



RAMAGYA SCHOOL, NOIDA

XI / ENGLISH / 2017-18

OLYMPIAD PRACTICE WORKSHEET

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCES

What is a classical dance? A dance which is created or choreographed and performed according to the tenets of the NatyaShastra is called a classical dance. The two broad aspects of classical dancing are the tandava and the lasya. Power and force are typical of the tandava; grace and delicacy, of the lasya. Tandava is associated with Shiva, and lasya with Parvati. Dance which is pure movement is called nritya, and dance which is interpretative in nature is called nritya. A dancer in the classical tradition has to have years of training before he or she can begin to perform on the stage. What are the main schools of classical dancing? The four main schools of classical dancing in India are: BharataNatyam, Kathakali, Manipuri, KathakBharataNatyam is the oldest and most popular dance-form of India. Earlier, it was known by various names. Some called it Bharatam, some Natyam some DesiAttam and some Sadir. The districts of Tanjore and Kanchipuram of Tamil Nadu were the focal points in the development of BharataNatyam. It was danced as a solo performance by devadasis (temple dancers) on all auspicious occasions. Later, kings and rich people lent their patronage to it and it started shedding its purely sacred character. The dancer is directed by the natuvanar, who is a musician and, invariably, a teacher. Another musician plays the cymbals. The music for BharataNatyam is the Carnatic School of music. The mridangam (a drum), played on both sides with the hands, provides the rhythm. The home of Kathakali is Kerala. Kathakali literally means 'story-play'. It combines music, dance, poetry, drama and mime. Its present form has evolved out of older forms such as Ramanattam and Krishnanattam. Kathakali dance-dramas last from dusk to dawn. The artistes use elaborate costumes; masklike make-up and towering head-dresses. The dancers are all males. Female roles are usually played by boys. There is no stage - a few mats are spread on the ground for the audience to sit on. The only 'stage-lighting' is a brass lamp fed with coconut oil. . Two singers provide the vocal music. The chenda, a large drum, which is beaten on one side with two slender curved sticks, is an integral part of the Kathakali performance. A metal gong, a pair of cymbals and another drum complete the orchestra. Besides providing the beat, they are also the means by which all the sound-effects are created. Manipur, in the north-east is the home of Manipuri. It has evolved out of the folk dances of the land, which are religious in nature. Lai Haroba is the oldest dance-drama of Manipur and is based on folk-lore and mythology. But Ras Leela is the most popular one. It tells of the legendary love of Radha and Krishna. In the Manipuri style of dancing, the accent is on grace and softness. The women's costumes are extremely picturesque. Besides the singers, the khol, the manjira and the flute also accompany the dancers. Kathak has its home in north India. 'Kathak' means 'story-teller'. In ancient times, the storyteller used gestures and movements while narrating the great epics. In course of time it became an elaborate art, rich in beautiful movements and facial expressions. Later, under the Persian influence, the original dance form underwent many changes, gradually losing its religious and moral character. It became a court dance. Both men and women danced. With the passing of years, the Kathak performance was reduced to being an evening's entertainment, and the girls, who danced, were no more than pretty entertainers. Kathak, however, was revived under the patronage of the rulers of Lucknow and Jaipur, and this gave rise to two styles known as the Lucknow gharana and the Jaipur gharana. Gharana means 'house' or 'school'. In Kathak, the accent is on footwork. A dancer wears anklets with several rows of bells and skillfully regulates their sound, sometimes sounding just one bell out of the many on his feet. The singer who accompanies the Kathak dancer not only sings,

but reproduces the drum syllables also. The sarangi, a string instrument, provides the music at a Kathak performance. SwarnKhandpur

1. What is the NatyaShastra?

- a. Scientific study of a classical dance
- b. Science of dances
- c. A book written by a sage
- d. A book which deals with a drama

2. Choose the appropriate meaning of the phrase- 'The four main schools of classical dancing in India'.

- a. Places where children are taught
- b. Training centers for artists
- c. Groups of artists having a similar style.
- d. Schools that are purely for dance

3. When did BharataNatyam start shedding its purely sacred character?

- a. When Devadasis stopped dancing
- b. When danced as a solo performance
- c. When kings & rich patronised it
- d. When they used Carnatic music

4. In which drama form are the dancers all males?

- a. Bharat Natyam
- b. Manipuri
- c. Kathak
- d. Kathakal

5. Which dance form has its origin in folk dance?

- a. Ras Leela
- b. Lai Haroba
- c. Manipuri
- d. Kathak

6. In Kathak, the accent is.....

- a. On the basis of dancer's anklets
- b. On sound created by bells
- c. On the regulation of sound
- d. On footwork

For the questions 7-10, choose the most suitable synonym for the given word.

7. Remote

- a. automatic
- b. distant
- c. savage
- d. mean

8. Detest

- a. argue b. hate c. discover d. reveal

9. Gracious

- a. pretty b. clever c. pleasant d. present

10. Predict

- a. foretell b. decide c. prevent d. discover

For the questions 11-14, choose the most suitable antonym for the given word.

11. Withdraw

- a. reduce b. need c. advance d. want

12. Secret

- a. friendly b. covert c. hidden d. overt

13. Heartfelt

- a. loving b. insincere c. unhealthy d. humorous

14. Impartial

- a. hostile b. biased c. dislike d. worried

For the questions 15 to 17 choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

15. I hate ...

- a. Sitting in long meetings b. At sitting in long meetings
c. Sit in long meetings d. To sitting in long meetings

16. I am not very good ...

- a. To managing my time b. Managing my time
c. At managing my time d. Manage my time

17. I'm good ...

- a. Solve other people's problems b. At solve other people's problems.
c. Solving other people's problems d. At solving other people's problems

For the questions 18 to 20 choose the correct meaning of idioms and proverbs.

18. All in all

- a. Every person b. Particular thing same in all c. Call all at once d. Most important

19. To have an axe to grind

- a. A private end to serve b. To fail to arouse interest
c. To have no result d. To work for both sides

20. To drive home

- a. To find one's roots b. To return to place of rest
c. Back to original position d. To emphasis