

**English Language for Competitive Exams**  
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**Week – 02**  
**Lecture – 08**  
**Comprehending Literary Passages – 2**

We will begin with the next passage that is are reading comprehension and here I am going to give you a couple of words right away, I am telling you will have to find the category and meanings of these 3 words. So, pedagogical, mantra and ethnic these are the words that I would like you to find the meanings of; now let us look at the passage please read the slide here.

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**PASSAGE 7**

The autobiographical mandate persists and even intensifies for this generation, as "write what you know" and "find your voice" become pedagogical mantras and the experience of coming of age as a minority folds into the story of literary apprenticeship. Philip Roth can be taken as representative in this regard, both insofar as he strove to accommodate the drama of ethnic American identity to the evaluative protocols of the European modernist classics and also as he was forced to come to terms with the collision between mass cultural celebrity and high cultural reputation. Taking the autobiographical mandate to its ultimate conclusion, Roth chronicles the career of an author who becomes exhausted by himself as the source material for his fiction, and dismayed by how his audience confuses him with his protagonists. Roth is able to have his cake and eat it, too; he becomes both a contemporary celebrity and a classic author.

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Taking the autobiographical mandate to its ultimate conclusion, Roth chronicles the career of an author who becomes exhausted by himself as the source material for his fiction and dismayed by how his audience confuses him with his protagonists. Roth is able to have his cake and eat it, too; he becomes both a contemporary celebrity and a classic author. Now look at the questions here explain the argument within 3 lines and identify the idiom in this passage.

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**You have 5 minutes to answer the following questions.**

- 1) Explain the argument within 3 lines.
- 2) Identify the idiom in this passage.

So, there are a couple of idioms in this passages, we would not be telling you any more what is an idiom. Idiom is a turn of phrase or an elegant phrase, which can sometimes be also very (Refer Time: 02:20) something of repeated, but anyway it adds a certain elegance a certain color or variety to your language. So, that is an idiom and the argument what is the author or author's position. So, those are the three questions. So, please take five minutes and well the author basically argues an its about Philip Roth, that his career is an example of combination or the modern requirement for auto biography even within a novel and earlier modernist convention. So, by doing so he has become a contemporary celebrity and also a classic author.

So, this is the basic argument and most important idiom perhaps there are more, but I can talk about immediately I can tell you that having your a cake and eat it to, to have your

cake and eat it too is the idiom in the passage, and what does it mean? It means a nothing, but to have the best of both words. Again this is an idiom, but to have your way and to get away with that is just that just very simplistic report, that it is like getting you can get away with a lot; so to have your cake and eat it too.

Now, try to find the meanings and the word categories of these 3 words, what are they? and look up the dictionary'; now see pedagogical is a word that you will come across very frequently in academic circles; that means, relating to teaching methods; so pedagogic of this class, pedagogic of this lecture. So pedagogically an innovative techniques, so, that is the way we use it. It is an adjective; pedagogy is a noun pedagogical is an adjective. Mantra is taken from our own cultural tradition, Hindi Sanskrit kinds of words, it is a noun and a statement or slogan literally it means a slogan repeated frequently.

So, for example, the environmental sorry croquettes have a mantra, and mantra could be like a biodiversity is under threat or energy for too long as for too long being too cheap. So, perhaps you know those are the kinds of things that have become mantra. Ethnic we often use the a word ethnic quite loosely, it is an adjective of course, it relates to national cultural origin. So, you must have heard a words like ethnic dress, in ethnic saree, by an large it relates to national and cultural something that is of national and cultural identity and origin, so people from a wide variety of ethnic origins. Now let us move on to the next passage. So, this is a passage that is from (Refer Time: 06:06) great gets be agree are coming back to literature once again please look at the slide.

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### Read the following passage:

- In my younger and more vulnerable years my father gave me some advice that I've been turning over in my mind ever since. "Whenever you feel like criticizing any one," he told me, "just remember that all the people in this world haven't had the advantages that you've had." He didn't say any more, but we've always been unusually communicative in a reserved way, and I understood that he meant a great deal more than that. In consequence, I'm inclined to reserve all judgments, a habit that has opened up many curious natures to me and also made me the victim of not a few veteran bores. The abnormal mind is quick to detect and attach itself to this quality when it appears in a normal person, and so it came about that in college I was unjustly accused of being a politician, because I was privy to the secret griefs of wild, unknown men.

