



**THE LAST BARGAIN**

**I. MIND MAP:**

(In cloud format)

Enjambment - Eg: 1<sup>st</sup> line ( continuation without a break.

Alliteration -He made me a free man. (repetition of M sound )

Imagery - Imagination of the scenes.

Assonance - I will hire you with. (prominent sound of I)

Consonance - He held my hand and said ( prominent sound of H )

Symbolism- Bag of gold is a symbol of huge wealth.

**II. ERC:**

**1. 'I will hire you with my money.'**

**a. Name the speaker.**

Ans. An old man is the speaker.

**b. What is the 'money' referred here?**

Ans. The money referred here is a bag of gold.

**C. Was the addressee willing to be hired?**

Ans. No, the addressee was not willing to be hired. He valued his freedom more than becoming a slave for gold.

**III. Answer in short:**

**1. Who is the speaker in the poem?**

Ans. A man in search of a job is the speaker.

**2. How did the speaker feel after talking to the child on the beach?**

Ans. After talking to child, the speaker felt that in return for his labour, he would get satisfaction, joy and freedom

**IV. Answer in detail:**

**1. What attempts does the man make to strike a bargain?**

Ans. The man wants to be hired. The king tries to hire him with his power. But for the man, power counts for nothing. Then comes a rich old man with his gold coins. The third person who wants to hire the man is a pretty girl. But the man does not need power, gold and sweet love. He finally strikes a bargain with a little child on

the seashore. He had nothing to offer except his goodwill and cheer. This was what the man wanted. So he accepted the child's offer.

## THE SUMMIT WITHIN

### I. MIND MAP:

Title. Students' choice

### II. ERC:

1. There is another summit. It is within yourself. Each man carries within himself his own mountain peak.

a) Who is the speaker?

Ans. The speaker is Major H.P.S Ahluwalia. He was a member of the first successful Indian expedition to Mt. Everest in 1965.

b) What does the speaker say about the summit within?

Ans. The speaker says that there is a summit within every person. It is the summit of the mind. It is no less formidable and not easier to climb.

c) What are the benefits of climbing this mountain?

Ans. The benefits of climbing the mountain within are:

- We will know much about the world and ourselves.
- We will be a changed person.
- We will get a close communion with God.

### III. SHORT ANSWERS:

1. Why is adventure, which is risky, also pleasurable?

Ans. Adventure is risky and pleasurable too. Mountain climbing is a great adventure but is also risky. It is a great challenge filled with difficulties and challenges are always pleasurable. After overcoming the hurdles, one feels confident and happy.

Climbing Mt. Everest is a challenging and risky job but when the climber reaches the summit, he feels a great sense of exhilaration, joy and fulfilment to being able to scale such heights. Hence, the experience is both risky and pleasurable.

**2. What was it about Mt. Everest that the author found irresistible?**

Ans. Mt. Everest drew him towards itself by its beauty, aloofness, might, ruggedness and the difficulties encountered on the way. That is why the author found Mt Everest irresistible.

**3. One does not climb the mountain for fame alone. What does one do it for, really?**

Ans. A man doesn't climb a mountain and reach the summit for fame alone. Conquering the summit is a great physical achievement. It requires one 's endurance, persistence and will power. It gives the climber an emotional and spiritual satisfaction.

It is indeed both emotional and spiritual. It satisfies the climber 's eternal love for adventures which gives one a sense of fulfilment, satisfaction and a deep urge to rise over and above the surroundings.

**IV. DETAIL ANSWER:**

**1.What according to the writer did his experience as an Everester teach him?**

Ans. As an Everester the author became completely a changed person. It made him realise his own smallness. He experienced a great sense of fulfilment and satisfaction. It encouraged him to face the ordeals of life in a determined manner. It taught him that the conquest of inner summit is also equally important compared to climbing the mountain. He realised that it will give him a better and fuller knowledge about himself which no one else other than him can scale to meet his true self.

## **Princess September**

**I. SHORT ANSWERS**

**1. i) What was Princess September 's reaction to the loss of her parrot?**

Princess September took the loss of her parrot heart. She wept continuously.

**ii)What was her mother's reaction to it?**

Her mother said that Princess September 's weeping was simply nonsense. She asked the maids to send the princess to sleep without supper.

**iii) What do the reactions indicate about the nature and temperament of each?**

The princess was very simple hearted and sensitive. She was stricken with grief when her parrot died. But the queen mother was not moved at all. She was insensitive towards her crying child.

**2. What pulled the Princess out of her gloom?**

Ans. The arrival of the little song bird into her room comforted Princess September and pulled her out of her gloom.

**3. Why did the bird refuse to be taken out in her cage?**

Ans. The bird said that he won't be really happy and normal if he was taken out in her cage. The rice fields and the lake looked quite different and dull when seen through the cage bars.

**II. Answer in detail**

**1. Are the sisters unkind and cruel?**

Ans. Yes, the eight sisters of the princess were unkind and cruel. They were jealous when they saw that Princess September 's little pet could sing so beautifully, which their parrots couldn't. When Princess September 's parrot died, they offered their pocket money to their young sister to get her a lovely parrot. They advised her to keep the little bird in a cage so that he could never leave her. Princess September adhered to their advice and kept her little pet in a golden cage.

They convinced her to believe that if the bird tries to come out of the cage, she should not allow him and that he would get used to staying inside the cage. Further they also told her to be firm even if he dies in the cage due to its stubbornness.

They even mocked her by saying that she should never set the bird free as he would never return to sweet and melodious songs for her.