



## INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Department: ENGLISH

Class: IX

Topic: My Childhood  
QUESTION BANK

2021-22

### I. Answer these questions in one or two sentences each.

1. Where was Abdul Kalam's house?
2. What do you think Dinamani is the name of? Give a reason for your answer.
3. Who were Abdul Kalam's school friends? What did they later become?
4. How did Abdul Kalam earn his first wages?
5. Had he earned any money before that? In what way?

### II. Answer each of these questions in a short paragraph (about 30 words).

1. How does the author describe: (i) his father, (ii) his mother, (iii) himself?
2. What characteristics does he say he inherited from his parents?
3. Why did Abdul Kalam want to leave Rameshwaram?
4. What did his father say to this?
5. What do you think his words mean? Why do you think he spoke those words?
6. Why did A.P.J Abdul Kalam call his childhood a secure childhood?
7. What was the difference in the attitude of the science teacher and his wife towards A.P.J Abdul Kalam?
8. How did Abdul come to know about the progress of the World War?
9. Describe Abdul's house in Rameshwaram.

### III. Discuss these questions in class with your teacher and then write down your answers in two or three paragraphs each.

- 1) *"On the whole, the small society of Rameswaram was very rigid in terms of the segregation of different social groups," says the author.*
  - a) Which social groups does he mention? Were these groups easily identifiable (for example, by the way they dressed)?
  - b) Were they aware only of their differences or did they also naturally share friendships and experiences? (Think of the bedtime stories in Kalam's house; of who his friends were; and of what used to take place in the pond near his house.)

- c) The author speaks both of people who were very aware of the differences among them and those who tried to bridge these differences. Can you identify such people in the text?
- d) Narrate two incidents that show how differences can be created, and also how they can be resolved. How can people change their attitudes?

2) *One day, he invited me to his home for a meal. His wife was horrified at the idea of a Muslim boy being invited to dine in her ritually pure kitchen. She refused to serve me in her kitchen. Sivasubramania Iyer was not perturbed, nor did he get angry with his wife, but instead, served me with his own hands and sat down beside me to eat his meal.*

- a) Why did Iyer's wife refused to serve the meal to her guest?
- b) Who, in fact, is the 'Muslim boy' in the above extract?
- c) Who is 'he' and 'me' in the first sentence?
- d) Why was Iyer's wife horrified?

3) *After school, we went home and told our respective parents about the incident. Lakshmana Sastry summoned the teacher and, in our presence, told the teacher that he should not spread the poison of social inequality and communal intolerance in the minds of innocent children. He bluntly asked the teacher to either apologize or quit the school and the island. Not only did the teacher reject his behavior but the strong sense of conviction Lakshmana Sastry conveyed ultimately reformed this young teacher.*

- a) What was the incident that the children narrated to their parents?
- b) What did Lakshmana Sastry tell the teacher?
- c) What does the word 'conviction' from the above lines mean?
- d) How was the young teacher reformed?

#### **IV. Answer the following questions in 100-120 words**

- a) What kind of emotions and feelings arise in Abdul Kalam's heart when he recalls earning for the first time?
- b) 'Once you decide to change the system, such problems have to be confronted.' What system is being referred in the sentence from the chapter 'My Childhood'? What are such problems?