

Date - 05 May 2020

Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Question 1.

The moon was coming up in the east, behind me, and stars were shining in the clear sky above me. There wasn't a cloud in the sky. I was happy to be alone high up above the sleeping countryside. I was flying my old Dakota aeroplane over France back to England. I was dreaming of my holiday and looking forward to being with my family. I looked at my watch at one thirty in the morning.

I should call Paris Control soon. I thought. As I looked down past the nose of the aeroplane, I saw the lights of a big city in front of me.

- (a) How was the weather when the pilot started flying his aeroplane?
- (b) Why was the pilot flying his old Dakota aeroplane over France back to England?
- (c) Find out the word similar in the meaning to 'hoping with pleasure'.
- (d) Choose from the passage the word which means 'land outside towns or cities'.

Question 2.

Paris was about 150 kilometres behind me when I saw the clouds. Storm clouds. They were huge. They looked like black mountains 'standing in front of me across the sky-1 knew I could not fly up and over them, and I did not have enough fuel to fly around them to the north or south. CBSE 2016

- (a) What happened when the pilot was about 150 kilometres away from Paris?
- (b) What does the author compare the clouds to?
- (c) Find out the word similar in meaning as sufficient.
- (d) The word 'elephantine' is similar in meaning to the word

Question 3.

“He knows that I am lost”, I thought ‘He’s trying to help me.

He turned his aeroplane slowly to the north, in front of my Dakota, so that it would be easier for me to follow him. I was very happy to go behind the strange aeroplane like an obedient child.

After half an hour the strange black aeroplane was still there in front of me in the clouds. Now, there was only enough fuel in the old Dakota’s last tank to fly for five or ten minutes more. I was starting to feel frightened again. But then he started to go down and I followed through the storm.

- (a) Why was the pilot happy to find his aeroplane behind another aeroplane in the black clouds?
- (b) Why was the pilot frightened again?
- (c) Find the opposite of ‘insufficient’ from the passage.
- (d) What does a ‘storm’ mean?

Question 4.

I landed and was not sorry to walk away from the old Dakota near the control tower. I went and asked a woman in the control centre where I was and who the other pilot was. ‘I wanted to say ‘Thank you’.

She looked at me very strangely, and then laughed.

‘Another aeroplane? Up there in this storm? No other aeroplanes were flying tonight. ‘Yours was the only one I could see on the radar.’”

So who helped me to arrive there safely without a compass or a radio, and without any more fuel in my tanks? Who was the pilot on the strange black aeroplane, flying in the storm, without lights?

- (a) Why did the writer go to the Control center immediately?
- (b) Why was the writer shocked after hearing the woman’s word?
- (c) Find out the word in the passage that means the same as ‘peculiar’.
- (d) Which part of speech does the word ‘tonight’ belong to?