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In consequence, I am inclined to reserve all judgments, a habit that has opened up many curious natures to me and also made me the victim of not a few veteran bores. The abnormal mind is quick to detect and attach itself to this quality when it appears in a normal person, and so it came about that in college I was unjustly accused of being a politician, because I was privy to the secret griefs of wild, unknown men. Answer the questions here.

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## Answer the questions:

1. 'In my younger and more vulnerable years'.  
Here the writer means a time when:
  - a. He did not have much experience of the world and people
  - b. He did not have a college experience
  - c. He was young and partied a lot

Let us look at the slide, now in my younger and more vulnerable years; here the writer means a time when a he did not have much experience of the world and people, he did not have a college experience, and he was young and partied a lot.

Please look at the choices before I give you the answer; the answer is a he did not have much experience of the world and people, and why because see the answer comes the response comes from the passage itself. Vulnerable years; here where you are soft sensitive prone to influence impressionable; so did not have much experience of the world and people. He may talk about a variety of people that he has come or encountered, but the other two options are extremely marginal in this context.

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## Answer the following:

- What does the author mean in the lines: 'I'm inclined to reserve all judgments a habit that has opened up many curious natures to me and also made me the victim of not a few veteran bores.'
  - a. He is very boring
  - b. He's a non-judgemental kind of a person
  - c. He is very social

Let us look at the second question; look at the side please answer the following what does the author mean in the lines: 'I am inclined to reserve all judgments, habit that has opened up many curious natures to me and also made me the victim of not a few veteran bores.' What does he mean he is very boring? He is a non judgmental kind of a person he is very social, now what do you think? and the answer here is b; he is a non judgmental kind of a person remember in the previous passage we have been told that his father advised him not to be critical of people, reserve your criticism of other people right. So, therefore, he is a non judgmental kind of a person and then look at this third question.

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## Contd...

3. What is meant by “just remember that all the people in this world haven’t had the advantages that you’ve had?”
- The author had been leading an underprivileged life
  - The author is asking us to be arrogant
  - The author is asking us to be understanding of other people’s shortcomings.

Read the slide please, what is meant by just remember that all the people in this world have not had the advantages that you have had. The author had been leading an underprivileged life, the author is asking us to be arrogant, and the author is seeking us to be understanding of other peoples shortcomings. So, answer c response c choice c is the best answer here. Definitely not leading an underprivileged life that is that comes across very clearly that not everyone had the advantages you have had; the author is asking us to be arrogant may be its implied somewhere, but this is not the exact response, or the author is asking us to be understanding of other people short comings here that is the right response.

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## Vocabulary

- Fill in the blanks from the passages:
  - a. Of late my brother has become moody and.....
  - b. Though I am not sure, I'm.....to believe that there's trouble in the Mehra's' paradise.
  - c. Anil is a professional and .....at these things.

Now, look at the slide here on vocabulary; fill in the blanks from the passages you have to select a word that is already given in the passage. Of late my brother has become moody and the word is in the passage, though I am not sure I am dash to believe that there is trouble in the Mehra's paradise. Anil is a professional and dash at these things.

So, the response is of late my brother has become moody and next one though I am not sure I am dash to believe, and I am inclined to believe, I am laid to believe that there is trouble in the Mehra's paradise. What is some bodies' paradise thinks do not look as good as they appear to be. Anil is a professional and dash at these things. So, who is what is what could go what is the best word that can go along with professional? Veteran veteran is someone who has done it all being there and done it all.



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## Passage 2

- Most of the confidences were unsought—frequently I have feigned sleep, preoccupation, or a hostile levity when I realized by some unmistakable sign that an intimate revelation was quivering on the horizon; for the intimate revelations of young men, or at least the terms in which they express them, are usually plagiaristic and marred by obvious suppressions. Reserving judgments is a matter of infinite hope. I am still a little afraid of missing something if I forget that, as my father snobbishly suggested, and I snobbishly repeat, a sense of the fundamental decencies is parcelled out unequally at birth.

