



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

<b>Class: XII</b>	<b>Department: ENGLISH</b>	<b>Date of submission:</b>
<b>Question Bank</b>	LESSON- EVANS TRIES AN O LEVEL	<b>Note:</b>

**Gist:**

Evans a kleptomaniac was imprisoned thrice and all the time escaped from the prison. Now he was in the prison for the fourth time and all of a sudden desired to appear in O-level German Examination which also was an effort to break the prison. - The Governor takes utmost care to see that he would not be fooled. Every care was taken to make Evans prepare for the exam. - He was tutored by a German tutor for 6 months. The day before the exam the tutor wishes good luck but makes it clear that he had hardly any 'chance of getting through.' But Evans gives an ironical twist to the tutor's observation by saying -'I may surprise everybody.' - On the day of the exam Jackson and Stephens visited Evans' cell and took away everything that may help him injure himself. It was insisted to take away the hat but Evans refused saying that it was lucky charm. – Evans' cell was bugged so that the Governor could himself listen to each and every conversation in the cell. The invigilator Rev. S. McLeery too was searched and left him to complete the task. Stephen sitting outside the cell every now and then peeped into the cell. - The exam went on smoothly.

Stephen escorted the invigilator to the main gate and looked into Evans' cell and found the invigilator (actually Evans) wounded, informed the Governor. The latter was to be hospitalized but informed that he was alright and asked them to follow Evans. Thus he escaped the prison. - When the invigilator was not found in the hospital they went to the residence of Rev. S. Mc Leery only to find him 'bound and gagged in his study in Broad Street'. He has been there, since 8.15 a.m. Now everything was clear to the Governor. - Evans escaped the prison the fourth time. But by taking the hint from the question paper the Governor reached the hotel where Evans was and captured him and came to know how he planned his escape and said that his game was over. Evans surrenders himself to the Governor. - The Governor tells Evans they would meet soon. - The moment they are rid of the Governor, the so called prison officer-a friend of Evans-unlocks the handcuffs and asks the driver to move fast and Evans tells him to turn to Newbury. Evans, thus, has the last laugh.

## Important Short Answer Type Questions

Question 1.

What clues did the answer sheet of Evans provide to the Governor? (Delhi 2009)

Answer:

Mc Leery showed a photocopied sheet to the Governor which had been cleverly superimposed on the last page of the German question paper. The Governor decoded it for Newsbury and by putting together the six figure reference, the index and centre number 313/271 and with the help of the 'Ordinance Survey Map of Oxfordshire' he was able to locate Evans in the middle of Chipping Norton. The correction slip provided him with the name of the hotel, 'The Golden Lion' where Evans was staying. So Evans was beaten in his own game as he left clues which aided in his arrest. He made things easier as he left the question paper behind in the cell. The clues the Governor got from it were sufficient to help him locate Evans.

Question 2.

Why did Evans not take off his hat when Jackson ordered him to do so? (All India 2010)

Answer:

Evans was determined to make his escape-plan a success and so he had clipped his hair short to pass off as Mc Leery later. Jackson disapproved of his dirty "bobble hat" and asked him to remove it. Evans immediately thought of a ploy to avoid recognition by telling Jackson that the hat had always brought him good luck. So the police officer agreed to his request.

Question 3.

How did the Governor react to the two phone calls he received in quick succession? (All India 2011)

Answer:

The first call that the Governor received from the Assistant Secretary was a hoax. It misled the gullible Governor by demanding a prison van in connection with a remand case whereas the van was needed for Evans' escape. The underlying idea behind the second call was to take Stephens away for some time so that Evans could give finishing touches to his makeup to look like Mc Leery.

Question 4.

What clues did the answer sheet of Evans provide to the Governor? (Comptt. All India 2011)

Answer:

The answer-sheet had been cleverly attached to the last page of the question paper by Evans to outwit his opponents and mislead the police. It was from his answer-sheet that the police got the clue that Evans had hit Mc Leery whom Evans was himself impersonating. The six figure reference landed him in the middle of Chipping Norton.

Question 5.

Who was Carter? What did the Governor ask him to do? (Delhi 2012)

Answer:

Carter was the Detective Superintendent whom the Governor summoned after Evans' supposed escape. The Governor wanted him to accompany the injured Mc Leery as he was the only one who seemed to know what was actually happening and might be in a position to help in locating Evans who had escaped.

