

'Tutankhamun' means the 'living image of Amun'. Amun was the major god in the ancient Egyptian society whose temples and images were destroyed by a preceding ruler named Akhenaten. He destroyed the ancient religious order of the Egyptians. Tut's changing of his name represents his efforts in the restoration of the old ways that were once destroyed.

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Question 2(i):

List the deeds that led Ray Johnson to describe Akhenaten as "wacky".

Answer:

The deeds that led Ray Johnson to describe Akhenaten as "wacky" and comment that "it must have been a horrific time" are listed below.

- Amenhotep IV (later known by the name of Akhenaten) led to one of the aberrant periods in the history of ancient Egypt.
- He made many unpleasant changes in the social and political order of the country.
- He promoted the worship of the Aten, the sun disk, and changed his name to Akhenaten or 'the servant of the Aten'.

- He moved the religious capital from the old city of Thebes to the new city of Akhetaten.
- He destroyed the images and temples of Amun, a major god.

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Question 2(ii):

What were the results of the CT scan?

Answer:

King Tut is one of the first mummies to undergo a CT scan. The CT scan came up with some new clues about the life and death of King Tut. It provided precise data for an accurate forensic reconstruction of King Tut. The CT scan displayed the mummy from head to toe creating 1,700 digital X-ray images in cross section. It showed a grey head, neck vertebrae, a hand, several images of rib cages and a transection of the skull.

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Question 2(iii):

List the advances in technology that have improved forensic analysis.

Answer:

Technology has been making a rapid development. The advancements in technology are responsible for improvements in the field of forensic sciences. From the use of X-rays, technology has advanced to the use of advanced Computed Tomography (commonly known as CT scan). In a CT scan, hundreds of X-rays are created in cross-section, like slices. They create a three-dimensional virtual body and with intricate structures. This change in forensic analysis has helped in discovering the mysteries behind Egyptian mummies.

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Question 2(iv):

Explain the statement, “King Tut is one of the first mummies to be scanned — in death, as in life ...”

Answer:

The above line indicates that King Tut’s body was the first to be scanned under a computer tomography machine. Just like King Tut might have led his kingdom when alive, he led the experience of being scanned among the mummies.

Page No 28:

Question 1:

Scientific intervention is necessary to unearth buried mysteries.

Answer:

(Such questions are to be done by the students on their own. However, pointers have been provided for the students' help.)

For:

- Science helps determine the facts related to the past even in the absence of any living evidences.
- It leads to good amount of knowledge about the past events without which things would go in mere speculations.
- It helps determine information about ancient cultures, tradition, and people.
- The use of advanced scientific tools helps in extracting important facts related to past events.
- It helps in determining the time and place of the event.
- It gives us important information about the unsolved mysteries.

Against:

- There is no use of digging the past.
- Present is valuable and we must live in the present.
- Delving into the past is waste of time and energy.
- It is the job of the historians and not scientists.
- It is always better to invest one's resources on the development of living rather than investigating the dead.

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Question 2:

Advanced technology gives us conclusive evidence of past events.

Answer:

(Such questions are to be done by the students on their own. However, pointers have been provided for the students' help.)

For:

- With advanced technology such as CT scan, it is possible to solve medical mysteries related to deaths.
- It is possible to create a 3-D view of the various body parts.
- It provides intricate details through forensics, radiology and anatomy.
- It helps find new clues related to life and death.
- It provides data for forensic reconstruction.
- Technology such as satellite imaging helps find buried sites.
- Date and time of an event can be confirmed through advanced technology.

Against:

- No use of gathering facts about the past.
- It's important to focus on the present issues and events rather than investigating the past.

- Even with the help of CT scan, no conclusive evidences could be constructed about Tut.

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Question 3:

Traditions, rituals and funerary practices must be respected.

Answer:

(Such questions are to be done by the students on their own. However, pointers have been provided for the students' help.)

For:

- Traditions, rituals and funerary practices are born out of the sentiments and feelings of a community.
- They provide identity to a community.
- They maintain continuity of a culture.
- They help in transferring the values of ancestors to the new generation.
- They add to our knowledge the progress of human civilisation.

Against:

- Traditions, customs and funerary practices may encourage superstition.
- They may hamper the development of the society.
- They affect unity.
- They could lead to violence and friction between people belonging to different cultures.

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Question 4:

Knowledge about the past is useful to complete our knowledge of the world we live in.

Answer:

(Such questions are to be done by the students on their own. However, pointers have been provided for the students' help.)

For:

- Past acts as a mirror to our mistakes and teaches us lessons.
- Present is the outcome of past.
- It helps us understand the progress of the events down the history.
- It builds foundation for our present and future.

Against:

- One must live in the present.
- Past is infinite and should be left as it is.
- Past should not affect our present life.

- Past should not be delved in and must be considered as a gone phase.

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Question 2:

What do you think are the reasons for the extinction of languages?

Answer:

Below are listed a few reasons for the extinction of languages.

- Migration of people to other lands
- Influence of the rulers
- Evolution of language due to cultural fusion
- Limitation of vocabulary
- Absence of written script along with prevalence of oral tradition
- Constant changes in the society
- Globalisation, as it has led to the use of only dominant languages

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Question 3:

Do you think it is important to preserve languages?

Answer:

Yes, it is important to preserve languages as they are responsible for the development of culture of the community. It helps in preservation of one's heritage and traditions. Language preservation ensures contact with one's history and literature.

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Question 4:

In what ways do you think we could help prevent the extinction of languages and dialects?

Answer:

Extinction of languages and dialects can be prevented through the following reasons.

- Transferring the vocabulary and dialects of the language to the next generation
- Teaching the languages in colleges and universities and encouraging students to specialise in the same
- Teaching children to use mother-tongue
- Remaining connected to one's cultural roots
- Respecting one's language which will help in taking it forward to the coming generations

Page No 29:

Question 1(i):

ghostly dust devils

Answer:

ghostly dust devils- it points out to the devilish or frightful movement of the dusty winds. It reflects the anger of the winds for disturbing the king from his resting place.

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Question 1(ii):

desert sky

Answer:

desert sky- it refers to the dusty sky of the desert. The barren sky spread over the vast desert region portrays a sad and dry picture.

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Question 1(iii):

stunning artefacts

Answer:

stunning artefacts- items found in the tomb were extremely beautiful. Usage of both the words together explains the 'eternal brilliance' of the objects.

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Question 1(iv):

funerary treasures

Answer:

funerary treasures- reference is to the fact that king was buried with numerous things which were no less than treasures as most of the items were made of pure gold.

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Question 1(v):

scientific detachment

Answer:

scientific detachment- it refers to an indifference towards science.

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Question 1(vi):

dark-bellied clouds

Answer:

dark-bellied clouds- it refers to the dark clouds containing rain.

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Question 1(vii):

casket grey

Answer:

casket grey- the words point out to the stars being covered by the 'dark-bellied clouds', the way jewels are kept in a casket (a jewel box).

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Question 1(viii):

eternal brilliance

Answer:

eternal brilliance- eternal refers to something that is timeless. Thus, eternal brilliance refers to timeless lustre and shine of the jewels and valuables of the king.

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Question 1(ix):

ritual resins

Answer:

ritual resins- resins are used as a customary duty in the process of burying a body.

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Question 1(x):

virtual body

Answer:

virtual body- a body created through electronic images or CT scan. It resembles a real body and provides a very clear view.