

AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BOARD

SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

CLASS IX

ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS (THEORY) 2023

English Compulsory Paper I

Listening Passage I

Chuchu

The object that I have felt the most affection for ever in my life was my first dog. I still remember the day when my dad bought me a puppy Chihuahua for my birthday. It was instant love the very moment I looked into his watery eyes. My father warned me that this was a big responsibility for me and that I should be very careful if I was to keep this dog. He told me that I would need to work very hard at keeping this dog as it was a living being and it would need a lot of my attention. From that day on, I focused all my energies on my little dog that I named Chuchu. It became my best friend and I grew extremely attached to it.

Being with Chuchu taught me many things about life and emotions. Before having this dog, I never had any feelings of responsibility. I always thought that my actions would never be able to affect anyone on such a large magnitude. As I got more attached to it, I started realising many things about myself and my feelings that I had never experienced before. I started to worry about my dog. I would start feeling very anxious if he ever remained out of my sight for long and I could not find him. I also started keeping a strict check on him in order to feed him at the proper time and to take him to the vet and pet store for his medication and grooming.

The biggest blow that came to me was when my Chuchu finally passed away and went to 'dog heaven'. It was a very sad day for me, even though we had all been predicting his death due to old age. Chuchu has been the best thing that ever happened to me and his presence and absence after his death; thereof, has given me a completely new perspective on life. I have now begun to see how temporary our lives are in this world and how all of us are simply passing through this life towards our ultimate destination.

Source: Taken from www.tailoredessays.com

Listening Passage II

Importance of Patience in Life

The importance of patience should be realised by every individual. Patience in life can make them reach out for the stars. With patience you can avoid making hasty decisions. Life is not about living in the future or in the past. Life is about accepting the present moment.

Whenever you are in any sort of trouble, people often advise you to have patience. Why, instead of advising you about the solution, do they ask you to stay calm and composed and be patient?

In the modern age, most of us have forgotten to be patient and get irritated very quickly over minor things like a traffic jam, stock market ups and downs, a baby crying and such things. In fact, patience is a virtue that everybody must possess. Patience makes us better people.

Sometimes, in our relationships, we become defensive, irritated and say something to hurt others. We do not realise the importance of patience. Whenever you feel defensive against the person, try to be patient enough to take time to think over another person's positive qualities.

Building empathy towards others is very important if you want to live a hassle-free life. If you get irritated by a crying baby or a loud child playing in front of you, you must think about developing your patience.

It helps us accept other people as they are and makes us tolerant. By being impatient, you suffer more than other people.

If things are not going the way you want them to, instead of getting frustrated, you must learn to be patient. You need to see things and situations in a positive light to make your life happier. And to get that positivity, you need to be patient. If you find any life situation challenging, or find it difficult to bear, try to re-frame that situation and try to see its positive side.

You can be patient if you have clear knowledge about your goal and if you are putting the desired effort in the right direction. There are many ways of achieving anything. The trick is to stick to your own plan when others around you seem to be getting ahead much faster than you. Yes, they may be enjoying more success than you, but you know nothing about where they are ultimately headed.

Patience is an important tool in overcoming frustration. It allows us to suspend judgment long enough to make informed decisions, thus paving the path to a happy and peaceful life.

Source: Taken from the article, '*Importance of Patience in Life*' by Vandana Singhal