Now, let us look at the second passage. Most of the confidences were unsought—frequently I have feigned sleep, preoccupation, or a hostile levity when I realized by some unmistakable sign that an intimate revelation was quivering on the horizon; for the intimate revelations of young men, or at least the terms in which they express them, are usually plagiaristic and marred by obvious suppressions. Reserving judgments is a matter of infinite hope. I am still a little afraid of missing something if I forget that, as my father snobbishly suggested, and I snobbishly repeat, a sense of the fundamental decencies is parcelled out unequally at birth.

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What does the author mean when he says, 'a sense of the fundamental decencies is parcelled out unequally at birth'?

- a. All are equal at birth
- b. All are born equally decent
- c. Human decency differs from person to person

Please go through the passage on your own once more. Let us look at the question what does the author mean when he says a sense of the fundamental decencies is parcelled out unequally at birth. Now he also uses the word snobbishly remember before this. So, is snobbishly suggested, who is snob?

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Please look at the word snob and how it could be used in various contexts. So, always go back to your oxford English language dictionary, advance language dictionary and always try to look up these words. It is used in quite an usual sense and a snob directly is someone who faint superiority all the time, but here the author is calling his father suggested rather snobbish suggested why.

Now, a sense of the fundamental decencies, if the idea is that let us look at the response all are equal at birth is he suggesting that. All are born equally decent and human decency that is the third choice differs from person to person. So, which do you think? So, if you snobbish then it cannot be equality right all are equal at birth or all are born equally decent. So, because the sentence has been preceded by what is snobbish. So, human decency differs from person to person that is the answer choice c.

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**Vocabulary: Fill in the blanks from the passage you have just read:**

- a. She .....nervousness just to get some sympathy.
- b. The bird ..... as it flew high above the tall buildings.
- c. Rekha is her confidante, who knows her most.....secrets.

Let us look at the vocabulary here, please look at the slide. Fill in the blanks from passage you have just read. So, she dash nervousness just to get some sympathy, the bird dash as it flew high above the buildings, Rekha is her confidante. Who is a confidante, who knows her most dash secrets who knows her most dash secrets? Answer is she faint nervousness just to get some sympathy that is to pretend the bird quivered as it flew high above the tall in her little shaking trembling and Rekha is her confidante person can is

your confidant when you reveal your secrets. So, who knows her most intimate secrets?  
So, these are the responses.

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### Passage 3

- And, after boasting this way of my tolerance, I come to the admission that it has a limit. Conduct may be founded on the hard rock or the wet marshes, but after a certain point I don't care what it's founded on. When I came back from the East last autumn I felt that I wanted the world to be in uniform and at a sort of moral attention forever; I wanted no more riotous excursions with privileged glimpses into the human heart. Only Gatsby, the man who gives his name to this book, was exempt from my reaction— Gatsby, who represented everything for which I have an unaffected scorn. If personality is an unbroken series of successful gestures, then there was something gorgeous about him, some heightened sensitivity to the promises of life, as if he were related to one of those intricate machines that register earthquakes ten thousand miles away. This responsiveness had nothing to do with that flabby impressionability which is dignified under the name of the "creative temperament"—it was an extraordinary gift for hope, a romantic readiness such as I have never found in any other person and which it is not likely I shall ever find again. No—Gatsby turned out all right at the end; it is what preyed on Gatsby, what foul dust floated in the wake of his dreams that temporarily closed out my interest in the abortive sorrows and shortwinded elations of men.

Look at the third passage again from the great Gatsby. Let us read it, and after boasting this way of my tolerance, I come to the admission that it has a limit. Conduct may be founded on the hard rock or the wet marshes, but after a certain point I do not care what it is founded on. When I came back from the east last autumn I felt that I wanted the world to be in uniform and at a sort of moral attention forever; I wanted no more riotous excursions with privileged glimpses into the human heart.