Question 6.

What were the contents of the small brown suitcase that Mc Leery carried? (Delhi 2012)

Answer:

The small brown suitcase that Mc Leery carried contained all that he would need for his 'morning duties' meaning his invigilation work. It contained the sealed question paper, envelope, a yellow invigilation form, special authentication card etc.

Question 7.

What did the Detective Superintendent inform the Governor about Evans? (Delhi 2012)

Answer:

The Detective Superintendent informed the Governor that McLeery had spotted Evans driving off along Elsfield way. They had got the number of the car alright and had given a chase immediately but had lost him at the Headington roundabout. He assumed that Evans must have doubled back into the city.

Question 8.

How did the Governor find out where Evans was? (Comptt. All India 2012)

Answer:

When the Governor finally realised that it was Evans who had gone out with Carter and that he was impersonating McLeery, he thought about the six digit reference number and after putting the two numbers, the index and the centre number together and with the help of the 'Ordinance Survey Map for Oxfordshire' the Governor reached the hotel to find Evans.

Question 9.

What did the Governor tell the Secretary of the Examination Board about Evans? (Comptt. Delhi 2013)

Answer:

The Governor tells the Secretary of the Examination Board that Evans was quite a pleasant sort of person. He was one of the stars at the Christmas concert due to his ability to imitate well-known persons but he was also a congenital kleptomaniac.

Question 10.

How do we know that Evans had no chance of getting through the O-level German examination? Why did he take the test? (Comptt. Delhi 2013)

Answer:

Evans did not have any chance of getting through the O-level German examination as he was not capable of understanding even a simple German expression of "Guten Gluck" (Good Luck). He was taking the test in an attempt to plan his escape from prison.

Question 11.

What reason did Evans give to keep his hat on his head? What was the actual reason? (Comptt. All India 2013)

Answer:

The reason Evans gives for keeping his hat on his head is that it had always brought him good luck. The actual reason was that since he had clipped his hair short to pass off as Mcleery later, he needed to keep his hat on to avoid being detected.

Question 12.

On the day of the examination, with what excuse did Evans keep Stephens out of his cell? What was the actual reason? (Comptt. All India 2013)

Answer:

Evans says he was unable to concentrate on his exam with Stephens literally breathing down his neck. So he wanted Stephens to be out of his cell. But the actual reason was that Evans wanted to execute his escape plan and Stephens' presence there would be a big hindrance for him.

Question 13.

What kind of person was Evans? Why did he want to sit for O-level German examination? (Comptt. Delhi 2014)

Answer:

Evans is a rather quiet and non-violent person. He has a great presence of mind and is admired for his quick-witted intelligence. He wanted to sit for the O-Level German examination because he was very keen to improve his academic qualification.

Question 14.

What precautions were taken by the prison authorities for the smooth conduct of the examination? (Comptt. All India 2014)

Answer:

The prison staff and the Governor took all the necessary precautions to ensure a smooth conduct of Evan's examination. The Governor personally supervised all the security arrangements. Evan's cell was thoroughly checked by Jackson to ward off the possibility of any incriminating material. Evans' nail- scissors, nail file and razor were taken away. A police officer Stephens was posted to keep a constant vigil on his activities. Mr. McLeery, a parson, was to invigilate. The invigilator too was frisked to make sure that he carried no objectionable material with him.

Question 15.

What could the Governor have done to securely bring Evans back to the prison from the 'Golden Lion'? (Delhi 2015)

Answer:

The Governor should not have let Evans go with the driver of the prison van because the moment they are away from the Governor, the so-called prison officer, a friend of Evans, unlocked Evans' handcuffs and tells the driver to move fast thus making Evans have the last laugh. The Governor should have travelled himself in the van with Evans and also had the credentials of the guards escorting Evans to the prison checked properly.

Question 16.

According to the Governor, what kind of person was Evans? (Delhi 2015)

Answer:

According to the Governor, Evans was quite a pleasant person with no record of violence. He was in fact one of the stars at the Christmas concert as he was good at imitations. The Governor thought of him merely as a congenital kleptomaniac.

Question 17.

Which important call did the governor receive when the examination was going on? (Comptt. Delhi 2015)

Answer:

The first call the Governor received was from the University regarding a correction slip which was not sent with the question paper. The second call was supposedly from the Magistrate's office requesting for a van and two prison officers.

