1 Which story do these sentences come from? 
Carapace, The Inspector of Schools, The Intelligence of Wild Things, The Kite-maker, The Stepmother, The Night Train at Deoli, A Devoted Son, Missiya, the Wild One, For a Horseshoe Nail 

a It was shaped like a dove, and its beak held the olive branch of peace. .......... 
b Varma was now eating so little that he soon became really weak and ill. .......... 
c He wouldn’t let things slip if just a few words could solve the problem. .......... 
d And a week later, here I was, back home, without one of my kidneys. .......... 
e I had to pull my hand away from the girl and run for the moving train. .......... 
f I knew why some women hated her and cursed her. .......... 
g A small word of love, like a magic jewel from one of my mother’s stories. .......... 
h He then decided to leave and open his own clinic. .......... 
i ‘You help the workman repair the cupboard, and I’ll pay half the cost.’ .......... 
j The Master stood up, his feet searching for his shoes in the dusty earth. .......... 

20 marks

2 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? 
a T The girl at Deoli station was selling baskets. 
b F Raju was planning to start a bicycle shop with some of the thirty thousand rupees. 
c T The Inspector of Schools gave the Master a piece of land for his school. 
d F Tarun wanted to go to college in America. 
e T Missiya wanted to be like other village girls. 
f T Vijay likes nothing better than to cook his prawns in front of the ocean. 
g F Lakshman had been saving for a car for some time. 
h F Missiya wanted to be like other village girls. 
i F Rakesh married a girl his mother had chosen for him. 
j F Tarun wanted his mother to come and live with him in Vermont. 

20 marks

3 Fill in the gaps using these words: bundle, prawns, fuss, border, respected 

a Lakshman did not like all the ........... and bother about the baby. 
b Zaheera’s grandfather’s house was on the other side of the .......... 
c It was such a tiny ..........., a helpless little thing, killed by its own mother. 
d All the neighbours .......... Rakesh for his fine qualities. 
e Vijay had a bowl full of enormous .......... on his knees. 

20 marks

4 Match the beginning of the sentence with the correct ending. 

1 The moment their son saw the kite, 
2 It was so cold in Vermont, 
3 As the train entered the station, 
4 I felt he was seeing me out at sea, 
5 I was frightened by the huge hospital, 
a I looked out for the girl with the baskets. 
b floating across the ocean. 
c he began talking about his village. 
d and anxious about the operation. 
e Tarun felt he was slowly freezing. 

20 marks

5 Who said this? Who did they say it to? Varma, Lakshman, Valli, the Master, Rasool, the stepmother, the Inspector, Rakesh, Zaheera, Raju 

a ‘I’ve brought you some new medicine.’ ............ to .......... 
b ‘Velu has brought his body back.’ ............ to .......... 
c ‘Punish you? Oh, no.’ ............ to .......... 
d ‘It’s gone, just like our son.’ ............ to .......... 
e ‘How many classes do you have here?’ ............ to .......... 

20 marks

Total marks
Setting

Choose the best answer.

1. Rasool and Zaheera’s village had been almost destroyed by _____.
   a. the wind  b. riots  c. doves  d. prayers
2. Rakesh’s parents lived in a small house in a poor suburb, where rubbish lay about in _____.
   a. smelly piles  b. America  c. neat gardens  d. town
3. The women of the village _____ Missiya but the men came to her by night.
   a. understood  b. missed  c. followed  d. hated
4. Lakshman’s father had said his stepmother would _____ him.
   a. hit  b. scream at  c. look after  d. punish
5. Taking kidneys was good business for the hospital and the _____ from the village needed the money.
   a. men  b. shops  c. babies  d. doctors
6. The villagers don’t want _____ in the village because they think the children should be in the fields.
   a. cattle  b. the Inspector of Schools  c. students  d. a school
7. Tarun and his sister were living in America, but their mother was dying in _____.
8. His parents had never been to school, but Rakesh became famous and _____.
   a. proud  b. envious  c. wealthy  d. excellent
9. The girl lived _____ but she had always dreamed of something different.
   a. in a beach hut  b. near the beach  c. in Singapore  d. at Toni’s
10. The train stopped at Deoli for only ten minutes before _____.
    a. rushing on into the forests  b. waiting on the platform  c. visiting my grandmother  d. selling baskets

Characters

Choose the best answer.

11. Rasool made the _____ kite he had ever made for the yearly kite-flying festival.
    a. lost  b. finest  c. strongest  d. weaker

Dialogue

Who said this?

21. ‘Why do you keep moving your school? Isn’t there a room you could hire?’
   a. the Master  b. the Inspector of Schools  c. a student  d. the villager
22. ‘When there’s so much hate, do you think people will fly kites?’
   a. Zaheera  b. Rasool  c. the son  d. a man in uniform
23. ‘Look after me? He – he does not even give me enough to eat.’
Choose the best answer.

31 very great anger
   a □ fuss b □ fury c □ boldness d □ respect
32 to move lazily along with no particular purpose
   a □ bow b □ nod c □ waste d □ drift
33 liquid that appears on the skin when you are hot
   a □ shell b □ spit c □ sweat d □ vein
34 bad, causing trouble or harming people
   a □ plump b □ evil c □ bare d □ bloody
35 to move your head up and down in agreement
   a □ curse b □ sigh c □ nod d □ wipe
36 a small hospital
   a □ clinic b □ compartment c □ department d □ hut
37 a large piece of cloth worn by a woman over her shoulders
   a □ pillow b □ pyjamas c □ sari d □ shawl
38 the feeling of wanting something that someone else has
   a □ envy b □ respect c □ fuss d □ boldness
39 a fixed instruction that must be obeyed
   a □ rule b □ right c □ respect d □ riot
40 to sit on your heels with your knees close to your body
   a □ suck b □ sigh c □ squat d □ spit

Plot

Choose the best answer.

41 Tarun left Calcutta to _____.
   a □ see his mother b □ get to know his sister
c □ go to college in America d □ have a marriage arranged
42 No father would accept it, so Missiya _____ the baby and hid it in the hay.
   a □ cursed b □ killed c □ noticed d □ held
43 The Master kept _____ because no one provided them with a room.
   a □ moving the school b □ having fun
c □ walking away d □ talking to the Inspector
44 The boy was deeply _____ because the girl was not on the platform at Deoli.
   a □ pleased b □ disappointed c □ excited
d □ anxious
45 When Lakshman broke the doors of the almirah, his stepmother looked at him _____.
   a □ slowly b □ loudly c □ wildly d □ calmly
46 Muthu, _____ went with Raju to give one of his kidneys, died in Bangalore.
   a □ why b □ who c □ now d □ sometimes
47 Zaheera had lost her enthusiasm for life because her son had _____.
   a □ stayed up late b □ been very ill
c □ made a kite d □ disappeared
48 The sharash had flown all the way from Bengal, to bring Tarun’s sister _____.
   a □ a message b □ a magic jewel c □ the sun
d □ the old stories
49 Anura Perera was interested in the girl, but she wanted to know what Vijay really _____ her.
   a □ asked b □ persuaded c □ felt for
d □ cooked for
50 The old man fell ill so often that even Rakesh no longer knew whether he was ill, or _____.
   a □ just pretending b □ lying absolutely still
c □ spitting betel juice at them d □ sitting up