Only Gatsby, the man who gives his name to this book, was exempt from my reaction. Gatsby, who represented everything for which I have an unaffected scorn; if personality is an unbroken series of successful gestures, then there was something gorgeous about him, some heightened sensitivity to the promises of life, as if he were related to one of those intricate machines that register earthquakes ten thousand miles away. This responsiveness had nothing to do with that flabby impressionability which is dignified under the name of the "creative temperament"— it was an extraordinary gift for hope, a romantic readiness such as I have never found in any other person and which it is not likely I shall ever find again. No-Gatsby turned out all right at the end; it is what preyed

on Gatsby, what foul dust floated in the wake of his dreams that temporarily closed out my interest in the abortive sorrows and shortwinded elations of men.

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### Answer the following:

1. 'Conduct may be founded on the hard rock or the wet marshes, but after a certain point I don't care what it's founded on.' Here the author is commenting on development of a person's
  - a. Material success
  - b. Intellectual ability
  - c. Comportment

Please go through the passage on your own take a minute. Now let us look at the questions here, answer the following; conduct may be founded on the hard rock or the wet marshes, but after a certain point I do not care what it is founded on. So, what is the author saying here? Here the author is commenting on development of a person's, material success, intellectual ability or comportment; what is the answer? Answer is c comportment; comportment is the way a person behaves. So, conduct and behave behavior that is like almost like synonyms the third one.

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## Answer the following:

2. What is the author's attitude towards Gatsby?

- a. Admiration
- b. Pity
- c. Anger
- d. Scorn

Next question what is the author's attitude towards Gatsby? Admiration, pity, anger, scorns; what words give you the sense that he is pitting, and what words give you the hint that he is anger? He does mention the word a term scorn he represented a everything that has scorn then it soon followed by, but. So, gate by may be having its faults or may have had its faults, but the author is still full of admiration. So, answer is a admiration.

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## Contd...

What does the author mean by 'the abortive sorrows and shortwinded elations of men'?

- a. Human life is short
- b. Petty and trivial emotions of men
- c. Inadequacy of human endeavourance

Let us look at the next question what does the author mean by the word the abortive by the expression by the abortive sorrows and shortwinded elations of men? A human life is short; b petty and trivial emotions of men, and c inadequacy of human endeavourance. The word abortive itself means something that comes to a sudden and so do you thing human life is short is that what he is saying please read on; petty and trivial emotions of men now when you look at abortive sorrows, sorrows that do not have much meaning and shortwinded elations that you know even there agony and ecstasy do not have much meaning. So, answer is b petty and trivial emotions of men. Choice c looks quite there, but it is not really inadequacy of human endeavourance is not really talking about inadequacy is more into emotions of men.

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## Explain:

- 'I wanted no more riotous excursions with privileged glimpses into the human heart.'

And now let us look at this question explain I want to explain, I wanted no more riotous excursions with privileged glimpses into the human heart what does the writer mean? Go through the passage once more.

The writer means and I can only give it to you in my own language that even no longer interested into understanding the excitements of human art, it may be privilege to understand, but he was no longer interested in that we move on.

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Passage 4: Read the following extract from  
Patrick Suskind's *Perfume*:

- In eighteenth-century France there lived a man who was one of the most gifted and abominable personages in an era that knew no lack of gifted and abominable personages. His story will be told here. His name was Jean-Baptiste Grenouille, and if his name-in contrast to the names of other gifted abominations, de Sade's, for instance, or Saint-Just's, Fouche's, Bonaparte's, etc.-has been forgotten today, it is certainly not because Grenouille fell short of those more famous blackguards when it came to arrogance, misanthropy, immorality, or, more succinctly, to wickedness, but because his gifts and his sole ambition were restricted to a domain that leaves no traces in history: to the fleeting realm of scent.

Next passage look at the slide here and this is an extract again a literary extract from Patrick Suskind's novel perfume. Let us read in eighteenth-century France there lived a man who was one of the most the most gifted and abominable personages in an era that knew no lack of gifted and abominable personages.

