



MODEL QUESTION 29

Unite: 14, Lesson: 4

Hercules was the son of Jupiter and Alcmena. Eurystheus, the King of Mycenae and his cousin, made him undergo some difficult tasks, which are known in Greek myths as the 'twelve labours of Hercules.' The first involved a fight with a lion. The valley of Nemea was being disturbed by a terrible lion and so Eurystheus ordered Hercules to slay the beast and bring him his skin. At first, Hercules tried to fight the lion with his club and arrows but this took him nowhere. Then Hercules attempted a different tactic: he decided he would use his hands. He thus managed to slay the animal on his own, relying entirely on his **immense** strength. Victorious, he returned to Mycenae carrying the dead lion on his shoulders, a sight that terrified the King. His next task was to slay a monster called Hydra that was ravaging the country of Argos. The Hydra had nine heads, of which the middle one was said to be immortal. Our hero struck off its heads with his club, but whenever he knocked off a head, two new ones erupted in its place. Eventually with the help of his devoted servant Iolaus, Hercules succeeded in burning all the heads of the Hydra except the ninth or immortal one, which he decided to bury under a huge rock. In other words, Hercules triumphed again, as he would every time he was given an impossible task by Eurystheus! And this is how he began to acquire the reputation of a hero possessing immense strength throughout the world.

1. Choose the right word which is the closest meaning in the context that has been used in the text.

- a) The word **undergo** refers to text _____
i) go through ii) go to a place iii) come back iv) none of them
- b) The word **myth** refers to text _____
i) a true story ii) a common story iii) a religious story iv) a traditional story
- c) The word **triumph** refers to text _____
i) exploration ii) troopship supremacy iii) victory iv) triviality
- d) The word **ravage** refers to text _____
i) destroy ii) occupied iii) controlled iv) besought
- e) The word **erupt** refers to text _____
i) go into ii) confused iii) restless iv) breaking out
- f) The word **slay** refers to text _____
i) to save ii) to die iii) to protect iv) to kill

- g) Eurystheus ordered Hercules to slay the best. Here the word **best** refers to text _____
- i) man ii) lion iii) monster iv) myth
- h) Which statement is correct?
- i) Hercules killed the Hydra ii) Hercules killed the Hydra with his club
- iii) Hercules cut off the head of the Hydra. iv) Hercules killed the Hydra with the help of his servant.
- i) The word **immense** refers to text _____
- i) immunity ii) immediate iii) accuracy iv) unbounded
- m) "Twelve labours Hercules." What does it refer to?
- i) Hercules had twelve labours ii) it was the title of Hercules
- iii) different tasks done by Hercules iv) difficult tasks done by Hercules
- n) Which of the following is not true in respect of Hercules?
- i) he was very fearful ii) he was very brave
- iii) he was very powerful iv) he was very loyal
- o) The king was terrified to see Hercules _____
- i) victory ii) popularity iii) immense strength iv) return
- p) Hercules buried the middle head of Hydra under a heavy rock so that _____
- i) it might die ii) it might regenerate iii) it might rot iv) it might not come out
- q) Which of the following is not true in respect of Hercules?
- (i) He was very fearful (ii) He was very powerful
- (iii) He was very brave (iv) He was very loyal
- r) Hercules fought the lion at first _____
- (i) using his club (ii) using his arrow (iii) using his stick (iv) using his club and arrows
- (k) The word 'terrify' stands for _____
- (i) depression (ii) terrorism (iii) frighten severely
- (iv) preventing somebody from having or doing something especially something important
- l) The second tactic of Hercules to slay the lion was _____
- (i) using his club (ii) using his hands (iii) using his stick (iv) using his club and arrows
- m) Jupiter belonged to which religion?



