



SARALA BIRLA PUBLIC SCHOOL

Birla Knowledge City, Mahilong, Ranchi

CLASS- X (2020-21)

Sub: ENGLISH

Assignment-4



Q1. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow:

Popcorn, also known as popping corn, is a special variety of corn. Each seed contains a tiny drop of water. When it is heated, the water expands causing the seed to explode and flip inside out. Most US popcorn is grown in Nebraska and Indiana, and increasingly in Texas.

Native Americans first discovered popcorn thousands of years ago in Guatemala or Mexico. It was popped in China during the Shung Dynasty (960 – 279) as well as in Sumatra and India long before Columbus reached America.

In 1519, when he invaded Mexico, Spanish Conquistador Hernando Cortes first saw popcorn when he met the Aztecs. Popcorn was important to the Aztecs as food, decoration for ceremonial headdresses and necklaces, and as ornaments on statues of their gods. Around 1612, French explorers around the Great Lakes met Iroquois who used heated sand in a pottery vessel to make popcorn. There is an unproven theory that an Indian named Quadequina brought a deerskin bag of popped corn for first Thanksgiving feast on 15th October, 1621.

In 1948 and 1950, anthropologist, Herbert Dick and botanist Earle Smith discovered ears of popcorn in the Beat Cave of West Central New Mexico. The ears measured from smaller than a penny to about 2 inches. They were determined to be about 5600 years old.

Colonial housewives served popcorn with sugar and cream for breakfast. Some colonists used a cylinder of thin sheet – iron that revolved on an axle in front of the fireplace to make popped corn.

In 1885, Charles Cretors of Chicago, Illinois, invented the first popcorn machine. Street vendors were soon pushing steam or gas – powered poppers through fairs, parks and expositions.

In 1914, in Sioux City, Iowa, Cloyd H Smith created America's first branded popcorn (Jolly Time), and for the first time, popcorn was available in grocery stores.

Americans eat more than 17 billion quarts of popcorn a year, an average of 60 quarts per person per year. As the result of an elementary school project, popcorn became the official state snack food of Illinois. 19th January is National Popcorn Day and October is National Popcorn Month.

Ai) Who discovered popcorn first?

ii) Where was popcorn first popped?

iii) How was popcorn important to the Aztecs?

iv) When was popcorn popped in China?

v) How much popcorn do the Americans eat in a year?

B Choose the correct option:

i) Colonial housewives served popcorn with _____ for breakfast.

a) milk and sugar b) sugar and butter c) sugar and cream

d) butter and milk

ii) Which day is celebrated as the National Popcorn Day?

a) 24th December b) 20th April c) 19th March

d) 19th January

iii) The popcorn machine was invented by _____ Illinois,

U.S.A

- a) Charles Reed b) John Cretors c) Charles
Cretors
- d) Don Mccay
- iv) In which year was America's first branded popcorn created?
- a) 1885 b) 1910 c) 1914 d) 1950

Q2. Answer with reference to context:

He stalks in his vivid stripes,
The few steps of his cage,
On pads of velvet quiet
In his quiet rage.

- a) Where is the tiger at present?
b) Which word in the stanza means 'clear'?
c) Why is the tiger in 'quiet rage'?
d) Name the poem and the poet.

Q3. Answer the following in 30 – 40 words:

- a) Why did Lencho go out in the rain?
b) What did Lencho compare the raindrops to and why?
c) How did the postmaster help Lencho?
d) Why was Lencho angry when he counted the money?

**Q4. In the following passage, one word has been omitted in each line.
Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after.**

	Before	Word
After		
One thing we all must do to cooperate _____	_____	_____
the police and pay heed to their advice. _____	_____	_____
They warn us to be alert and not touch _____	_____	_____
unidentified unclaimed suspicious objects. _____	_____	_____