His story will be told here. His name was Jean-Baptiste Grenouille, and if his name-in contrast to the names of other gifted abominations, de Sade's, for instance or Saint-Just's, Fouche's Bonaparte's, etcetera- has been forgotten today, it is certainly not because Grenouille fell short of those more famous blackguards when it came to arrogance, misanthropy, immorality, or more succinctly, to wickedness, but because his gifts and his sole ambition were restricted to a domain that leaves no traces in history: to the fleeting realm of scent. The title is perfume and look at the very last phrase fleeting realm of scent go through the passage once more on your own.



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## Answer the following:

What does the writer tell us about Jean-Baptiste Grenouille?

- a. He was as great as any literary character
- b. He had high principles like Bonaparte
- c. He was a terrible person.

Let us look at the questions now the answer the following. What does the writer tell us about Jean-Baptiste Grenouille? You have three choices: he was as great as any literary character, please look at the slide he had high principles like Bonaparte, he was a terrible person, he was as great as any literary character he had high principles is the author hinting anywhere that Bonaparte had high principles, and he was a terrible person. So, this is the right answer c, choice c he was a terrible person clear give away from the other word that is abomination blackguards those are the words.

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## Vocabulary

- a. Abominations:
- b. Personages:
- c. Succinctly:
- d. Misanthropy:

So, let us look at the vocabulary here please look at these words; abominations, personages, succinctly and misanthropy what are these words, find out the categories and the meanings. An abomination is something which is terrible. So, the act itself was an abomination, it is a noun and the adjective is abominable. So, abominable where how terrible it is; personages people of certain structure. So, where person and personage the bit are like kind of a language, but still used when we want to sound high faluting succinctly briefly answer in brief or answer give your response very succinctly.

So, it is an adverb, personages is a noun succinctly is an adverb, and misanthropy it is a noun; remember we use 'mis' whenever it is a negative connotation, it is a suffix and it means someone who is not really found of people a misanthropy is a person who does not like people. A misogynist is a person who does not like women, misanthropy is a person who does not like people in general.

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## Passage 5

- In the period of which we speak, there reigned in the cities a stench barely conceivable to us modern men and women. The stench of sulfur rose from the chimneys, the stench of caustic lyes from the tanneries, and from the slaughterhouses came the stench of congealed blood. People stank of sweat and unwashed clothes; from their mouths came the stench of rotting teeth, from their bellies that of onions, and from their bodies, if they were no longer very young, came the stench of rancid cheese and sour milk and tumorous disease. The rivers stank, the marketplaces stank, the churches stank, it stank beneath the bridges and in the palaces. The peasant stank as did the priest, the apprentice as did his master's wife, the whole of the aristocracy stank, even the king himself stank, stank like a rank lion, and the queen like an old goat, summer and winter. For in the eighteenth century there was nothing to hinder bacteria busy at decomposition, and so there was no human activity, either constructive or destructive, no manifestation of germinating or decaying life that was not accompanied by stench.

Let us go on to passage 5; in the period of which we speak, there reigned in the cities a stench barely conceivable to us modern men and women. The stench of sulfur rose from the chimneys; the stench of caustic lyes from the tanneries, and from the slaughterhouses came the stench of congealed blood. People stank of sweat and unwashed clothes; from their mouths came the stench of rotting teeth, from their bellies that of onions, and from the bodies, they were no longer very young came the stench of rancid cheese and sour milk and tumorous diseases.

The rivers stank, the marketplaces stank, the churches stank, it stank beneath the bridges and in the palaces. The peasant stank as did the priest, the apprentice as did his master's wife, the whole of the aristocracy stank, even the king himself stank, stank like a rank lion, and the queen like an old goat, summer and winter. For in the eighteenth century there was nothing to hinder bacteria busy at decomposition, and. So, there was no human activity, either constructive or destructive, no manifestation of germinating or decaying life that was not accompanied by stench. This is a passage from perfume.

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Following questions are based on  
passages 4 & 5:

1. Why , according to the author, Jean-Baptiste Grenouille is not remembered today?
  - a. He did not achieve anything significant
  - b. He had a rare gift of which there is no evidence remaining.

Now, let us look at the questions. So, following questions are based on passages 4 and 5. Now why according to the author Jean-Baptiste Grenouille is not remembered today; we have done this in earlier passage. Now there are two responses here he did not achieve anything significant, he had a rare gift of which there is no evidence remaining, what do you think? So, the answer is; obviously, he had a rare gift of which there is no evidence remaining; because it was it came from the fleeting realm of scent. I am not going to give you the plot of perfume with that is not our intension here, but he does mention the words scent in the very last passage last sentence of the previous paragraph.

