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Comprehension passage exercise for IBPS PO pre, IBPS clerk, SBI PO pre and SBI clerk exams

PASSAGE NO. 105

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

In all the land, no one was better with a bow and arrow than Robin Hood. He lived with his band of Merry Men in Sherwood Forest. That was the woods where the King kept his royal deer.

A few years before, King Richard had ruled the land. King Richard let people who were poor come into Sherwood Forest. They could hunt the deer to get food for their families. But the time had come for King Richard and his army to leave England. As soon as he was gone, his younger brother John took over the throne. Bad King John did not want anyone to come into Sherwood Forest anymore to hunt the royal deer. From then on, anyone who was seen hunting the King's deer in Sherwood Forest would be hanged!

Robin Hood did not like that one bit. He moved into Sherwood Forest. Dressed in green from his cap to his boots, the trees of Sherwood Forest could hide him as he hunted the King's deer. Sometimes other brave men came into Sherwood Forest. One by one they joined Robin Hood, and became his Merry Men.

Robin Hood and his Merry Men would hide when rich nobles and dukes passed through the woods. Then all at once, they would jump out and rob those rich men. And Robin Hood would give the money to the poor.

The rich men who were robbed were not happy about it. They went to the King. They told Bad King John what was going on in Sherwood Forest. They said, "Something must be done about this!" The King put the Sheriff of

Nottingham in charge of Sherwood Forest. It would be his job to catch Robin Hood - once and for all!

But the man in green was too quick. His Merry Men would warn Robin Hood each time they saw the Sheriff of Nottingham or one of his guards in the woods.

So the Sheriff came up with a new plan. "I will call for a great contest," he said, "to find out who is the best in the land with a bow and arrow. The winner will go home with a Golden Arrow." The Sheriff said in a low voice, "If I know Robin Hood, he will not be able to stay away from such a contest. And when he comes, we will catch him!"

"Robin Hood, don't go to the contest!" said Little John. Of all the Merry Men, Robin Hood trusted Little John the most. "It is a trap!" he said. "When they see you, they will get you." Robin Hood said nothing. He wanted to go.

On the day of the contest, ten fine bowmen lined up. The round target was so far away it was hard to see its black and red circles. One by one, each young man shot his best arrow. Some of the arrows landed on the target. None came close to the center.

The Sheriff turned to one of his guards. "Do you see him? Is he here?"

"No, Sir. Robin Hood has red hair. None of the ones who are shooting has red hair."

"That wimp!" said the Sheriff. "He fears me! That is why he stayed away."

Two bowmen were left. The first was William, the Sheriff's man. With care, William, took aim. His arrow landed at the very center of the target - a bull's eye! The crowd cheered for William.

It was time for the last bowman. His arrow sailed through the air, too. It landed right through the bull's eye arrow, cutting it in half! In a flash, the

bowman let go of two more arrows. Each one flew to where the Sheriff sat, pinning him to his seat, one arrow on each side.

The Sheriff did not know what was going on! Then the man in green pulled off a black wig and threw it on the ground.

“Get him, you fools!” shouted the Sheriff. “It's Robin Hood!”

But our hero jumped over the wall to a horse waiting for him. He was gone! Robin Hood had escaped!



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QUESTIONS:

1. Which among the following is /are correct regarding Robin Hood, as described in the passage?

I. Robin Hood is very good with bow and arrow but he is better with guns.

II. Robin Hood used to live with his own family members and no outsider was allowed in their house.

III. Robin Hood was a government servant who used to serve the government whenever required by the King.

A. Both I and II

B. Both II and III

C. Only II

D. Both I and III

E. None of I, II and III

2. What happened to Robin Hood ultimately, as per the information given in the passage?

A. Robin Hood was caught by the King's Men and he was put to death as per the orders of the King.

B. Robin Hood escaped and the King's Men could not catch him despite their best efforts to arrest him.

C. The King's Men could not understand what to do as Robin Hood offered them a lucrative deal to join him and leave the government job.

D. The King's Men were overpowered by the Robin Hood army and all of them were killed brutally.

E. None of the above

3. What convinced the King's Men that Robin Hood had not come to take part in the competition organized by the King?

- A. Robin Hood used to come with his army of Green Men but there was no such indication in the competition.
- B. The Sheriff's Men wanted to show that they were at the job all the time without even checking the presence of Robin Hood in the competition.
- C. The Sheriff was so impressed with his men that he did not check the veracity of the information given by them.
- D. The Sheriff's Men was convinced that Robin Hood would come in his normal self and they could not locate anybody like that.
- E. None of the above

4. Which among the following statements can be considered as correct regarding William, as described in the passage?

- A. William was one of the King's Men who were keeping an eye on Robin Hood but he also took part in the bow and arrow competition.
- B. William did not appear in the competition despite giving his name for that since he knew that he would lose to Robin Hood.
- C. William was a very good archer but he was not in the same class as Robin Hood.
- D. William was a part of the Army of Robin Hood though he could not make it to the competition along with other members of the army.
- E. None of the above

5. Which among the following is correct regarding the rule of King Richard in England, as described in the passage?

- A. King Richard was so bad that he did not want anyone to come to his palace with their problems and he only wanted to be involved in music and dance.

B. King Richard was very considerate towards the poor and he used to think about them a lot.

C. King Richard was not the actual King of England and that is why he had to leave the country after certain years.

D. King Richard could not understand the significance of engaging in welfare of his subjects and that I why he was overthrown by the public.

E. King Richard was not a good king but at the same time he did not bother about what was happening in the country.

6. Which among the following is similar in meaning to the word Escaped as used in the passage?

A. Ran away

B. Terminated

C. Fragmented

D. Utilized

E. None of the above

7. How did Robin Hood form his army of Merry Men after moving to the Sherwood Forest himself during the rule of King John in England?

