

Bochasanwasi Shri Aksharpurushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha
Satsang Shikshan Pariksha

SATSANG PRARAMBHA

Time : 9.00 to 12.00 p.m.

Total Marks : 100

Sunday, 2 March, 2014

Note : 1. Answer of the prescribed edition only will be accepted. Any other answer from different addition will not be accepted. 2. Numbers of the right side indicate marks of question number. 3. Numbers in the blanks on the right side of the answer indicate lesson number & page number.

Important Note

In the question paper the marks of the each sub-question should be written in the box (mark : 1) given on the right side and the marks obtained by the candidate should be written in the adjacent box. If the answer is wrong then write '0' (zero) in the given box. The sign or indication of true (✓) or false (X) of each sub-question should be marked only on the left-side before the question starts.

Important Note

While checking the answers, when you come across lengthy answers i.e. shortnotes, reasons, brief answer in five sentence etc. justify to the left side of the paper for any marks deducted. If the candidate has forgotten to mention any mentioned points then the examiner can deduct mark likewise and explain to the leftside of the paper that which point is not mentioned by candidate. For example there is question in March-2013, Pravesh paper-1, "Transformation of JobanPagi" JobanPagi said to Maharaj, 'Oh Lord, I am crooked worthless and foolish. I was unable to recognize you for who are you. Oh compassionate one! please have pity on me. Please free me from my sins.' If any point is not written then write "My sins" at left side.

(SECTION-1: GHANSHYAM CHARITRA, 7th Edition, April - 2010)

Q.1 In the sentences below, state who is speaking to whom and when.
(Total Marks: 9)

Note : Who is speaking 1 mark, to whom 1 mark and when 1 mark.

1. "We are not asking you to get up. We are waking up the Lord." (35/69)
 - ◇ Both aunts - to Ghanshyam
 - ◇ Both aunts were singing bhajans while grinding to wake up Lord. so Ghanshyam replied why you are asking me to get up when I am fully awake.
2. "From now on we will never boast about our strength." (21/38)
 - ◇ Three wrestlers - to Ghanshyam
 - ◇ When the King asked the three wrestlers to apologize to Ghanshyam for bragging about their strength.
3. "Go and call Ghanshyam." (19/31)
 - ◇ Bhaktimata - to Rampratapbhai
 - ◇ One day when Ghanshyam did not come back home for lunch.

Q.2 Answer **ALL** of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (Total Marks: 4)

 **Note : No mark for incomplete answer.**


1. When did Ghanshyam leave home? (Samvat, Month, Tithi) (46/91)
A. Ghanshyam left home on the day of Ashadh sud 10, Samvat year 1849.
2. Which tree lay on the banks of "Meen" lake? (13/20)
A. There was banyan tree on the bank of the meen lake.
3. Who applied the bandage to Ghanshyam's thigh at Khampa Talavdi? (23/43)
A. Ashvinikumar, the physician of the devas came to bandage the wound of Ghanshyam at Khampa Talvadi.
4. What did the thieves come to steal from Dharmadev's farm? (39/76)
A. Thieves came to farm to steal jackfruit.

Q.3 Rewrite the incorrect sentences below in relation to the sentence heading. (Total Marks: 4)

 **Note: Marks will be awarded only if a sentence is written completely correct. Otherwise no marks will be awarded.**

1. **Naming the Lord:** Your son will restore dharma on earth. He will relieve the miseries of countless people. (4/8)
2. **Ghanshyam stops the killing:** Hearing the king's prayer, Ghanshyam felt compassion for him. immediately he stopped shaking the pipal tree. (25/49)
3. **A test for the son:** He asked for a small stool from Bhaktimata and then covered it with a silk cloth. (5/8)
4. **Ghanshyam is seen as Ramchandra:** Deep down in the water, Ghanshyam thought, "My parents are worrying, so I should come out of the water." (33/67)

Q.4 Write briefly five main points (in sentences) on any ONE incident. (Narration is not required.) (Total Marks: 5)

 **Note : It is not necessary that the answer is written in the following way. If the incident is covered up in five sentences then marks will be given.**