Question 18.

How did the Governor, Oxford Prison describe Evans to the Secretary Examination Board? (All India 2016)

Answer:

The Governor tells the Secretary of the Examination Board that Evans was quite a pleasant sort of person. He was one of the stars at the Christmas concert due to his ability to imitate well-known persons but he was also a congenital kleptomaniac.

Question 19.

What was his German teacher's opinion of Evans' proficiency in German? (All India 2016)

Answer:

Evans' German teacher had a very low opinion of his (Evans') proficiency in German. Evans could not even understand basic pleasantries in German. He was very sure that Evans did not have 'a cat in a hell's chance' of getting through the O-level German examination.

Question 20.

How did McLeery misguide the police officials? (Comptt. All India 2016)

Answer:

Evans' friend came disguised as Mcleery. He came inside the prison wearing two costumes, two beards and had two spectacles. He brought in blood with him in a rubber tube in the guise of having a problem of haemorrhoids (piles). He used the roll number and the enrolment number as codes to inform Evans where he had to escape to.

### **Evans Tries an O-level Important Questions Long Answer Type Questions (5-6 Marks)**

Question 21.

How did the question paper and the correction slip help the prisoner and the Governor? (Delhi 2010)

Answer:

McLeery showed a photocopied sheet to the Governor which had been cleverly superimposed on the last page of the German question paper. The Governor decoded it for Newsbury and by putting together the six figure reference, the index and centre number 313/271 and with the help of the 'Ordinance Survey Map of Oxfordshire' he was able to locate Evans in the middle of Chipping Norton. The correction slip provided him with the name of the hotel, 'The Golden Lion' where Evans was staying. So Evans was beaten in his own game as he left clues which aided in his arrest. He made things easier as he left the question paper behind in the cell. The clues the Governor got from it were sufficient to help him locate Evans.

Question 22.

What precautions were taken by the prison authorities to ensure that the German exam was conducted smoothly and also under strict security? (Delhi 2011)

Answer:

To ensure that the German exam was conducted smoothly and also under strict security Evans' razor and nail scissors were removed from the cell. The Reverend Stuart McLeery who was the invigilator was frisked on arrival. Police officer Stephens was deputed inside the cell. All the prison officials were also put on high alert. There were two locked doors between Evans' cell and the yard. A microphone was installed in the cell as a precautionary measure through which the warden could listen to their talk by switching on the receiver. The senior prison officer, Jackson and officer Stephens had worked round the clock and made full-proof arrangements and taken all the necessary precautions to ensure that the exam was conducted smoothly.

Question 23.

How was 'injured' McLeery able to befool the prison officers? (All India 2012)

Answer:

The prison authorities did not verify McLeery's true identity. A fake McLeery impersonated the real McLeery, who had been bound and gagged in his study. McLeery did not go out of prison but stayed inside the cell. Jackson received a call from the Governor that Stephens was to accompany McLeery to the main prison gates. As Stephens peeped into the hole to Evan's cell, he was horrified to see the 'injured' McLeery there. The 'injured' McLeery claimed to know where Evans was. He showed more interest in the arrival of the police than the ambulance. He drew the attention of the Governor to the German text on the photocopied sheet about 'Elsfield way to Headington roundabout.' When the police arrived before the Governor could say anything, he told the officer to go to Elsfield way. He pretended to guide the authorities to help them track Evans. The 'injured' McLeery who was actually Evans, claimed to have seen Evans driving off Elsfield way. When they reached the Examination Board, he grogged and the police called for an ambulance and left him there. In this way the actual Evans escaped. Thus, actually the police was after runaway Evans while the real Evans left the prison cell with the police as the only witness. In this way 'real' Evans, disguised as 'injured' McLeery was able to befool the prison officers.

Question 24.

In spite of the precautions taken by the Governor, Evans was able to escape. How do you

think he was able to do it? (All India 2012)

Answer:

Evans, the habitual jail-breaker outwits every-one and in spite of all the precautions taken by the Governor he is able to escape from prison. From the very beginning when the German teacher enters the prison to the last encounter between the Governor and Evans in the hotel, the latter outsmarts them at each stage and proves that they are no match for his crafty scheming. Evans carries out all his plans 'right under their noses', turning the tables on them, making the prison authorities appear as 'good for nothing' officers. He knew that Mr. Jackson who used a rough tone had some compassion in him. He granted Evans' request to keep the filthy looking red and white bobble hat on his head during the examination. The hat was actually to hide his recently cropped hair. Also he knew that prison officers will blindly go by assumption. He pretended to pose as 'injured' McLeery in the cell. No one checked the identity of 'injured' McLeery as it was assumed that Evans had hit McLeery and escaped. In fact, Evans is actually, officially escorted out of jail by the prison officials themselves. Finally at the hotel, when the Governor feels that he has been able to nab Evans, he dodges him and slips away.

