

9. I Believe That Books Will Never Disappear

One Mark Questions

1. Which according to Borges is his first literary reading?
2. According to Borges, in which language did he read 'Grimm's Fairy Tales'?
3. Where according to Borges was he educated more than high school or the university?
4. Who according to Borges was an extraordinary person?
5. Whom does Borges look upon as an intelligent and gracious woman?
6. What according to Borges is blindness to him?
7. Borges says one must think that whatever happens to him or her is a
 - a. resource.
 - b. misfortune.
 - c. embarrassment.
8. Name the book of Homer mentioned by Borges in his interview.
9. 'All that is near becomes far.' This line is from a poem by
 - a. Homer.
 - b. Spengler.
 - c. Goethe.
10. What did Borges fill his house with when the visible world moved away from his eyes?
11. Which library according to Borges may have been the one he dreamed of?
12. What exactly did Borges visualize about the library in his dream?
13. Name the book which according to Borges has remarkable comments on books.
14. Who according to Borges has predated his attempt to write a history of book?
15. Who according to Borges quoted that every book worth being re-read has been written by the spirit?
16. What according to Borges is magical, mysterious and unexplainable?
17. Whose line in a poem does Borges remember always?
18. Since when according to Borges do metaphors exist?
19. Mention any one of the essential metaphors which according to Borges are found in all literatures.
20. What according to Borges will never disappear?
21. Which according to Borges is the most astounding invention of man?
22. Borges says that the telescope and the microscope are the extensions of our
 - a) voice.
 - b) sight.
 - c) arms.
23. Which of the inventions of man is the extension of our voice according to Borges?
24. According to Borges which of the inventions of man is the extension of our imagination and memory?
25. What according to Borges is a controlled dream?
26. According to Borges our past is nothing but a sequence of _____.
 - a) dreams
 - b) memories
 - c) experiences
27. When according to Borges would history disappear?

4 Mark Questions

1. What does Borges tell us about his mother in particular and all mothers in general?
2. How does Borges look upon his blindness?
3. How according to Borges does a book go beyond its author's intention?
4. What are Borges's views on poetry and poem?
5. To what extent is finding the precise words important in the art of poetry according to Borges?
6. What are Borges's views on metaphors?
7. Why according to Borges will books never disappear?

6 Mark Questions

1. One's experience is one's resource. How does Borges expound his views on this?
2. Poetry is unexplainable. Discuss in the light of Borges's interview.
3. The function of books is irreplaceable. Explain with reference to 'I Believe that Books will Never Disappear'.

Passive Voice (Q. No. 26)

1. Borges' first literary reading was 'Grimm's Fairy Tales'. It _____ (find) in his father's library. It was an English version of the book that _____ (translate) from German. According to Borges he _____ (educate) by his father's library more than by high school or the university.
2. Borges opines that all things _____ (have, give) to us for a purpose. All that happens to us _____ (must, see) as raw material. This material _____ (transmute) into art and eternal works are made.
3. Last night, I had a very strange dream. I dreamed of a great library and it _____ (burn) down. Its countless volumes _____ (attack) by flames. I _____ (disturb) by this dream.
4. The visible world has moved away from my eyes. But it _____ (has, replace) by other things. It _____ (accept) by me positively. Books _____ (buy) even today with the same interest.
5. It is an excellent idea that a history of book _____ (should, write). 'Decline of the west' _____ (remember) for ever because some remarkable comments _____ (make) by Spengler on books.
6. Poetry is something so intimate and essential. It _____ (cannot, define) without oversimplifying it. Mere arrangement of words _____ (not call) poetry. Just as the fall of leaves in the autumn _____ (cannot explain), poetry is difficult to explain.

Reported Speech (Q. No. 27)

1. Alifano : What is your first literary reading?
Borges : My first reading is Grimm's Fairy tales in an English version.
Alifano : Where did you read it?
Borges : I read it in my father's library. It taught me more than any high school.
2. Alifano : What is blindness to you?
Borges : It is a way of life. In my case, the visible world has moved away from my eyes.
Alifano : Have you thought of writing a book on the history of the book?
Borges : It is an excellent idea. I will keep it in my mind.

Expressions (Q. No. 29)

1. Borges says that all children fail to give their mother her deserved happiness because the mother is _____. However, it does not _____ them before her death.

(dawn on, taken for granted, keep in mind)

2. Borges says that it would be wonderful to write a history of book. He will _____. However he says that an eighty-three-year-old man cannot _____ of this kind for himself.

(set a project, keep it in mind, take for granted)

Linkers (Q. No. 30)

1. Borges believes that metaphors, _____ they are truly metaphors, exist from the beginning of time. _____ we express them differently, he asserts. In his view, all metaphors can be reduced to five or six _____ seem to be essential metaphors. He says that the poet's task is to discover metaphors _____ they may already exist.

(even though, if, which, but)

2. Literature is a dream. Our past is nothing _____ a sequence of dreams. There is no difference between dreaming _____ remembering the past. Books are the great memory of all centuries. _____ their function is irreplaceable. _____ books disappear, surely history would disappear, and surely man would disappear.

(If, but, therefore, and)