

## In the Bazaars of Hyderabad

I. Write the word meanings from the book.

II. Explain these phrases / lines from the poem '*In the bazaars of Hyderabad*'.

1. Panels of amber

Ans. The complicated designs made of the semi-precious stone amber on mirrors.

2. Chessmen and ivory dice

Ans. The pieces in chess and *chaturanga* made of ivory and other expensive material.

3. Spells for aeons to come

Ans. Chants magic *mantras* or special prayers that will influence the future.

III. Answer these questions.

1. *What do you call, O ye pedlars?*

a. What does call mean here – talk, shout, name, describe?

Ans. Here, call means shout.

b. Why do the pedlars have to call?

Ans. They have to shout to catch the attention of the people. They have to be loud in order to be heard above the rest of the sounds in the market.

c. What do they sell?

Ans. The pedlars sell chess pieces and dice made of ivory.

2. *Bells for the feet of blue pigeons/Frail as a dragon-fly's wings*

a. Who makes the bells?

Ans. Goldsmiths make the bells.

b. Why do they make the bells?

Ans. They make the bells so that they can be tied around the feet of pigeons. These bells will help distinguish the king's pigeons or those of the rich people.

c. Why are the bells compared to a dragon fly's wing?

Ans. The bells are small and light, since they have to be tied around the feet of the pigeons. They are as delicate as the wings of a dragon fly.

3. *Crowns for the brow of a bridegroom?*

a. Who makes these crowns?

Ans. Flower girls make these crowns.

b. What are they made of?

Ans. These crowns are made of brightly coloured flowers.

c. How are they different from the crown of a king or queen?

Ans. The crowns of a king or queen are made of gold and gems whereas a bridegroom's crown is made of flowers, like a wreath with tassels.