Question 25.

What purpose did the question paper and the correction slip serve? How did they help both the criminals and the Governor? (All India 2012)

Answer:

Mc Leery showed a photocopied sheet to the Governor which had been cleverly superimposed on the last page of the German question paper. The Governor decoded it for Newsbury and by putting together the six figure reference, the index and centre number 313/271 and with the help of the 'Ordinance Survey Map of Oxfordshire' he was able to locate Evans in the middle of Chipping Norton. The correction slip provided him with the name of the hotel, 'The Golden Lion' where Evans was staying. So Evans was beaten in his own game as he left clues which aided in his arrest. He made things easier as he left the question paper behind in the cell. The clues the Governor got from it were sufficient to help him locate Evans.

Question 26.

Give a character-sketch of the Governor of Oxford Prison based on your understanding of the story, 'Evans Tries an O-level'. (All India 2013)

Answer:

The Governor of HM Prison, Oxford, despite being an extra cautious man, is actually quite gullible and he, quite unfortunately, overestimates himself. His judgement of people is rather poor. Due to his average intelligence he is not able to comprehend and understand Evans' shrewdness. He ignores vital matters that require his personal attention. Searching McLeery and escorting the wounded Mcleery needed his personal supervision but he neglected these. He became rather casual at the critical times and fails to grasp the complexity of the situation. However, he does reveal a mark of intelligence when he locates the hotel where Evans is hiding on the basis of the correction slip. But then again he ignores the vital issues and finally is unable to capture Evans.

Question 27.

Describe the precautions taken by the prison officers to prevent Evans from escaping. (Delhi 2014)

Answer:

All possible precautions are taken by the prison officers to prevent Evans from escaping. Evans' razor and nail scissors are removed from the cell. Mc Leery, the invigilator was frisked on arrival. Police officer, Stephens, was deputed on duty inside the cell. All the prison officials were put on high alert. There were two locked doors between Evans' cell and the yard. A microphone was installed in the cell as a precautionary measure through which the warden could listen to their talk by switching on the receiver. The senior prison officer, Jackson and officer Stephens had worked round the clock and made fool-proof arrangements and taken all necessary precautions to ensure that the exam was conducted smoothly.

Question 28.

It was sheer negligence on the part of the prison staff that helped Evans to escape.

Comment. (Comptt. Delhi 2015)

Answer:

The very fact that Evans was known as 'Evans the Break' the prison staff should have been more vigilant. Evans manages to fool them at every step. The negligence that the prison staff displays is evident from the very beginning when they fail to realize that the German teacher was Evans' accomplice. Then Stephen allows him to wear the hat which conceals his cropped hair. McLeery's identity is not checked and neither are the phone calls verified. The prison staff could not even identify Evans when he impersonated McLeery. Later the Governor realizes his mistake and shows his efficiency when he catches Evans red-handed but soon he proves to be a good-for-a-giggle Governor when he allows Evans to escape in the prison van driven by Evans' friend.

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Question 29.

Describe three tricks used by Evans to escape from the prison. (Comptt. Delhi 2017)

Answer:



Evans was a master planner and was called “Evans the Break” by the prison officers as he was a habitual jail breaker. To implement his plan to escape from prison this time he brought in a duplicate, McLeery to invigilate during the O-level German examination that he was appearing for in the jail premises. Later when the duplicate McLeery escapes, posing as Evans, the real Evans pretends to be wounded and tells the prison officials he can help to locate Evans who has escaped. Everyone thinks Evans had escaped after hitting McLeery. Then McLeery, who is actually Evans, demands to be taken in a police van to follow Evans. He even shows the cleverly superimposed photocopied sheet on the question paper that was supposed to give the details of Evan’s escape plan. The scheming Evans carries out all his plans right under the noses of the prison officials, outwitting them at every step and finally has the last laugh.