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What is the tone of the passage 5?

- a. Awe and admiration
- b. Disgust
- c. Terror
- d. Indifference

Now, let us look at this question, what is the tone of the passage 5 is about this stench? A awe and admiration, b disgust, c terror, and d indifference; you have to choose between b and c, they he is not terrified, but he is disgusted. So, that is the tone of the passage everybody stank, it was filled and stank and bacteria (Refer Time: 27:07) all over the phases now terror of unforce seen, but its disgust by what humanity has been reduced; let us move on and look at this slide.

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Fill in the blanks using the words given  
in the passages 4 & 5:

- a. Most of his writings so far are equivalent to.....works.
- b. Although she is good-hearted, people avoid her because of her.....tongue.
- c. The building is an eyesore, a complete.....on the city landscape.
- d. The Chief Guest was a.....of an eminent stature

Fill in the blanks using the words given in the passages 4 and 5. Most of his writings so far are equivalent to dash works, although she is good hearted people avoid her because of her dash tongue. The building is an eyesore a complete dash on the city landscape, the chief guest was a dash of an eminent stature.

So, let us look at the response now, a most of his writings so far are equivalent to dash works; little difficult questions or blank, but then you have to think go back to 4 and 5 and choice the best word possible, the word here is apprentice. You see we use apprentice works when we say that they are not yet polished. So, equivalent or nothing more than unpolished word; see he is just practising to be a writer. Although she is good hearted people avoid her. So, see she is good, but people do not like her because of her caustic tongue. Caustic is something bite that bites or heads, so caustic tongue. The building is an eyesore a complete dash on the city landscape terrible thing. So, abomination on the city landscape, the chief guest was a personage of an eminent stature.

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## Passage 6

- And of course the stench was foulest in Paris, for Paris was the largest city of France. And in turn there was a spot in Paris under the sway of a particularly fiendish stench: between the rue aux Fers and the rue de la Ferronnerie, the Cimetiere des Innocents to be exact. For eight hundred years the dead had been brought here from the Hotel-Dieu and from the surrounding parish churches, for eight hundred years, day in, day out, corpses by the dozens had been carted here and tossed into long ditches, stacked bone upon bone for eight hundred years in the tombs and charnel houses. Only later-on the eve of the Revolution, after several of the grave pits had caved in and the stench had driven the swollen graveyard's neighbors to more than mere protest and to actual insurrection-was it finally closed and abandoned. Millions of bones and skulls were shoveled into the catacombs of Montmartre and in its place a food market was erected.

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Only later-on the eve of the revolution, after several of the grave pits had caved in and the stench had driven the swollen graveyard's neighbours to more than mere protest and to actual insurrection-was it finally closed and abandoned. Millions of bones and skulls were shoveled into the catacombs of Montmartre and in its place a food market was erected.

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## Synonyms

- a. Fiendish:
- b. Insurrection:
- c. Catacombs:
- d. Shovelled
- e. Congealed:

Let us look at the exercises here; fiendish, insurrection, catacombs, shoveled, congealed. Now I want you to do this exercise and pairs, and find the meanings yourself; I would not be discussing the answers now because we have other things to do, but for once do this exercise on your own and find meanings; fiendish, insurrection, catacombs, shovelled congealed.

