



CLASS NOTES-ANSWERS

Questions.

1. Why did Swami Haridas say Tansen was 'talented'?

Answer: Tansen learned to imitate bird and animal calls. He roared like a tiger in the forest one day to terrify Swami Haridas, a traveller. Swami praised Tansen's ability and referred to him as talented.

2. Why did Akbar ask Tansen to join his court?

Answer: Tansen became a famous vocalist after eleven years of studying music under Swami Haridas. He sang in front of Emperor Akbar. In 1556, Akbar was so impressed that he invited Tansen to join his court.

3. How do we know that Akbar was fond of Tansen? Give two reasons.

Answer: Tansen became Emperor Akbar's personal favourite. Akbar used to go to Tansen's residence to listen to him play music. Tansen was asked to sing anytime he felt like it. He also lavished Tansen with gifts.

4. What did the other courtiers feel about Tansen?

Answer: As Tansen's popularity grew, other courtiers grew envious of him. They were attempting to smear Tansen's musical reputation.

5.

i. What happens if Raga Deepak is sung properly?

Answer: When Raga Deepak is properly performed, the environment becomes so hot that the performer is reduced to ashes.

ii. Why did Tansen's enemies want him to sing the Raga?



Answer: Tansen's opponents were envious of him and wished to kill him.

6. Why did Tansen agree to sing Raga Deepak?

Answer: As he had to obey the Emperor, Tansen decided to sing Raga Deepak. Tansen had to demonstrate his musical ability as well.

7.

i. What steps did he take to save himself?

Answer: Tansen was well aware of Raga Deepak's danger. He took two precautionary actions to ensure his safety. He pleaded with the king for a long time. During that time, he taught Raga Megh to his daughter and her buddy.

ii. Did his plan work? How?

Answer: Tansen's strategy worked flawlessly. His singing heated the atmosphere. The lamps were lit by flames that shot up from the ground. The two females began singing Raga Megh at that same moment. Tansen's life was saved when the rains came down abruptly.