# SAINIK SCHOOL GOPALGANJ SUB: ENGLISH

**CLASS - XII ASSIGNMENT**

**Lesson: 1: The Last Lesson**

**Q1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

"I Have a Dream" is a public speech delivered by American civil rights activist Martin Luther King Jr. during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom on August 28, 1963, in which he calls for an end to racism in the United States and called for civil and economic rights. Delivered to over 250,000 civil rights supporters from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., the speech was a defining moment of the civil rights movement.

Beginning with a reference to the Emancipation Proclamation, which freed millions of slaves in 1863, King observes that: "one hundred years later, the Negro still is not free". Toward the end of the speech, King departed from his prepared text for a partly improvised peroration on the theme "I have a dream", prompted by Mahalia Jackson's cry: "Tell them about the dream, Martin!" In this part of the speech, which most excited the listeners and has now become its most famous, King described his dreams of freedom and equality arising from a land of slavery and hatred. Jon Meacham writes that, "With a single phrase, Martin Luther King Jr. joined Jefferson and Lincoln in the ranks of men who've shaped modern America". The speech was ranked the top American speech of the 20th century in a 1999 poll of scholars of public address.

1.1 What issues does Martin Luther King’s speech address?

(a) Continuation of racism  
(b) End to racism and civil and economic rights  
(c) Civil rights  
(d) Civil War

1.2 What pushes King to speak: “I have a dream”?

(a) He reads out the Emancipation Proclamation  
(b) He is prompted by Mahalia Jackson  
(c) he is overwhelmed by the crowd  
(d) Licoln had asked him to give the speech

1.3 From the last paragraph, give one word for “to leave”

(a) Departed  
(b) Proclamation  
(c) Improvised  
(d) Address

1.4 What is the name of martin Luther King’s famed speech?

(a) The Emancipation Proclamation  
(b) An Improvisation  
(c) A Peroration  
(d)I Have a Dream

1.5 In front of whom does King speak?

(a) The civil rights supporters  
(b) His friends  
(c) Lincoln  
(d) The Negroes

# Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Spring is the season of renewal, when new green can be seen on the trees and the lawns of parks. Spring flowers have blossomed in riot of scent and a rainbow of colours. Houses shake out their dust and housewives go about in a flurry of activity. Woolens begin to disappear; the light cottons begin to come back. Lazy lizards come out of their sleep and go back to their job of fly-hunting.

2.1 The spring season is usually a

(a) time for regeneration

(b) time to plant saplings

(c) period of plenty

(d) festive time

2.2 According to the passage, when spring comes, it brings with it

(a) a riot of green colours

(b) increased activity

(c) excessive movement

(d) disorganised enthusiasm

2.3 According to the passage, the lazy lizards come out to

(a) bask in the sun

(b) catch flies

(c) hunt for a mate

(d) adore the spring time

# Q3. Why do you think Franz was afraid of being scolded by his teacher M Hamel?

# Q4. What did Franz observe when he passed the town hall?

# Q5. How does the school of M Hamel begin on any normal school days?

# Q6. What did Franz observe when he settled down in the class?

# Q7. Why do you think the villagers had attended the last class imparted by the French teacher?

# Q8. “Don’t go so fast, bub: you will get to your school in planty of time!” Who said it and why?

**Q9.** What was Franz’s observation when he reached the school?

**Q10.** Why do you think that M Hamel was in his ceremonial dress?

**Q11.** How did Franz enter the classroom and what was the reaction of his teacher?

**Q12.** Why did M Hamel ask his students and the villagers to guard French among them?

**Q13.** What message does the writer want to convey to the readers through ‘The Last lesson’

**Q14.** After studying the lesson, write a debate expressing your views on “Political enslavement is a curse on any nation as it deprives it of its identity”.

**Q15.** Collect 10 unfamiliar words from the lesson and write their synonyms and antonyms.

**Q16.** Imagine yourself as Franz. Write a letter to your elder brother describing what transpired on the last day of M Hamel’s stay at the school.

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