



ENGLISH

NCERT - NCERT ENGLISH(HINGLISH)

AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM IN A SLUM

Exercise

1. Have you ever visited or seen an elementary school in a slum? What does it look like?



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2. (a) The tall girl with her head weighed down means the girl _____.

(i) is ill and exhausted

(ii) has her head bent with shame

(iii) has untidy hair



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3. (b) The paper-seeming boy with rat's eyes means the boy is _____.

(i) sly and secretive

(ii) thin, hungry and weak

(iii) unpleasant looking



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4. (c) The stunted, unlucky heir of twisted bones means the boy _____. (i) has an

inherited disability

(ii) was short and bony



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5. (d) His eyes live in a dream. A squirrel's game, in the tree room other than this. This means the boy is _____.

(i) full of hope in the future

(ii) mentally ill

(iii) distracted from the lesson



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6. (e) The children's faces are compared to 'rootless weeds'. This means they _____.

(i) are insecure

(ii) are ill-fed

(iii) are wasters



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7. What do you think is the colour of 'sour cream'? Why do you think the poet has used

this expression to describe the classroom walls?



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8. The walls of the classroom are decorated with the pictures of 'Shakespeare', 'buildings with domes', 'world maps' and beautiful valleys. How do these contrast with the world of these children?



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9. What does the poet want for the children of the slums? How can their lives be made to change?



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