

Unit - 7

A Birthday Letter

TextBook Questions and Answers

Question 1.

From which prison did Nehru write this letter?

Answer:

Nehru wrote the letter from Central Prison, Naini, in Uttar Pradesh.

Question 2.

Did Nehru send any presents to Indira?

Answer:

No, Nehru did not send any present to Indira.

Question 3.

Which historical character inspired young Indira?

Answer:

The historical character who inspired young Indira was Joan of Arc.

Question 4.

What helps ordinary men and women to become heroes?

Answer:

History helps ordinary men and women to become heroes.

Question 5.

Who is addressed as 'Babuji'?

Answer:

Mahatma Gandhiji is addressed as Babuji.

Question 6.

What should the soldiers of India respect?

Answer:

The soldiers of India should respect India's honour.

TextBook Questions and Answers

A. Answer the following questions in one or two sentences.

Question 1.

Why could not Nehru send any present to Indira?

Answer:

Nehru could not send any presents to Indira because he was in prison.

Question 2.

What cannot be stopped even by the high walls of prisons?

Answer:

Nehru's letters cannot be stopped even by the high walls of prisons.

Question 3.

Why did Nehru dislike sermonizing?

Answer:

Nehru has always thought that the best way to find what is right is not by giving a sermon but by talking and discussing.

Question 4.

What does history tell us?

Answer:

"History tells us that whole person become interested in a great cause".

Question 5.

What do ordinary men and women usually think of?

Answer:

Ordinary men and women are not usually heroic. They think of their bread and butter, of their children, of their household worries, and the like.

Question 6.

When do ordinary men and women become heroes?

Answer:

Ordinary men and women become heroes when history helps them.

Question 7.

What does the phrase 'great drama' refer to?

Answer:

The great drama refers to India's freedom movements.

Question 8.

Why are the freedom fighters under Gandhi not afraid of anything?

Answer:

The freedom fighters under Gandhi do everything with no room for secrecy or hiding. So they are not afraid of anything.

B. Answer the following in about 80-100 words each.

Question 1.

Explain the important elements of Nehru's letter?

Answer:

Pandit Nehru was imprisoned in Naini jail. As he was not able to send a gift to Indira on her birthday, he sends her a letter. Though presents are appreciated, letters can equally be cherished as gifts. Nehru did not like to sermonize or give advice. We have learned that it is important to do things without fear. We should recognize right from wrong. While facing problems, we can resolve them by discussing them with near and dear ones.

The value of the contribution of our leaders to fight for freedom and the value of qualities exhibited by these leaders. The two factors that make ordinary men heroes are, (i) full faith in a great cause and (ii) love and respect for the nation. Mahatma Gandhi inspired millions of people to fight for freedom. Nehru wants Indira to develop qualities like respect for her country's honour, trust, patriotism, etc.

(OR)

Jawaharlal Nehru is in Naini prison. He usually gives a present to his young daughter Indira who is 13. But now he cannot do so. He writes a birthday letter to her as her present. He reminds of the historical character Joan of Arc. He emphasises the significance of historical events. History even helps common people to become heroes. Great leaders inspire ordinary people to do noble deeds.

He admires Babuji whose magic message from the prison has stolen the hearts of India's millions. It has made all to participate in the freedom movement. He sites the people working with no secrecy or hiding. Nehru wishes Indira to do anything not secretly. If she does so she will group up unafraid serene and unruffled, whatever may happen. Finally, he blesses her that she may grow into a brave soldier in India's service.

"Openness can bring happiness, courage, and success".

Question 2.

Imagine yourself as Indira and write a reply letter to your father, Nehru for the letter you received on your birthday?

Answer:

Mussoorie,
October 27, 1930.

My dear dad,

My joy has no bounds to receive your Letter. I am amazed to have it as my birthday present. I feel as if you are sitting beside me and talking to me.