- (i) Muslims (ii) Christians (iii) Jews (iv) Pagans

n) Hercules was able to kill the lion because of his _____

- (i) bravery (ii) heroism (iii) fame and name (iv) supernatural power

o) The writer says, "Victorious, he returned to Mycenae carrying the dead lion on his shoulders, a sight that terrified the King." What does s/he want to mean by this, sentence?

- (i) The king was frightened to see the strength and bravery of Hercules
(ii) The king was pleased to see the strength and bravery of Hercules
(iii) The king was delighted to see the strength and bravery of Hercules
(iv) The king was unhappy to see the strength and bravery of Hercules

p) What was Hydra doing?

- (i) Protecting the country of Argos (ii) Fighting with Hercules
(iii) Destroying the country of Argos (iv) Destroying the country of Eurystheus

q) What is the purpose of the author of this passage?

- (i) To show the power of the king, Eurystheus (ii) To show the heroic deeds of Hercules
(iii) To highlight the destructive power of Hercules (iv) To describe how Hercules emerged as a hero

r) The word 'club' means _____

- (i) a sword (ii) a long straight stick
(iii) a heavy stick with one end thicker than the other (iv) a heavy weapon for killing enemies

2. Write the answer of the following question.

- a. Describe in your own words the first labour of Hercules?
b. How was Hercules's second labour different from the first one?
c. What are some of the qualities that made Hercules succeed in impossible tasks?
d. Why did Hercules bury the ninth head of Hydra?
e. What reasons can you find for calling Hercules a hero?

According to some myths and legends, Gazi Pir was a Muslim saint who is said to have spread Islam in the parts of Bengal close to the Sunderbans. He was credited with many miracles. For example, he could supposedly calm dangerous animals and make them docile. He is usually depicted in *paats* or scroll paintings riding a fierce-looking Bengal tiger, a snake in his hand, but in no apparent danger. According to some stories, he also fought crocodiles who threatened the people of a region full of canals and creeks, indeed, a kind of watery jungle bordering the Bay of Bengal. Because of his alert and vigilant presence, all predatory animals were said to have been kept within bounds. It was also believed that he enabled villagers to live close to forests and jungles and cultivate their lands. Consequently, people of these regions would pray to him for protection.

The story of Gazi Pir has been preserved in folk literature as well as art and has been performed in indigenous theatre. In fact, some *Gazir paat* scrolls are part of the collection of the British Museum.

3. Based on your reading of the passage, make short notes in each of the boxes of the flow chart showing the miracles/ activities of Gazi Pir (No. 1 has been done for you)



Or,

What/who	Event/occurrence	How/when/why	Where
Gazi pir (i)_____	Is said to have spread Islam	In the past	(ii)_____
(iii)_____	Believed him to have miraculous powers		
(iv)_____	could be calmed	(v)_____	
(vi)_____	Is usually depicted in paats or scroll paintings	(vii)_____	
The people of a region full of canals and creeks	(viii)_____	(ix)_____	
All predatory animals	Were kept within bound	(x)_____	

I Have Seen Bengal's Face

Because I have seen Bengal's face I will seek no more;
 The world has not anything more beautiful to show me.
 Waking up in darkness, gazing at the fig-tree, I behold
 Dawn's swallows roosting under huge umbrella-like leaves. I look around me
 And discover a leafy dome-Jam, Kanthal, Bat, Hijol and Aswatha trees-
 All in a hush, shadowing clumps of cactus and zedoary bushes.
 When long, long ago, Chand came in his honeycombed boat
 To a blue Hijal, Bat and Tamal shade near the Champa, he too sighted
 Bengal's incomparable beauty. One day, alas. In the Ganguri,
 On a raft, as the waning moon sank on the river's sandbanks,
 Behula too saw countless aswaths bats besides golden rice fields
 And heard the thrush's soft song. One day, arriving in Amara,
 Where gods held court, when she danced like a desolate wagtail,
 Bengal's rivers, fields, flowers, wailed like strings of bells on her feet.

4. Make a summary of the text (not more than 100 words)