1. Ghanshyam eats all the food (36/71-72)

1. On the day after the Ramnavmi Bhaktimata and Suvasinibhabhi cooked food for whole family for breaking their fast.
2. Bhaktimata placed all the delicacies before Thakorji to sanctify the food. As Ghanshyam saw this, he asked for food as he was very hungry.
3. Bhaktimata took a little of each delicacy and prepared a dish for Ghanshyam. Within minutes, Ghanshyam emptied his plate and began to eat from the plate offered to Thakorji and ate all the food in the other vessels.
4. Bhaktimata asked Dharmadev, "Please hurry to the market again and bring pulses, rice, flour, vegetables, ghee and gur because Ghanshyam has eaten up all the food prepared for everyone.
5. When Ghanshyam heard this, he pulled Bhaktimata by the hand and led her to the kitchen. Bhaktimata was surprised when she saw that all the utensils were as full as ever. She embraced her son with great affection. Dharmadev was also very happy.

2. The Priest sight is restored (41/81-82)


1. When Ghanshyam went for darshan at the Vidyakund mandir, a blind brahmin pujari named Vrajvihari was narrating the stories from Ramayan. He had learnt whole of Ramayan and Mahabharat by heart.

2. During the narration, Ghanshyam heard the talk that Ramchandra left home to stay in the exile in a forest for a period of fourteen years. Ghanshyam thought of leaving home and going to a forest to do austerities. He wanted to ask a question about vairagya. But Vrajvihari refused to answer during discourse.
3. Ghanshyam was disappointed with the reply. He quietly went outside and sat on the verandah.
4. Ghanshyam felt pity for Vrajvihari. He placed his hand on the Brahmin's head and gazed into his eyes and his sight was restored. He began to see.
5. The Brahmin and all the devotees present there, had the vision of Lord Ramchandra in Ghanshyam. Vrajvihari fell at Ghanshyam's feet, and after receiving his blessings he went home with joy and gratitude in his heart.

3. Lakshmibai sees a miracle (30/58-61)

1. One day Ghanshyam accompanied his friend Veniram to his house. There they took makhan from a pot, mixed it with sugar and start eating it.
2. When Laxmibai saw this, she went to Bhaktimata and complained her about Ghanshyam.
3. Bhaktimata said that "My Ghanshyam would never steal anything. If you see Ghanshyam stealing, catch him, tie his hands and feet, and call me. Only thereafter shall I believe you.
4. One afternoon, Ghanshyam and Veniram were eating curd, She caught hold of Ghanshyam and tied Ghanshyam's hands and feet tightly with a cord. She then took Bhaktimata and all the neighbours to her house.
5. Bhaktimata and others saw Veniram who had been bound with ropes and not Ghanshyam! Lakshmibai felt that Ghanshyam must be God.

Q.5 From the given options, place a tick (✓) in the box next to the correct ones. (Total Marks: 8)

 **Note :One or more options may be correct. Full marks will be awarded only if all the correct options are chosen, otherwise no marks will be awarded.**

1. 1 (21/36) 2. 2, 4 (47-92) 3. 3, 4 (27, 29) 4. 1, 3 (20/34)

Q-6 Give reasons for the following (two to three lines each). (Total Marks: 6)

1. The evil women started looking for Dharmadev's house. (2/3)
 - A. When an evil man named Kalidatt learnt that God has take birth as a baby boy in Dharmadev's house, he ordered all his evil women to go to Dharmadev's house and kill the child God. so the evil women started looking for Dharmadev's house.
2. When Suvasinibhabhi saw Ghanshyam's toothless mouth, she became worried. (27/51)
 - A. Ghanshyam told Suvasinibhabhi, "My molar teeth are painig severely. If you pull out all the loose teeth then it will lessen my pain. Ghanshyam loosened all his teeth with his divine powers and pulled out one by one, Ghanshyam had all his teeth removed. When Suvasinibhabhi saw Ghanshyam's toothless mouth, she became worried.
3. The Mahout bowed to Ghanshyam with deep devotion. (26/50)
 - A. Ghanshyam calmed the elephant and freed the mahout from the elephant's trunk. so the mahout bowed to Ghanshyam and said, "Had you not calmed the elephant and saved me from its wrath today, I would surely have died. You are God. I shall not henceforth steal its food."