I am thrilled to read about the historic events how history has made simple, ordinary people to become heroes. It is overwhelming to know how Babuji's magic message has stolen the hearts of India's millions. As you say, we too take some part in this great drama of the freedom movement.

Your words are so powerful and I shall respect India's honour which is a secret trust. I am grateful dad for imparting so much about the history of India. Like Babuji, I shall be truthful and have no room for secrecy or hiding. I'm sure to make friends with the sun and work in the lights.

With your hearty wish, I'll grow up unafraid serene, and unruffled, whatever may happen. I've read the letter completely and energized very much. I'll be a brave soldier in India's service fulfilling your dreams.

With much love and deep regards.

Yours loving daughter,
Indira Priyadarshini.

C. Match the words with correct synonym and Antonym from the table.

S.No	Word	Synonym	Antonym
1	distribute	boundless	trivial
2	infinite	commence	sorrow
3	significant	joy	collect
4	delight	guess	clean
5	unkempt	circulate	conclude
6	initiate	messy	fact
7	conjecture	important	measurable

Answer:

S.No.	Word	Synonym	Antonym
1.	wide	broad	narrow
2.	noble	gentle	ignoble
3.	oppress	subdue	freedom
4.	honour	privilege	dishonour
5.	worthy	valuable	unworthy
6.	private	personal	public
7.	brave	valiant	coward

Think and answer:

Question 1.

What is the difference between an opinion and a fact?

Answer:

- An opinion is one's feelings or thoughts about somebody.
- A fact is a piece of information that can be proved to be true.

D. Identify, whether the following statements are of OPINION or FACT.

Question 1.

On your birthday you have been in the habit of receiving presents and good wishes.

Answer:

Fact

Question 2.

I have liked my talks with you.

Answer:

Fact

Question 3.

The best way to find what is wrong and right is by discussing.

Answer:

Fact

Question 4.

A letter can hardly take the place of a talk.

Answer:

Opinion

Question 5.

For the desire to hide anything means that you are afraid.

Answer:

Opinion

Listening:

E. Listen to the dialogue and answer the following questions.

Question 1.

Aadhav and Raghav are

- (a) brothers
- (b) friends
- (c) colleagues
- (d) classmates

Answer:

(a) brothers

Question 2.

The brothers are planning to celebrate their wedding anniversary.

- (a) uncle's
- (b) parents'
- (c) grandparents'
- (d) sister's

Answer:

(b) parents'

Question 3.

The wedding anniversary is on

- (a) March 2nd
- (b) April 2nd
- (c) May 2nd
- (d) June 2nd

Answer:

- (b) April 2nd

Question 4.

As part of the celebration, the brothers have planned to make their parents to

- (a) visit an orphanage
- (b) donate some money
- (c) plant a mango sapling
- (d) conduct a game

Answer:

- (c) plant a mango sapling

Question 5.

State whether the statement is true or false.

Answer:

The brothers have decided to borrow money for the wedding anniversary celebration. – False

Reading:

F. Answer the following questions based on the given reading passage.

Question 1.

What is the name of her diary?

Answer:

The name is Anne Frank's Diary Entry.

Question 2.

Why did Anne want to exchange the book 'Camera Obscura'?

Answer:

Anne wanted to exchange the book 'Camera Obscura' as her sister Margot already had it.

Question 3.

Who baked the homemade cookies?

Answer:

Anne Frank herself baked the homemade cookies.

Question 4.

What game did Anne choose to play?

Answer:

Anne chose volleyball to play.

Question 5.

Which gift did Anne value the most?

Answer:

Anne valued the gift from Kitty the most.

Speaking:

G. Imagine you are going to celebrate your forthcoming birthday at an orphanage/ old-age home. Deliver a short speech about your birthday celebration by using the following hints.

"Be brave and all the rest follows".

Short Speech:

Respect Headmaster, teachers, and my dear friends. I would like to deliver a short speech about celebrating my birthday in an orphanage. It was really an interesting day, as it was my first time going to an orphanage. Since it was my birthday, I decided to do something different this year. I decided to celebrate my birthday at an orphanage. My parents were really happy with the idea.

