Long-Answer Type Questions (80-100 words)

① "Dowry is a negation of a girl's dignity." prove this statement in the light of the story 'Bholi'. How can this evil be eradicated from our society?

Ans- Dowry is a curse on our society. It has become a monster now. Dowry, no doubt, is a negation of a girl's dignity. Bishamber refused to accept Bholi because of her looks. The moment he saw her face full of pock-marks, he refused to marry her. He did not care for her dignity. But he was ready to marry that ugly girl if her father would give him five thousand rupees as dowry. He was ready to compromise with her looks in exchange of money. It was a sheer negation of Bholi's dignity. Education of girls is the most powerful weapon against this evil.

② On the basis of your understanding of the story, describe the role of the teacher played in Bholi's life. What does it talk about her character?

Ans- Bholi was a slow child from the beginning. Due to smallpox, her face had pock-marks which made her look different from other students. Her speech was not clear and she used to stammer. That is why, she was slower than other children. Even her parents called her dumb and witless. However, she was sent to school ~~when~~ where her teacher changed her life. Bholi's teacher played a significant

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role in her life. She gave her encouragement and confidence to learn. She became an educated and and a bold girl. Due to Bholi's teacher, she was able to take charge of her life. It was love, compassion and sympathy in the teacher that transformed the life of Bholi. Every teacher must be like her to bring a change in society.

(3) Bholi has multiple handicaps - she is a girl. she has pock-marks, she stammers. How can we change the social attitudes towards the differently abled?

Ans - Bholi is physically challenged. she is a slow girl. She has pock-marks and also stammers. what differences does it make? she is a human being and she should also be treated and honoured like other human beings. If a person lacks something on the one hand, he or she is compensated on the other by God. We see so many examples and instances in the society which prove that disability of any kind is not an obstacles in one's life. Helen Keller was blind but proved to be a successful writer at the end. Sudha Chandran is an example of indomitable will, who, despite losing one leg, became a dancer of world-fame. The social attitude towards these people should not be one of pity. They should be appreciated that in spite of one's weakness, they are struggling hard to survive. The society will have to change its attitude towards differently abled people.

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