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## Passage 7

- Here, then, on the most putrid spot in the whole kingdom, Jean-Baptiste Grenouille was born on July 17, 1738. It was one of the hottest days of the year. The heat lay leaden upon the graveyard, squeezing its putrefying vapor, a blend of rotting melon and the fetid odor of burnt animal horn, out into the nearby alleys. When the labor pains began, Grenouille's mother was standing at a fish stall in the rue aux Fers, scaling whiting that she had just gutted. The fish, ostensibly taken that very morning from the Seine, already stank so vilely that the smell masked the odor of corpses. Grenouille's mother, however, perceived the odor neither of the fish nor of the corpses, for her sense of smell had been utterly dulled, besides which her belly hurt, and the pain deadened all susceptibility to sensate impressions. She only wanted the pain to stop, she wanted to put this revolting birth behind her as quickly as possible. It would be much the same this day, and Grenouille's mother, who was still a young woman, barely in her mid-twenties, and who still was quite pretty and had almost all her teeth in her mouth and some hair on her head and suffered from no serious disease, who still hoped to live a while yet, perhaps a good five or ten years, and perhaps even to marry one day and as the honorable wife of a widower with a trade or some such to bear real children . . . Grenouille's mother wished that it were already over. But then, on account of the heat and the stench, which she did not perceive as such but only as an unbearable, numbing something-like a field of lilies or a small room filled with too many daffodils-she grew faint, toppled to one side, fell out from under the table into the street, and lay there, knife in hand.



Let us move on to the 7th passage; here, then on the most putrid spot in the whole kingdom, Jean-Baptiste Grenouille was born on July 17, 1738. It was one of the hottest days of the year. The heat lay leaden upon the graveyard, squeezing its putrefying vapor, a blend of rotting melon and the fetid odor of burnt animal horn, out into the nearby alleys. When the labor pains began, Grenouille's mother was standing at a fish stall in the rue aux Fers, scaling whiting that she had just gutted. The fish, ostensibly taken that very morning from the Seine, already stank so vilely that the smell masked the odor of corpses. Grenouille's mother, however, perceived the odor neither of the fish nor of the corpses for her sense of smell had been utterly dulled, besides which her belly hurt and the pain deadened all susceptibility to sensate impressions.

She only wanted the pain to stop; she wanted to put this revolting birth behind her as quickly as possible. It would be much the same this day and Grenouille's mother, who was still a young woman, barely in her mid-twenties, and who still was quite pretty and had almost all her teeth in her mouth and some hair on her head and suffered from no serious disease, who still hoped to live a while yet, perhaps a good five or ten years, and perhaps even to marry one day and as the honorable wife of a widower with a trade or some such to bear real children. Grenouille's mother wished that it were already over. But then, on account of the heat and the stench, which she did not perceive as such but only as an unbearable, numbing something -like a field of lilies or a small room filled with too many daffodils-she grew faint, toppled to one side, fell out from under the table into the street, and lay there, knife in hand.

Now, look at the passage go through it all by yourself, let us do the questions here. So, what is the tone of the passage? So, if the author affectionate is he angry, is he excited or is he just being dispassionate?

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1. What is the tone of the passage?

- a. Affectionate
- b. Angry
- c. Excited
- d. dispassionate

If you go to the entire thing yes he describing a social reality in most poetic terms, but it is definitely not affectionate. He is not where really explicitly showing any angry or excitements, but he is a master at describing the most hideous of situations in a most dispassionate tone. So, he is not really he is just describing, but not really into it and that is a style of writing, that is the greatness of Suskinds perfume that most (Refer Time:33:54) kind of things are described in most dispassionate tone.

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## Give antonyms of

- a. Putrid
- b. Vile:
- c. Revolting:

So, let us move on give a antonyms of the words, you have just read this passage and words taken from this look at the slide here, putrid, vile, revolting. I want you to find the meanings of course, but also find on your own the opposites of these words.

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## Vocabulary: Dictionary work

- a. Effected
- b. Fetid
- c. Sensate
- d. ostensibly

And let us now move on to do some dictionary work. I want you to find out the word categories of these words please look at the slide affected, fetid, sensate and ostensibly. Word categories and meanings of these words take a many toss to and then we will start solving this exercise all right. So, the word effected it is a verb it means to cause something to happen. So, I effected the construction of this particular building, I effected the introduction of a particular course.

So, this is a person who did something cause something to happen. Fetid is an adjective smelling extremely bad, the fetid smell of rotting fish. So, extremely bad smell; sensate is an adjective again something that is perceived by senses that can be felt only by senses; and ostensibly is an adverb most word like most words that and with an l y. So, seemingly ostensibly he is a very kind person, but he is really is not ostensibly all right. So, we will meet for our next class soon.

Thank you very much.