As we entered the place, we were welcomed by a friendly old lady in a green saree. She took us to the room where the inmates were waiting for us. We entered the room and were welcomed by smiling faces. There were many

children who were young to me and some of them were of my own age. They too were excited like me.

My parents asked me to cut the cake. I cut the cake. All sang the birthday chorus and greeted me. I gifted all of them with little presents which I had bought for them. They had prepared a handmade card for me. I was moved.

We sang and danced after that and even played games like musical chairs and passing the parcel. There was a girl named Angeline. She was the smallest of them all. She was only three years old. She was cute and chubby. I gave her a teddy bear which she hugged and thanked me.

Children of my age were very friendly, we talked about our favourite shows and hobbies. Some of them even showed their talents by playing the guitar and drums. The children seemed happy that they had such a nice time. It was indeed a nice day after all and I was really happy that I could spend some time pleasantly with such wonderful children whom God loves so much.

Thank you one and all.

Writing:

H. Write a meaningful paragraph using the hints given below.

Mahesh – celebrates – 14th birthday – an old-age home – family, friends – informs home in advance – delegates tasks – friends buy things necessary – arrives home early – decorates place – balloons, colour papers – inmates gathered – cuts cake – sing-song, claps – distributes cakes – expresses his feelings – gets blessings – offers things – bedsheets, footwear, etc. needed – fun, entertainment – happy and content.

Birthday Celebration:

There was a boy named Mahesh. He wanted to celebrate his birthday at an old home. It was his 14th birthday. His parents agreed with his suggestion. Mahesh informed his friends and relatives well in advance. He delegated various tasks to his friends. His friends became active and they bought all the necessary things.

On that day they arrived at the home early. They decorated with balloons and colour papers. Mahesh came there with his parents. Mahesh cut his birthday cake amidst grand applause. There were singing and clapping.

Mahesh expressed his joyful feelings. He gave the cakes to all. He offered the aged people bedsheets, footwear, etc. He got the blessings from the old people at home. There were enough fun and entertainment at the function. The inmates thanked Mahesh for his kindness and goodwill. All were happy and contented.

Grammar:

A. Choose the correct determiner.

1. Could you bring me tools I left in the garden? (this, those, these)
2. Earth revolves around the sun. (the, a, an)
3. I found one rupee coin in the playground while playing, (a, an, the)
4. There aren't students in the library, (much, many, a lot)
5. It was unforgettable experience, (a, an, the)
6. I haven't got pictures in my bedroom, (some, any, many)
7. He said that he wanted to become engineer, (a, an, the)
8. Kokila gave a pen to child in the classroom on her birthday, (any, all, each)
9. I've got to solve maths problems before I go to sleep, (all, some, any)
10. India is largest democracy in the world, (a, an, the)
11. My father doesn't drink coffee, (much, many, a lot)

12. I always keep money in my wallet for emergencies, (any, every, some)

13. This year we are celebrating my sister's birthday, (a, two, second)

14. I have pencils with me. (a, three, third)

15. 'What is that noise?' I think it is airplane, (a, an, the)

Answers:

1. those
2. the
3. a
4. many
5. an
6. any
7. an
8. each
9. some
10. the
11. much
12. some
13. second
14. three
15. an

Reported speech. (Indirect speech). Conversion of direct speech into indirect speech.

B. Observe the following call-outs. Reporter (C) has reported the sentences of Speaker (A). Now, help Reporter (C) report the rest of the sentences of Speaker(A).

A (Speaker)	B (Questioner)	C (Reporter)
I have to go.	What did he say?	He said that he wanted to go.
Can you hear me?	What did she say?	She asked if you could hear her.
Consult the doctor.	What did he say?	He advised you to consult the doctor.
I won't go to the party.	What did he say?	He said that he wouldn't go to the party.
When did you come?	What did she say?	She asked when you came
Don't touch the wire.	What did she say?	She warned me not to touch the wire.
Bring some water, please	What did he say?	He requested you to bring some water. (request)
Will you help me?	What did he say?	He asked if you would help him. (ask)

C. Report the following sentences.

Question 1.