A. Robin Hood asked all the poor men in the Sherwood Forest to join him so that they could end the rule of the King.

B. Robin Hood brought with him all the friends from the earlier place of his residence so that he did not have to find any company.

C. Robin Hood was a part of the King's Men earlier but he fell out with the King and escaped with all his finest men.

D. Robin Hood requested all the people of England to join him at the Sherwood Forest in order to overthrow King John from the throne.

E. None of the above

Correct answers:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
E	B	D	C	B	A	E

Explanations:

1.

Statement I is not correct since there is no reference in the passage regarding the expertise of Robin Hood with the gun but it is said that he was very good with the bow and the arrow. In fact, he was the best on the land in bow and arrow. Refer to, **“In all the land, no one was better with a bow and arrow than Robin Hood. He lived with his band of Merry Men in Sherwood Forest. That was the woods where the King kept his royal deer.”**

Statement II is also not correct since it is clearly described that Robin Hood used to stay with the his band of merry men in the Sherwood forest and there is no information given regarding his family members staying with him in the forest, in the entire passage. This can also be eliminated.

Statement III is not correct since the given information is in contravention to the information given in the passage. It is said that the Sheriff was looking for Robin Hood to arrest him and nowhere it is mentioned that Robin Hood was a government servant. This can be eliminated easily.

So, none of the given statements is correct according to the information given in the passage.

This makes option E the correct choice among the given options.

2.

Refer to, **“But our hero jumped over the wall to a horse waiting for him. He was gone! Robin Hood had escaped!”**

It is very much clear from the passage that the Sheriff's Men could not catch Robin Hood at the end as he jumped over the wall and ran away riding his horse. So, the Sheriff's Men failed to catch him.

Among the given options, Only B explains it correctly that Robin Hood escaped from the place and the Sheriff's Men could not catch him at the end. Other options are completely out of context and can be eliminated easily, without giving a second thought.

This makes option B the correct choice among the given options.

3.

Refer to, **"No, Sir. Robin Hood has red hair. None of the ones who are shooting has red hair."**

So, it is evident that the Sheriff's Men were of the view that nobody with red hair had come in the competition and that is why it was certain for them that Robin Hood had not come to take part in the competition arranged by the Sheriff.

Among the given options, option A does not give the proper reason of the perception of the Sheriff's Men regarding the presence of Robin Hood in the competition whereas the option B can also be eliminated on the ground that there is no such reference in the passage. Option C may be correct but there is no explicit reference in the passage regarding the perception of the Sheriff regarding his men. Only option D clearly explains the real reason as described in the passage.

This makes option D the correct choice among the given options.

4.

Refer to, **"Two bowmen were left. The first was William, the Sheriff's man. With care, William, took aim. His arrow landed at the very center**

of the target - a bull's eye! The crowd cheered for William. It was time for the last bowman. His arrow sailed through the air, too. It landed right through the bull's eye arrow, cutting it in half! In a flash, the bowman let go of two more arrows. Each one flew to where the Sheriff sat, pinning him to his seat, one arrow on each side."

It is clear that William was a very good archer since he could hit the bull's eye with his arrow but it is also true that Robin Hood cut his arrow into two and also Robin Hood was so good with his arrows that he could hit any target at will. He displayed this skill by throwing arrows at both the sides of the Sheriff.

Coming to the options, option A is not correct since it is not said that William was one of the King's Men but he was a Sheriff's man. Option B is not correct since William did take part in the competition and also hit the bull's eye. Option D is not correct since he was one of the Sheriff's men and not a part of the Merry Men of Robin Hood. Now regarding option C, it is a bit confusing to decide its correctness but it is clear that Robin Hood could hit any target at will and he only missed if he had wanted to. This is not there in case of William and also it is said in the passage that none was better than Robin Hood with the bow and arrow.

This makes option C the correct choice among the given options.

5.

Refer to, **"A few years before, King Richard had ruled the land. King Richard let people who were poor come into Sherwood Forest. They could hunt the deer to get food for their families."**

It is evident that King Richard was a very kind ruler and he used to think about the welfare of the poor in his country. That is why he allowed them to hunt in the Sherwood Forest in order to get food for their families.

Among the given options, option A is not correct since it is in direct contradiction with the information given in the passage whereas option C cannot be considered as correct because there is no such information in the

passage that King Richard was not the actual king of England. Option D is not correct since it is not contextual with reference to the passage whereas option E is also not correct since it is not there in the passage anywhere. Option B is correct since it correctly describes that King Richard was very kind towards the poor.

This makes option B the correct choice among the given options.

6.

The given word denotes that Robin Hood ran away from the venue of the competition and the Sheriff's Men were unable to get hold of him.

Now coming to the given options, all are out of context except Option A that captures the meaning of the given word correctly.

This makes option A the correct choice among the given options.

7.

Refer to, **“Dressed in green from his cap to his boots, the trees of Sherwood Forest could hide him as he hunted the King’s deer. Sometimes other brave men came into Sherwood Forest. One by one they joined Robin Hood, and became his Merry Men.”**

It is very much evident that the men who used to come to Sherwood Forest to hunt the King’s deer despite the warnings of the King and the fear of being punished with death sentence. Still, some brave men used to come to the forest and Robin Hood convinced them to join him and together they became the Merry Men of his army.

Now coming to the given options, option A is not correct since it is not true according to the passage whereas same can be said about all the other options. Hence, they can be easily eliminated without giving much thought. So, option E should be the correct answer.

This makes option E the correct choice among the given options.



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