(SECTION - 2: YOGIJI MAHARAJ, 8th Edition, May-2009)

Q.7 In the sentences below, state who is speaking to whom and when. (Total Marks: 9)

 **Note : Who is speaking 1 mark, to whom 1 mark and when 1 mark.**

1. "The Akshar Purushottam philosophy will spread throughout the world." (27/44)
 - ◇ Yogiji Maharaj - to a youth
 - ◇ It was written in letter by Yogiji Maharaj to a youth who wanted to become a sadhu. Yogiji Maharaj gave message that what he wanted to do through him.
2. "Today you have fulfilled my wish by giving me your darshan." (9/13)
 - ◇ Jina Bhagat - to Jaga Bhakta
 - ◇ Once Jina Bhagat fell asleep with the thought of "How great Jaga Bhakta must be!" During his sleep, Jaga Bhakta appears in a dream. so he prostrated before Jaga Bhakta and said above sentence.
3. "Swami, please come to Bhavnagar so that we may all benefit by your association." (19/31)
 - ◇ Kuberbhai - to Shastriji Maharaj
 - ◇ On the celebration of Jaljhilani Ekadashi at Sarangpur, Kuberbhai of Bhavnagar requested Shastriji Maharaj said the above sentence.

Q.8 Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (Total Marks: 4)

 **Note : No mark for incomplete answer.**

1. Where did Jinabhai take his daily morning bath and perform meditation? (2/2)
 - A. Jinabhai used to have his daily morning bath and perform meditation at Patalio Jharo.
2. During which festival did austere Jina Bhagat observe a fast? (12/18)
 - A. Austere Jina Bhagat observed fast on the day of Annakut festival.
3. When did Jina Bhagat first meet Shastriji Maharaj? (10/16)
 - A. On the day of Shravan sud 7 V.S. 1965 Jina Bhagat met Shastriji Maharaj for the first time.
4. What conviction ran strong amongst the devotees who witnessed the murti-pratishtha ceremony in Gadhada? (24/39)
 - A. At time of Murti-Pratishtha in Gadhada devotees was convinced that, "Shastriji Maharaj is always manifest in the satsang."

Q.9 Select the six correct sentences from below and write them in the correct story sequence in the boxes. (Total Marks: 6)

Topic: Birth of Jinabhai (1/1-2)

- | | | | | | | |
|--|----|---|---|---|---|----|
| (1) Write the correct sentence numbers | 1 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 12 |
| (2) Correct sequence of sentences | 12 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 4 |

Note: (1) 3 marks will be awarded in the correct sentence number only if all the six sentence numbers are correct and (2) 3 marks will be awarded only if all the sequence of sentence numbers is correct. Otherwise no marks will be given.

Note: (1) Correct sentence numbers: Give 3 marks only if all 6 sentence number is correct otherwise no marks. **(2) Correct sequence of sentences:** Give 3 marks if all sequence of sentence numbers is correct as per answersheet otherwise no marks.

Q.10 Write short notes on "Snake Bite" (21/34-35) (In 15 lines.) (Total Marks: 5)

A small memorial shrine had been constructed in Gondal at the place where the last rites of Gunatitanand Swami had been performed. It was called Akshar Deri. To add to its sanctity, Shastriji Maharaj started building a beautiful mandir over it. Yogiji Maharaj was stationed there at the time. Every day he perform puja of the charnarvind of Shriji Maharaj which had been constructed there. He also performed the mahapuja and offered thal in the Akshar Deri. Yogiji Maharaj and other sadhus used to live in huts built of mud and bricks. Once at midnight, while Yogiji Maharaj was sound asleep, a venomous black cobra