Banu said, "Do not spoil the eco-system." Banu advised not to spoil the ecosystem.

Answer:

Banu advised if he had booked the tickets to Delhi.

Question 2.

Pranav said, "Have you booked the tickets to Delhi?"

Answer:

Pranav asked if he had booked the tickets to Delhi.

Question 3.

Rekha said to Tilak, "When are we leaving to our native?"

Answer:

Rekha asked Tilak when they were leaving to their native.

Question 4.

Sujith said, "Ryan, you should get up early in the morning."

Answer:

Sujith told Ryan that he should get up early in the morning.

Question 5.

Vivaan said to his mother, "Can you, please, buy me a hot chocolate?"

Answer:

Vivaan requested his mother if she could buy him a hot chocolate.

Question 6.

"Tomorrow I have to take a test in English", said Sudar.

Answer:

Sudar said that he had to take a test in English the next day.

Question 7.

Pragathi said to her sister, "I need your help to arrange the books in the shelf."
Pragathi told her sister that she needed her help to arrange the book in the shelf?

Answer:

Pragathi told her sister that she needed her help to arrange the book in the self.

Question 8.

"Why don't you use crayons for colouring?" said Philip to his son.

Answer:

Philip asked his son why he didn't use crayons for colouring.

Poem – 7

The Stick-together families

Textbook Questions

1. "The gladdest people living are the wholesome folks who make
A circle at the fireside that no power but death can break."

Question (a)

Who are the gladdest people living?

Answer:

The gladdest people are those who live together as wholesome folks.

Question (b)

Where do they gather?

Answer:

They gather at the fireside.

Question (c)

What can break their unity?

Answer:

Only death can break their unity.

**2. "And the finest of conventions ever held beneath the sun
Are the little family gatherings when the busy day is done."**

Question (a)

When do they have their family gatherings?

Answer:

They have their family gatherings at the end of the busy day.

Question (b)

Where do they have their family conventions?

Answer:

The family conventions are held beneath the sun.

Question (c)

What does the poet mean by 'finest conventions'?

Answer:

The finest conventions mean a family get together.

**3. "There are rich folk, there are poor folk, who imagine they are wise,
And they're very quick to shatter all the little family ties."**

Question (a)

What do the rich and poor folk imagine themselves to be?

Answer:

The rich and the poor folks imagine themselves to be wise.

Question (b)

What do they do to their families?

Answer:

They are quick to shatter their little family ties.

Question (c)

Whom does 'they' refer to?

Answer:

They refers to the rich and poor people who do not consider the little family ties as valuable and shatter them.

**4. "There are some who seem to fancy that for gladness they must roam,
That for smiles that are the brightest they must wander far from home"**

Question (a)

Why do they roam?

Answer:

They roam to attain gladness.

Question (b)

According to them, when do they get bright smiles?

Answer:

They get bright smiles when they wander far from home.

**5. "But the gladdest sort of people, when the busy day is done,
Are the brothers and the sisters who together share their fun."**

Question (a)

Who are the gladdest people?

Answer:

The gladdest people are those brothers and sisters who share their fun.

Question (b)

When do they share their fun?

Answer:

They share their fun when the busy day is done.

Question (c)

What does 'who' refer to?

Answer:

Who refers to the brothers and sisters.

**6. "It's the stick-together family that wins the joys of earth,
That hears the sweetest music and that finds the finest mirth;"**

Question (a)

Who wins the joys of the earth?

Answer:

The stick-together families win the joys of earth.

Question (b)

How do they find their joy?

Answer:

They find their joys by being together and hearing the sweetest music

Question (c)

What does the poet mean by 'stick-together family'?

