

General Awareness: INDIAN CULTURE (Theatre, Music & Dance)

The Indian Theatre: The Indian theatre dates back to even earlier than 4th century BC. **Kautilya's Arthshastra** mentions about people who earned their livelihood by performing in plays and dramas. Do you know which book is still considered an authentic source for Indian dance, music and theatre? It is **Bharata Muni's Natyashastra**. It was considered as the fifth Veda. The Indian theatre can be classified into 3 distinct types: the Sanskrit theatre or the classical theatre, the folk theatre or the traditional theatre and the modern theatre. The Sanskrit theatre slowly evolved to depict the social and cultural life of the society. The prominent contributors to the Sanskrit theatre were **Ashwaghosa (Madhyama Vyayoga), Kalidas (Shakuntlam, Kumarasambhavam) Sudraka(Mricha Katika), Bhavabhuti(Uttararamacharita), Vishaka Dutta(Mudrarakshasa), Mahendra Vikrama(Mattavilasprahasan) Bhodayana(Bhaavatajuka) Bhasa(Urubhanga)**. 'Rasa' or the expression of intense feelings marked the Sanskrit plays; Rasas were expressed through a lot of gestures, eye, lip and many body movements.

The Sanskrit theatre greatly influenced the dance drama forms in other places and other languages like **Kuchipudi (Andhra Pradesh), Nautanki(Uttar Pradesh), Tamasha(Maharashtra), Theyyam(Kerala), Yakshaganam(Karnataka) Maach(Madhya Pradesh) Satriya(Assam)**. Later it became the vehicle for spreading religion, eg. **Rasaleela and the Ramlila (U.P), Ankianat(Assam), Bhagavata Mela(Tamil Nadu) and Jatra(Bengal)** Musical drama forms like Harikatha and Kirtana also emerged. **Terukkoothu (Tamil Nadu)** was the early street play, which presented episodes from the Mahabharata and the Ramayana.

In the modern era, the Indian drama was quick enough to appreciate the novelty of the western theatre and started learning new techniques for stage performance. Theatre became a vehicle to create social awareness. Classic examples of this kind are the plays of **Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore** like **Rokta Korabhi, Mukta Dhara, Raja, Dak Ghar**. Other great names of the Bengali theatre are **Bijon Bhattacharya, Amritlal Basu, Dinabhandu Mitra, Utpal Dutt and Badal Sircar**. Names of some illustrious theatre personalities from other languages are **Vijay Tendulkar, Jayavant Dalvi, Govind Deshpande(Marathi) Jaswant Thakar, Pravin Joshi and Sarita Joshi (Gujarati) Sambandam Mudaliar, Shankardas Swamigal, Rajamanickam Pillai, Kali N.Ratnam, Manohar(Tamil) Girish Karnad (Kannada), Gurajada Apparao, Narayana Rao, Shriramulu(Telugu) Sukumaran Nair, C.J. Thomas, Kalanilayam Krishnan Nair, Omcheri(Malayalam) Hussain, Narasi(Parsi) Dharam Vir Bharti, Mohan Rakesh, Jagadishchandra Mathur(Hindi)**.

The contribution of **Badal Sircar** through his plays **Evam Inderjit and Pagla Ghoda** worth the mention when we talk of plays of modern trends. They are similar to the **theatre of the 'Absurd'** of the western drama. Theatre goes started dwindling due to the effect of the cinema. In the mid twentieth century, the great vehicle that spread the nationalistic fervour during the freedom movement, tried to adapt Western plays by translating them. Some of the western

writers whose works were translated were, Moliere, Shakespeare, Brecht, Chekov, Ibsen, Tolstoy, etc. **The National School of Drama (NSD)**, considered as one of the top theatre institutions of our country, is more than 50 years old and has created a strong theatre community, through its degree and diploma courses, workshops, and patronage. Stalwart directors, like **Ebrahim Alkazi, B.V. Karanth, Anamika Haskar** are all associated with the institution. Other names that deserve mention in the field of directing plays are that of **Alyque Padamsee, Prasanna, Arvind Gaur, Satyadev Dubey, Vijaya Mehta, Shyamanand Jalan and Amal Allana**. In the recent times, **Tumhari Amrita, Saalgirah, Mahatma vs Gandhi**– all directed by **Feroz Khan** – have brought a refreshing change to the Indian theatre.