bit the index finger of his left hand. The sudden rush of pain woke him up. As a result of poison, the pain quickly spread through his whole body. Yogiji Maharaj did not complain. While chanting the Swaminarayan mantra his eyes closed. Some anxious devotees suggested a physician be called. Others proposed various remedies. When Shastriji Maharaj heard about the snake bite he said, "Take Yogiji Maharaj to the Akshar Deri and chant the Swaminarayan mantra. The effect of the poison will vanish by the divine power of the Swaminarayan Mahamantra." After exact twelve hours, the effect of the poison subsided. Yogiji Maharaj opened his eyes and bowed to Shastriji Maharaj. A government doctor was amazed to see that the effect of the poison had been nullified by chanting the Swaminarayan mantra. He fell at the feet of Shastriji Maharaj. The King of Gondal and his officers were also surprised at the divine power of the Akshar Deri.

Q.11 Give reasons for the following (two to three lines each). (Total Marks: 6)

1. Yogiji Maharaj was an ideal of seva. (16/25)
 - A. Every day Yogiji Maharaj would get up early in the morning, cook 300 rotlas. He drew water from the well that would be required for cooking, drinking and for bathing for the sadhus and devotees. He himself served the food to all the sadhus and devotees. He was always the last to have his meal. He would be found cleaning the huge pots till late at night.
2. Narayanswarupdasji has been known as 'Pramukh Swami.' (33/57)
 - A. In V.S. 2006, Shastriji Maharaj appointed Shastri Narayanswarupdasji as the administrative head of the Bochasanwasi Shri Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha. (BAPS) All the devotees were asked to work under his orders and guidance. Since then, Shastri Narayanswarupdasji has been known by the name of Pramukh Swami.
3. Dr. Aspinol and the other devotees became surprised. (23/38)
 - A. After operation of a hernia the effect of the anaesthetic subsided, Yogiji Maharaj opened his eyes and asked the devotees sitting nearby in a low voice, "Has milk been served to Shastriji Maharaj?" so the devotees and Dr. Aspinol surprised and felt that this sadhu was not unconscious. This yogi must have been in a divine trance. Only then is it possible to remember the guru on waking.

SECTION-3: KISHORE SATSANG PRARAMBH, 8th Edition, October - 2010

Q.12 Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (Total Marks: 4)

 **Note : No mark for incomplete answer.**

1. Where did Shriji Maharaj take the Bibi? (14/37)
 - A. Shriji Maharaj took the Bibi to Akshardham - the divine abode.
2. When was Shastriji Maharaj born? (Samvat, Month, Tithi) (17/49)
 - A. Shastriji Maharaj was born on Maha sud 5, V.S. 1921.
3. Which King spent many hours in performing puja in spite of his busy schedule? (5/9)
 - A. In spite of his busy schedule, The King Ambrish spent many hours in performing puja
4. Who saw a ferocious tiger in the dark forest? (8/20)
 - A. Akhandanand Swami saw a ferocious tiger in the dark forest.

Q.13 From the given options, place a tick (✓) in the box next to the correct ones. (Total Marks: 8)

Note: One or more options may be correct. Full marks will be awarded only if all the correct options are chosen, otherwise no marks will be awarded.

1. 2, 4 (20/56) 2. 2 (17/50) 3. 1, 4 (15/38) 4. 3, 4 (11/29)

Q.14 Fill in the blanks. (Total Marks: 4)


1. devotion, gopis of Vraj (13/34) 3. Prabhudas, sugar crystal (20/56)
2. Krupanand Swami, Gunatitanand Swami (19/53) 4. Vartal (4/8)

Q.15 Complete the kirtans/verses/shloks below. (Total Marks: 8)