Answer:

The stick-together family means those families who spend time together (Joint families) and share their fun and sorrows and can be only separated after death.

B. Based on the understanding of the poem, fill in the blanks using the words and phrases given below to make a meaningful summary of the poem.

brothers and sisters	bitterness	joint family	share their fun	rich and the poor folk
shatter their family	charm of life	separate ways	the joy of earth	stick-together families

The poet brings out the difference in the attitudes of children living in a joint family and the nuclear family. The (1) are the happiest of all. Whereas the (2) of nuclear families take (3) The gladdest people are the children from (4) who circle near the fireside. No power other than death can break them. The (5) imagine themselves to be wise and in the process they (6) ties. Each of them goes searching for pleasure in their own selected way. They harvest only (7) and find empty joy. But the wisest among them are the children of the stick-together families. When the busy day is done, they together (8) The stick-together family wins (9) The old house shelters all the (10) The poet invites wandering brothers to come and join the Stick – together families in their fireside and have fun.

Answers:

1. stick – together families
2. children
3. separate ways
4. joint family
5. rich and poor folk
6. shatter their family
7. bitterness
8. share their fun
9. the joy of earth
10. charm of life

C. Answer the following questions in about 80 – 100 words.

Question 1.

The stick – together families are the happiest of all. Explain.

Answer:

The stick-together families are the happiest of all. There is so much fun living together in joint families. There is a lot of excitement in joint families. The gladdest people living are the good folks who create a circle for themselves. They share their joys and sorrows. The finest of all large formal gatherings is the little family gatherings. The wisest children are in stick-together families. Some travel far away to seek joy but the happiest kind of people, are the ones who share their fun in stick-together families. It is sure that the stick-together family wins the joys of the earth.

(OR)

A joint family makes a happy home. The poet evaluates the happiness of the children in the stick – together families. The children from joint families are the happiest in the world. They circle near the fireside and share their fun. They have the finest little gatherings after every busy day is done.

They win their joys of earth. They find the finest happiness by hearing the sweetest music. The old home shelters them with all charm that life can give. They have the gladdest playground. They also have the happiest living place. The wandering brothers can come back to enjoy the happiness of life.

“There is nothing greater than a joint family”.

Question 2.

Bring out the difference between the children of the joint family and the nuclear family.

Answer:

Title: The stick – together families.

Author: Edgar Albert Guest.

Characters: Brothers and Sisters of Joint family and the nuclear family.

Theme: There is nothing greater than a joint family.

In his poem, “The Stick – together families” the poet brings out the difference in the attitudes of children living in joint family and the nuclear family. The joint families are the happiest of all. The gladdest people are the children from the stick – together families who circle near the fireside. No power except

death can break them. But the brothers and sisters from the nuclear families take separate ways.

The poor and the rich people imagine themselves to be wise. They are quick enough to shatter their family ties. Each one goes searching for pleasure in their own selected way. They harvest its bitterness and find empty joy.

But the children of the joint family are the wisest. When the busy day is done they share their fun together. The children of the joint family win the joy of earth. The old home roof shelters all the brothers and sisters. However, there is a chance for the wandering brothers to come back and join the stick-together families in their fireside and have fun.

“The Stick – together families are the happiest of all”.

(OR)

The poet brings out the difference in the attitudes of children living in a joint family and the nuclear family. The joint families are the happiest of all. But the children of nuclear families take separate ways. The children from the joint families circle near the fireside. They are the happiest children. Except for death, no power can break them. The children from nuclear families take separate ways.

Each one goes searching for pleasure in their selected way. They harvest their bitterness and find empty joy. Whereas the inmates of the joint families are the wisest. After their busy day, they share their fun. Thus they win the joy of earth. The old home shelters all of them. However, the wandering brothers return to the joint families and have fun.

“The joint family is the happiest of all”.

D. Answer the following.

Question 1.

There is rich folk, there is poor folk, who imagine they are wise,
Pick out the words in alliteration.

