



## *A Baker From Goa Question And Answers*

### Oral Comprehension Check (Page 86)

#### **Q.1. What are the elders in Goa nostalgic about?**

**Ans.** The elders in Goa are nostalgic about the Portuguese people who used to spend good old days. The Portuguese are recalled for their famous bread. Moreover, the elders affectionately remembered old days because when people grew old they recollect rich experiences of their past.

#### **Q.2. Is bread-making still popular in Goa? How do you know?**

**Ans.** Yes, it is clearly reflected in the story that bread-making seems to be very well liked and fascinated by the people of Goa. The writer has portrayed old ovens and burning fire used to make bread by bakers. The society of Goa comprises the mixers, the moulders and the bakers.

#### **Q.3. What is the baker called in Goa?**

**Ans.** In Goa, the baker is known as 'pader'.

#### **Q.4. When would the baker come every day? Why did the children run to meet him?**

**Ans.** The baker came in the morning almost daily. The children were fond of his melodious sales pitch. Moreover, all the family members were excited to hear the 'jhang, jhang' sound of the baker's bamboo shaft.

#### **Q.5. Match the following. What is a must-**

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| <b>(i) as marriage gifts?</b>             | - cakes and bolinhas     |
| <b>(ii) for a party or a feast?</b>       | - sweet bread called bol |
| <b>(iii) for a daughter's engagement?</b> | - bread                  |
| <b>(iv) for Christmas?</b>                | - sandwiches             |

**Ans.**

- |                               |                        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>(i) as marriage gifts?</b> | sweet bread called bol |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|

- (ii) for a party or a feast? bread
- (iii) for a daughter's engagement? sandwiches
- (iv) for Christmas? cakes and bolinhas

**Q.6. What did the bakers wear: (i) in the Portuguese days? (ii) when the author was young?**

**Ans.** (i) In the Portuguese days, the bakers used to wear a single-piece, knee-length long frock known as 'kabai'. This dress made their appearance different.

(ii) The bakers usually wore a shirt and trousers which were shorter than full-length ones and longer than half pants during the young days of the author.

**Q.7. Who invites the comment- "he is dressed like a pader"? Why?**

**Ans.** Even today if someone wears half pants with length a little bit down from knees, he is remarked by a statement, "he is dressed like a pader" because the bakers used to wear such dresses in Goa. It was a unique dressing style which gave a different style and look.

**Q.8. Where were the monthly accounts of the baker recorded?**

**Ans.** The baker used to record the monthly accounts on the walls with a pencil. It was because in earlier days there was no process of recording or maintaining in notebooks.

**Q.9 What does a 'jackfruit-like appearance' mean?**

**Ans.** A 'jackfruit-like appearance' means a plump physique. A baker's profession seemed to be a money-making profession that was evident from the round and plumpy physical appearance of the baker as if he was well fed.

***Thinking about the Text***

***A Baker From Goa Question And Answers***

**Q.1. Which of these statements are correct?**

- (i) The pader was an important person in the village in old times.
- (ii) Paders still exist in Goan villages.
- (iii) The paders went away with the Portuguese.
- (iv) The paders continue to wear a single-piece long frock.
- (v) Bread and cakes were an integral part of Goan life in the old days.

(vi) Traditional bread-baking is still a very profitable business.

(vii) Paders and their families starve in the present times.

**Ans:-**

(i) True, (ii) True, (iii) False, (iv) False, (v) True, (vi) True, (vii) False

**Q.2. Is bread an important part of Goan life? How do you know this?**

**Ans.** Yes, bread is an essential chunk of the lifestyle of Goa. No special occasions, party, marriage or religious festival are meant to be meaningful without bread. For instance, sandwiches are essential to be prepared on the occasion of a daughter's engagement. Cakes and bolinhas are a must for Christmas and other festivals.

**Q.3. Tick the right answers. What is the tone of the author when he says the following?**

(i) The thud and the jingle of the traditional baker's bamboo can still be heard in some places. (nostalgic, hopeful, sad)

(ii) Maybe the father is not alive but the son still carries on the family profession. (nostalgic, hopeful, sad)

(iii) I still recall the typical fragrance of those loaves. (nostalgic, hopeful, naughty)

(iv) The tiger never brushed his teeth. Hot tea could wash and clean up everything so nicely, after all. (naughty, angry, funny)

(v) Cakes and bolinhas are a must for Christmas as well as other festivals. (sad, hopeful, matter-of-fact)

(vi) The baker and his family never starved. They always looked happy and prosperous. (matter-of-fact, hopeful, sad)

**Ans.**

(i) nostalgic, (ii) hopeful, (iii) nostalgic,

(iv) funny (v) matter-of-fact, (vi) matter-of-fact