

O P JINDAL SCHOOL SAVITRINAGAR
Session- 2020-21
Worksheet- 9 for Class XI (Date – 01/05/2020)

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:
(Select the correct answer for MCQ)

AT HOME IN INDIA

There are many among us who, given the opportunity to leave India, are only too happy to go. But whenever I have had the chance to go away, I have held back. Or something has held me back.

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What is it that has such a hold on me, but leaves others free to where they will, sometimes never to come back?

A few years ago I was offered a well-paid job on a magazine in Hong Kong. I thought about it for weeks, worried myself to distraction, and finally, with a great sigh of relief, turned it down.

My friends thought I was-crazy. They still do. Most of them would have jumped at a comparable offer, even if it had meant spending the rest of their lives far from the palmfringed coasts or pine-clad mountains of this land. Many friends have indeed gone away, never to return, except perhaps to get married, very quickly, before they are off again! Don't they feel homesick, I wonder.

I am almost paranoid at the thought of going away and then being unable to come back. This almost happened to me when, as a boy, I went to England, longed to return to India, and did not have the money for the passage. For two years I worked and slaved like a miser (something I have never done since) until I had enough to bring me home.

. And 'home' wasn't parents and brothers and sisters. They were no longer here. Home, for me, was India.

. So what is it that keeps me here? My birth? I take too closely after a Nordic grandparent to pass for a typical son of the soil. Hotel receptionists often ask me for my passport.

'Must I carry a passport to travel in my own country?' I ask.

'But you don't look like an Indian,' they protest.

'I'm a Red Indian,' I say.

India is where I was born and went to school and grew to manhood. India was where my father was born and went to school and worked and died. India is where my grandfather lived and died. Surely that entitles me to a place in the Indian sun. If it doesn't, I can revert to my mother's family and go back to the time of Timur the Lame. How far back does one have to go in order to establish one's Indianness? It must be the land itself that holds me. But so many of my fellow Indians have been born (and reborn) here, and yet they think nothing of leaving the land. They will leave the mountains for the plains; the

villages for the cities; their country for another country, and if other countries were a little more willing to open their doors, we would have no population problem-mass emigration would have solved it.

But it's more than the land that holds me. For India is more than a land. India is an atmosphere. Over thousands of years, the races and religions of the world have mingled here and produced that unique, indefinable phenomenon, the Indian: so terrifying in a crowd, so beautiful in himself.

And oddly enough, I'm one too. I know that I'm as Indian as the postman or the paanwala or your favorite MP.

Race did not make me an Indian. Religion did not make me an Indian. But history did. And in the long run, its history that counts.

Ruskin Bond

Q.1. When the narrator was offered a well-paid job in Hongkong, did he accept it?

- a) He accepted it
- b) He did not accept it
- c) He was confused
- d) He was worried

Q.2. What was 'Home' for the author?

- a) Parents and brothers and sisters
- b) Love for his native place
- c) Home for him was India
- d) Beauty of his village

Q.3. The writer says : India is an atmosphere. What does it mean?

- a) Beautiful climate of India
- b) Inclusive way of life
- c) India's strength lies in its resources
- d) India' rich history

Q.4. find out the word which mean : i) something that stops you from paying attention to

- a) Worried
- b) Distraction
- c) Turn down
- d) Well-paid

Q.5. What, according to the writer, has made him an Indian?

- a) His family background of her mother
- b) His religion
- c) His broad point of view
- d) History

Q.6. What can you learn from the text?

- a) Writer is talking about his longing to go abroad
- b) Writer wants prove his patriotism
- c) Writer feels proud to be Indian
- d) Wants to state his family history