 **Note : If the Kirtan/Verses/shloks are half correct 1 mark to be given.**

1. Agachha Bhagwan Deva svasthanat Parameshwara,
Aham pujam karishyami sada tvam sanmukho bhava. (5/11)
2. Galya sata ghebar fulvadi, dudhpak malpua kadhi,
puri pochi thai chhe ghi ma chadhi.
Athana shak sundar bhaji, lavi chhu tarat kari taji,
dahi bhat sakar chhe jhajhi. (12/31)
3. Shri Hari jai jai jai ... Akshardhamna Dhama tame chho,
Purushottam Parabrahman Hari chho, Bhaktajanona bhavbhayhari. (3/4)
4. Shrimannirgun-murti sundar tanu, je gnanvarta kathe,
Je sarvagna, samast sadhugun chhe, maya thaki mukta chhe;
Sarvaishvaryathi purna, ashritjanona dosh tale sada,
Eva Pragji Bhaktraaj gurune, preme namu sarvada. (9/24)

Q.16 "Ketlakne man" (16/43-45) - Complete the Swamini Vato and write an explanatory note on it (in 15 lines). (Total Marks: 5)

 **Note: If Swami-ni-vato is written fully correct give 1 mark. 4 marks are for explanation. In Book Swamini Vato is written in Gujarati and is translated in English, give full marks to examinee if any of them is written by examinee.**


Swaminarayan Hare Swamie vat kari je: "Ketlakne man ramade chhe ne ketlak manne ramade chhe. A vat nitya vicharva jevi chhe."

"Some are controlled by the mind and some control the mind. This talk is worth contemplating daily."

Our mind is full of wordly desires, and is therefore our greatest enemy. It prevents us from thinking of God and offering worship or service. But there are people who can control their minds. There was a boy of the Koli caste in Gadhada. His father was growing sweet pumpkins in his orchard. The boy decided to offer the first pumpkin to Shriji Maharaj. When the pumpkins ripened, he selected one of them for Maharaj. On his way to meet Shriji Maharaj he was tempted by the sweet smell of his ripe pumpkin. The boy thought that he might as well as eat it. But almost immediately he scolded his mind, controlled his desire and went on his way. Again after some time, the thought came into his mind that people offer very nice and costly gifts to Shriji Maharaj. Who would appreciate an insignificant thing like a pumpkin ? So why not eat it ! But again he resisted the temptation, "No, no! I have decided to give it to Maharaj, so I must give it to Him." Thus, keeping his mind under control, he soon reached the court of Dada khachar. Maharaj Himself called the boy, and asked for his pumpkin. He ate some of it Himself and the rest He distributed as prasad. Maharaj was very happy with this young boy because he had succeeded in controlling his mind. Maharaj asked the kothari (storekeeper) to give the boy a reward of 5 kg of sugar crystals to take home. In that assembly there was a Bania. He thought that if this boy could get 5 kg of sugar crystals for a single pumpkin, how much sugar crystals would he get if he gave a cartful of pumpkins to Maharaj. The very next day, the Bania

came to Maharaj with a cartful of sweet pumpkins. Maharaj told him, "Throw all the pumpkins into the river and let the fish eat them." The Bania was disappointed. He asked, "Why Maharaj? Yesterday you gave 5 kg of sugar for just one pumpkin, while I have brought You a whole cart-load." Maharaj replied, "Yes, I did give the boy 5 kg of sugar crystals. But it was not for the pumpkin; it was for the self-control that the boy had shown over his mind. You came here with greed in your heart. So you will get nothing." Thus, if we conquer our minds, and resist evil temptations, then Maharaj will be extremely pleased.

Q.17 'Brave Child Devotee' (6/15-17) - Write five brief sentences on the main points of this incident. (Continuous narration not required.) (Total Marks: 5)

 **Note: It is not necessary that the answer is written in the following way. If the incident is covered up in five sentences then marks be given.**

1. Once, in the district of Jamnagar, a farmer's young son accepted the vow of satsang. He prayed to God every day, offered puja and daily visited the mandir.
2. His father, however, was unconvinced. He tried persuasion, then threats, then finally gave him a sound thrashing; but the would not yield. He eagerly pursued his devotion to God.
3. One day irate father tied his son to the yoke of his cart and told him to remove his kanthi. but the son did not remove his kanthi.
4. When the son disagreed with this, his father raised the cart. Chanting Swaminarayan mantra the son died.
5. We should never give up our faith or devotion towards God, whether he protects us or not. That is the hallmark of a true devotee.