Answer:

Words in alliteration. There, there, they, folk, talk.

Question 2.

Mention the rhyme scheme of the poem?

Answer:

Rhyming words are: far, are: make, break, sun, done. The rhyme scheme is aa bb cc.

Listening:

E. Listen to the passage and fill in the blanks with an appropriate answer.

1. A person is valued based on his
2. does not happen overnight.
3. A close family bond is like a
4. A strong foundation for any individual comes from being with a
.....
5. A gift not only with, but who care and love us beyond themselves.

Answers:

1. family and upbringing
2. bonding
3. safe harbour
4. supportive family
5. lovable parents, siblings

Speaking:

F. “The building actually rests on the well-laid foundation and hence is strong and still.” How can this be related to a family? Discuss with your partner and share your views in the class.

“The building actually rests on the well laid out foundation and hence is strong and still” is a meaningful statement. Only when the foundation is built

well, a building can stand on it firmly. Likewise, a foundation is very necessary for the formation of the family.

A family is like a building. It does not mean a house but it is a home. A family is an invisible or abstract thing. But it is a bond, a long lasting relationship that holds a bond with each other. There are many values that one has to get the family bonding in the right manner.

A close family bond is like a safe harbour Bonding does not happen overnight. It is through a family we learn the values of love, trust, hope, belief, cultures, morals, traditions, and every little matter that concerns us. A strong foundation for any individual comes from being with a supportive family. As the building serves as a shelter, a family also protects us by all means.

We have parents who support us, teach us moral values in life, give us a strong foundation in character, teach us the importance of love and being loved trust for one another, and many other morals that could be obtained from a family. The family is created at birth and establishes ties across generations. Families are the foundation of society and create our personal template for giving and receiving love in intimate relationships.

Writing:

G. Write a four-line poem with rhyming words describing your family.

My Family:

We're a sweet little family
We live together quite happily
We have a lot of games and fun
As and when the busy day is done

Chapter – 7 (Supplementary)

The Christmas Truce

A. Choose the correct answer.

Question 1.

The story is set during the

- (a) World War I
- (b) World War II
- (c) Kargil War
- (d) Indo-China War

Answer:

- (b) World War II

Question 2.

The story is about the celebration of festival.

- (a) Deepavali
- (b) Pongal
- (c) Ramzan
- (d) Christmas

Answer:

- (d) Christmas

Question 3.

Tom called the incidents that happened there as a

- (a) fairy tale
- (b) poetry
- (c) tragedy
- (d) comedy

Answer:

- (a) fairy tale

Question 4.

The Germans had placed Christmas trees in front of their

- (a) houses

- (b) trenches
- (c) tanks
- (d) cars

Answer:

- (b) trenches

Question 5.

One of the German soldiers worked as a at Victoria Station.

- (a) tea-seller
- (b) ticket-checker
- (c) porter
- (d) shop keeper

Answer:

- (c) porter

Question 6.

This letter was written on day.

- (a) New year
- (b) Deepavali
- (c) Christmas
- (d) Pongal

Answer:

- (c) Christmas

Question 7.

This incident took place in the year

- (a) 1944
- (b) 1814
- (c) 1947
- (d) 1914

Answer:

- (d) 1914

Question 8.

The British and the enemy soldiers were on the battlefields of

- (a) Russia

- (b) France
- (c) America
- (d) Germany

Answer:

- (b) France

Question 9.

As darkness fell on our Christmas Eve the stopped entirely.

- (a) fighting
- (b) talking
- (c) singing
- (d) shooting

Answer:

- (d) shooting

Question 10.

The narrator's friend was

- (a) Tom
- (b) Janet
- (c) John
- (d) Jacob

Answer:

- (c) John

Question 11.

One of the Germans worked as a at the Hotel Cecil.

- (a) porter
- (b) doctor
- (c) servant
- (d) waiter

Answer:

- (d) waiter

Question 12.

