A. Answer the following questions very briefly.

Question 1.

What was the question that the Padma wanted to know from her parents?

Answer:

The Padma wanted to know from her parents what the identity of a woman was and how she was different from others.

Question 2.

How many brother and sister did the Padma have?

Answer:

The Padma was the only child of her parents. She had no brother and sister.

Question 3.

Why was the Padma unhappy with her father?

Answer:

The Padma was unhappy with her father as she thought that he cared more for money than for her.

Question 4. For whom is life hell according to Padma's mother? Answer:

According to Padma's mother, life is hell for the women whose husband is dead.

Question 5.

What, according to the Padma, is the identity of the human race?

Answer:

According to the Padma, the identity of the human race is the identity of women.

C. Long Answer Questions

Question 1.

'Father cares more for money than for me'. Why does the Padma say so? Have you felt like the Padma? Explain.

Answer:

The Padma says so because she feels her father lacking in emotion towards her. He is always

behind earning money. She feels unhappy with him for her neglect. According to Padma her father gives more importance to money than to her. Occasionally I feel like the Padma when my parents do not listen to my talk and they do not give proper care and attention. I find that my demand is ignored and I feel that I am no more than a commodity to my parents and an object to gratify their sense of achievement. They lack personal feelings and emotions for me.

Question 2.

What, according to Padma's father, is the identity of a woman? Do you agree with him? Answer:

According to Padma's father marriage lends identity to a woman. A woman's identity depends on the identity of her husband. I do not agree with this point. Women play a complementary and important role in the life of men. Nature has gifted them with special attributes so that the human race would continue to grow to prosper. Thus while men have been endowed with virile strength, women are endowed with human sensibilities and emotion like love. Compassion and caring. These are extremely vital for the upbringing of the future generation. Who is the hope of tomorrow? Their contribution to the field of education, doctors, nurses or a social worker. They provide health care facilities to the community. Their contributions are indeed their identity.

Question 3.

What question did the Padma ask that her mother calls senseless? Why did Padma's mother call it senseless? Explain.

Answer:

The question that the Padma asked her mother, "what if one does not get married?" Padma's mother was a devotee lade. She knew' that for a woman husband is everything without a husband a woman life is like a hell so when the Padma asked the question repeatedly she called it senseless.

Question 4.

What is the injustice that the Padma talked about?

Answer:

The Padma calls it an injustice when her mother tells that life is hell for the woman whose husband is dead. She hates such idea of woman's identity.

Question 5.

Sketch the character of Padma.

Answer:

The Padma is a young girl with a modem outlook. She is observed of all observers. She is the centre of the play. She is educated and advanced she is independent in thinking and has a strong personality. She does not suffer from any sense of inferiority or fear complex that is why she feels aggrieved and agitated by the uncharitably orthodox attitude of the society

towards women. She repeatedly questions her parents and her teacher about the right and the identity of a woman and asks them whether her identity is subject to her marriage. She wants equality and justice for the woman.

Question 6.

Padma's mother is the true image of a typical traditional woman. Elaborate, Answer:

The word tradition, however, means, unwritten beliefs and customs handed down from generation to generation, which we all knowingly or unknowingly adhere to in our daily lives. It is the emotional fabric, which binds us to our fore-lather and makes us distinct from one another.

Padma's mother is the true image of a typical traditional woman. She loves her daughter and her husband truly. She does not believe in the independent identity of a woman without her husband she does not think herself different from her husband, she thinks, that her identity is linked with her husband and she cherishes the bond. She strongly believes that a woman without a husband has no existence and for a widow life is a hell. She also believes that a woman has no right to ask odd questions from her husband. Thus, Padma's mother proves herself a complete Indian traditional woman.

Question 7.

Discuss the main idea contained in the text? Answer:

The main idea contained in the text is an enquiry into the identity of the woman and search for justice and the right of equality for her. The Padma is a young girl and a feminist with the modern outlook. She opposes traditional beliefs and questions to her parents about the identity of a woman. She is progressive in her thinking. She wants to enjoy equal rights and should have identity of her own. She does not want to be dependent on marriage or her husband for her identity.

Question 8.

Why is the lesson culled "Dharam Juddha"? Give reasons.

Answer:

The lesson has been titled Dharam Juddha which reminds the Mahabharata war between the Kauravas and the Pandavas. Lord Krishna encouraged Arjuna to fight against his Guru and grandfather for his rights. It was called Dharam Juddha a war for righteousness. Here is also a war of justice and rights of equality of a woman. The Padma fights for a woman in modern ways whereas her parents are of on traditional path. The Padma wants woman's independent... identity in society. So It is just like a war of right and equality. So the title is 'Dharam Juddha' is correct.

A. Work in small groups and discuss the following:

Question 3.

An unmarried man is venerated and called a saint, while an unmarried woman is called immoral and wanton. Is it justified?

Answer:

If a man decides to remain unmarried, he is considered a saint and is also regarded as a sacred man, his character is also considered sacred. He now becomes a holy man. On the other hand, if a woman remains unmarried she is called immortal and wanton. Her character is suspected in society. She is not respected Gdike a holy man. It is not justified according to the author. So he pleads for equal treatment.

Question 4.

Both men and women are equally important for human society. Do you agree? Answer:

Yes, I wholeheartedly agree that both men and women are equally important for human society. Behind every successful! man, there is a woman. All great men in their autobiographies have acknowledged this fact. Woman today play a complementary and important role in the life of men and thus in human society. Nature has gifted them with special attributes so that the human race would continue to grow and prosper. Thus while men have been endowed with virile strength, women are endowed with human sensibilities and emotion like love, compassion and caring. These extremely vital for the upbringing of the future generation, who are the hope of tomorrow. They are the fulcrums around which the family and our lives revolve. Thus a wife, mother, sister they play an indispensable part in the life of men. So like men, they are equally important for human society.