



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of submission: October -2020
Worksheet No:	Topic: A nation's strength	Note: To be done in English notebook

A1. Answer these questions:

1. What are the things that, according to the poet, do not make a nation strong?

Ans. According to the poet- Not gold, nor the sword, nor pride make a nation strong.

2. What do a nation's foes do?

Ans. A nation's foes are the enemies of the nation that surround it.

3. What can happen to a nation's pride?

Ans. A nation's pride can quickly lose its sheen if God so wills it. An act of nature can destroy monuments, towns and places of natural beauty.

4. What are the qualities that make a nation strong?

Ans. The people who can stand by truth and honesty and who can suffer long for these great virtues can make their country great and strong. In other words, determined people with the right attitude make a nation strong.

5. State the rhyme scheme used in the poem.

Ans. The rhyme scheme used in the poem is *abab* where alternate lines rhyme.

A2. Answer these questions with reference to the context:

1. Its shafts are laid on sinking sand,
Not on abiding rock

a. What happens if a shaft is put on sand?

Ans a. A shaft put on sand will sink into the sand.

b. What is the result of a shaft being laid on rock?

Ans b. A shaft that is laid on rock is steady.

c. What is the shaft a symbol of in these lines?

Ans c. The shaft is a symbol of the foundation stones of the nation.

2. The blood has turned their stones to rust,
Their glory to decay.

a. Whose blood does the line refer to?

Ans a. The line refers to the blood of empires from ancient times.

b. What does the phrase 'turned their stones to rust' refer to?

Ans b. The phrase 'turned their stones to rust' refers to the reddish tinge of the stones where blood has been spilt.

c. Whose 'glory' has diminished?

Ans c. The empire's glory has diminished.

3. They build a nation's pillars deep
And lift them to the sky.

a. Who is 'they' in the above line?

Ans a. The 'they' in the line are the people of the nation.

a. How are the nation's pillars built deep?

Ans b. A nation's pillars are built deep by the people who work hard, suffer and who dare to do things that make others run away.

c. How are a nation's pillars lifted to the sky?

Ans c. A nation's pillars are lifted to the sky because they have deep foundations built on the solid ground of bravery and honor.

A3. Think and answer:

1. Who are the real enemies of a nation? Do these enemies reside in a country or outside?

Ans1. The real enemies of a nation are people who run away from danger, don't defend the country or work hard. These real enemies reside within the country.

2. Why are wealth, pride and war not enough to make a country strong?

Ans2. Wealth, pride and war are not enough to make a country strong because it is people, determined people with the right attitude who make a country strong.

3. What is the poet's definition of bravery?

Ans3. The poet's definition of bravery is people who work while others sleep and who dare to do things that would have other people run away.

4. 'Pride goeth before a fall' is a well-known proverb. Explain what it means.

Ans4. The proverb 'Pride goeth before a fall' means that a person who is overly proud is invariably brought down by fate so that he/she remembers to be humble.

5. A man succeeds in life only because of character and not because of wealth and possessions.

Ans5. Self-work
