**MOUNT LITERA ZEE SCHOOL , HARIDWAR**

**Class IX**

**Reading comprehension ( 2018- 19 )**

**Name :\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Roll no.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date :\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Read the following passage carefully .**

 **1.** Legends will tell you that flamingos are no ordinary visitors to Kutch. They were the honoured guests of King Lakho and he had forbidden the hunting of flamingos , which came to Kutch from various parts of the world every year to breed . For centuries , the region had been a haven for the migratory bird . Today , Flamingo City , an island in the middle of the Rann of Kutch , known the world over as one of the biggest breeding grounds of the Greater Flamingo , is strewn with bodies of hundreds of flamingo chicks .

The parents of these chicks have fled the island due to lack of food . Zooplanktons , algae and the small fish that these birds survive on are dying due to a sudden increase in the salinity of the Rann waters . One can even see the dead fish floating .

**2.** Flamingos need salt- encrusted , damp mud to build nests . The place where they build their nests has to be inaccessible to predatory cats and birds . It should also have sufficient food . The right mix of sweet and brackish water in the Rann is crucial for the proliferation of planktons and algae that the flamingos feed on . Faced with starvation flamingos have fled the island leaving their chicks to fend for themselves . Till date around a thousand flamingos have died .

**3.** Maharaj Kumarshi Himmatsinghji , a member of the royal family of Kutch and an experton the birds of Kutch traces the problem of increased salinity in the Rann waters to the construction of dams on rivers that flow into the region . He emphasizes that an effort should be made to ensure that at least some water flow into the Rann . In fact over the years , the number of flamingos coming to the island has decreased because of the change in salinity of the Rann water . In 1945 , Salim Ali , the late ornithologist , had found 5 lakh birds on the island . Since then , the number has not gone above 2.2 lakh . However , the studies carried out on the Flamingo City so far cannot be taken as 100 per cent accurate because very few ornithologists have conducted regular studies on flamingos in the area . The reason : the terrain is so inhospitable that it is simply not possible to visit the place every year . Says Himmat Singh Ji,' The ringing of flamingos is mandatory to conduct accurate and long term studies on the bird .'Unfortunately, ever since Flamingo City was discovered in 1983 , not a single bird has been ringed . No wonder questions like from where these birds migrate every year remain only partially answered **.**

**On the basis of your reading , answer the questions briefly.**

a. Why do ornithologists find it difficult to conduct regular studies on flamingos in the Rann ?

b. Why is it mandatory to conduct long term studies on the bird ?

c. Why was the Kutch referred to as a haven for the flamingos ?

d. Give one necessary condition for the flamingos to build their nests ?

e. What is the reason for the death of the flora and fauna in the Rann waters ?

f. Why was the salinity in the Rann waters increased ?

g. When was the Flamingo City discovered ?

h. Where is the Flamingo City ?

**2. Read the following passage carefully**

 **Dad's Blessings**

1. A young man was getting ready to graduate from college. For many months he had admired a beautiful sports car in a dealer's showroom ,and knowing his father could well afford it, he hold him that was all he wanted. As Graduation Day approached, the young man awaited thinking that his father had purchased the car. Finally on the morning of his graduation , his father called him into his private study. The young man was confused and curious. He went to his father's study. He was sitting there quietly, waiting for him. His father looked at him. He was looking pleased and satisfied. The son was feeling ecstatic as he was expecting his father to gift him the sports car on his Graduation Day.

2. His father told him how proud he was to have such a fine son, and told him how much he loved him. He handed his son a beautiful wrapped gift box. Curious, but somewhat disappointed the young man opened the box and found a lovely, leather-bound Bible, with the young man's name embossed in gold. Angry, he raised his voice to his father and said 'With all your money, you give me a Bible?' and stormed out of the house, leaving the Bible. Many years passed and the young man was very successful in business .

3. He had a beautiful home and a wonderful family. He also realised his father was very old, and thought perhaps he should go to him. He had not seen him since the graduation day. Before he could make arrangements, he received a telegram telling him his father had passed away, and willed all of his possessions to his son. He needed to come home immediately and take care of his things.

4. When he arrived at his father's house, sudden sadness and reverence filled his heart. He began to search through his father's important papers and saw the still new Bible, Just as he had left it years ago. With tears he opened the Bible and began to turn the pages. And as he did, a car key dropped from the back of the Bible. It had a tag with the dealer's name, the same dealer who had the sports car he had desired. On the tag was the date of his graduation, and the words 'PAID IN FULL'.

5. How many times do we miss Spirit's blessing and answers to our prayers because they do not arrive exactly as we have expected ?

**On the basis of your reading, answer the questions briefly.**

a. What did the young man want from his father ?

b. Why did his father call the young man in his private study ?

c. What was the reaction of the young man after seeing the present ?

d. After many years, What did the young man realise ?

e. Find word from the passage with the same meaning.

 i. Raised Design ii. Owning property iii. Feel Sorry iv. Fall to the ground