To our astonishment, we saw figures rise from a trench.

- (a) three

- (b) no
- (c) two
- (d) a few

Answer:

- (c) two

Question 13.

The were better dressed, with fresh uniforms for the holiday.

- (a) Germans
- (b) Americans
- (c) English
- (d) Indians

Answer:

- (a) Germans

Question 14.

The narrator himself traded for a leather equipment belt.

- (a) penknife
- (b) jackknife
- (c) dagger
- (d) butter knife

Answer:

- (b) jackknife

Question 15.

There was even some talk of a match.

- (a) cricket
- (b) basketball
- (c) volleyball
- (d) football

Answer:

- (d) football

Question 16.

One of the English boys walked with a spiked

- (a) boots

- (b) helmet
- (c) hat
- (d) shoes

Answer:

- (b) helmet

B. Identify the character, speaker, or both of the following lines.

1. Our first complete silence in months!
2. Come and see! See what the Germans are doing!
3. Hold your fire.
4. You no shoot, we no shoot.
5. My God, why cannot we have peace and all go home?

Answers:

1. The narrator
2. The narrator
3. The English captain
4. A German officer
5. An older German

C. Answer the following questions in about 100 – 120 words.

Question 1.

Narrate the Christmas celebration as happened in the war field.

Answer:

On Christmas eve, the soldiers had their first good freeze. Everything was tinged white with frost and a bright sun shone. It was perfect Christmas weather. Clusters of tiny lights were shining all along the German line and they had placed Christmas trees, lit by candles, lanterns, like beacons of goodwill. The Germans began singing, "Stille Nacht." The British applauded the Germans. Both the troops crossed the barbed wires and were in No Man's Land.

They shared their joy, greeted, and wished each other. They exchanged wonderful presents with all that they had, badges, tea, coffee, buttons, knife,

etc... The Christmas celebration was wonderful as joy prevailed everywhere and they longed for peace.

(OR)

The British and Germans celebrated Christmas during a temporary cessation of world war I. On Christmas Eve, the Germans invited the British to come out to celebrate Christmas. The Germans placed Christmas trees in front of their trenches, lit by candle or lantern, like beacons of goodwill. They sang, "Silent Night, Holy Night." It was lovelier and more meaningful.

The British soldiers applauded the Germans. Then the British soldiers sang "The first Nowell, the angel did say" Britain and Germany were harmonizing across 'No man's Land.' They exchanged gifts – tea with coffee, com meat for sausage. The narrator traded a jackknife for a leather equipment belt to keep as a fine souvenir. "Why cannot we have peace and all go home?" was a far cry of every soldier.

"Peace begins with a smile" – Mother Teresa.
"Never wage a war but peace".

D. Think and Answer.

Question 1.

Do you envision a similar truce taking place in any wars or fighting today? Explain.

Answer:

Yes. I feel the same enmity is between India and Pakistan borders. Both countries were united before the British left India. People who lived as brothers and sisters are now partitioned and called different nationalities. The bond of 'brotherhood' still exists.

Question 2.

Today, much of what we know about the truce comes from soldier's postcards home. In the post-card given below, write a short message home, imagine that you took part in the 1914 Christmas Truce.

Answer:

Post Card

Christmas Day, 1914.

Dear Mom,

I can't help writing to you about what happened here. You may wonder that we had a break on the battlefield. It was because of Christmas Eve. To our surprise, the Germans came out of their trenches. They called us to come to the ground between the trench called 'No man's Land'. They had the preparation for the Christmas celebration. They placed the Christmas trees in front of the trench lit with candles and lanterns.

The Germans sang 'Silent Night, Holy Night'. It was very lovely. We applauded their singing. Then we sang "The First Nowell, the angel did say." They responded with their applause. We exchanged our gifts in food, buttons, etc. No one wanted war but peace. Even the Germans want to end the war and go home. We hope to see you all soon.

Your loving son,
Sam.