Many films have been made after the success of great plays on the stage. Several cinema actors are also theatre personalities like, **Naseeruddin Shaw, Anupam Kher, Shabana Azmi**. The theatre has undergone a vast change just like any other field, in its use of stage props and effects, sound and light equipment etc. More and more experiments are conducted combining the traditional with the IT tools of the modern times to keep this art form vibrant and alive.

Questions on the Indian Theatre:

1. Which book on drama was considered the fifth veda?
a. Arthshastra b. Shakuntlam c. Ramayana d. Natyashastra
2. Who wrote Uttararamacharita?
a. Ashwaghosa b. Bhasa C. Kalidas d. Bhavabhuti
3. Which dance drama form uses elaborate face painting much like the Yakshaganam?
a. Kalaripattu b. Karagam c. Kathakali d.therukoothu
4. Which of the following drama forms exactly means 'played on the street'?
a. Ramlila b. Rasaleela c. Terukoothu d.Ankianat
5. Which of the following plays was **not** written by Rabindranath Tagore?
a. Evam Inderjit b.Rokta korabi c. Mukta Dhara d. Dak Ghar
6. The drama form 'Maach' belongs to which state?
a. Assam b. Madhya Pradesh C. Rajasthan D. Uttar Pradesh
7. Among the following, which two writers belong to Russia?
a. Moliere b. Shakespeare c. Tolstoy d. Chekov
8. Both 'Tumhari Amrita' and 'Salesman Ramlal' were directed by the same director. Who is he?
a. Badal Sircar b. Vijay Tendulkar c. Feroz Khan d. Sanjay Khan
9. What do theatre directors Alkazi, Karanth, Ratan Thiyam and Anamika Haskar have in common?
10. Find out the name of the film actor, playwright who wrote the play "Tuglaq" and who translated Evam Inderjit into English language. (Clue:He is a famous theatre personality who writes in Kannada and English)

- Find out more about Vijay Tendulkar and his plays.
- Find out which of the Shakespearean tragedies have been successfully translated into Hindi and other languages and by whom.

Indian Music:

India has a rich music culture right from the vedic ages. The ancient sages have referred to music as the soothing healer of maladies and that it is food of human existence.

It is said that Indian Music is a vast, unfathomable ocean and only a few have succeeded in their search for pearl and other bounties from this ocean. Music happens to be the queen of all performing arts (fine arts) and is considered to be a form of worship in India. **Goddess Saraswati** is considered to be the **goddess of Knowledge**, the reigning deity of all **fine arts like Music, drawing and painting, sculpture, dance and drama and the Muse of poetry.**

There are two major styles of classical music unique to India- 1. the **Hindustani style** popular in North India and 2. the **Carnatic style** popular in South India. Bhakti/devotion to God is the main purpose of classical music and hence the theme and content of the songs sung/played are heavily religious or spiritual. The songs/kritis/kirtans are set to melodious tunes called 'ragas' and time beats/rhythms called taal/taalas'. Great poets and holy men like **Tulsidas, Surdas, Meera Bhai, Namdev, Ek Nath, Kabir** have contributed the lyrics of the songs in the Hindustani style. **Thyagaraja, Muthuswamy Dikshitar, and Shyama Sastrigal** are considered the big threes among composers(lyrics and music) in the carnatic style. Some of the other composers are **Purandara dasa, Annamacharya, Narayana Tirthar and Swati Thirunal.**

While vocal renderings by great vocalists are very popular and listened to in rapt attention, instrumental music enjoys equal popularity. Research has proved that some of the ragas of Indian music, rendered in a particular fashion, can cure chronic diseases of the body and mind. There are ragas for different moods and ragas suitable for different time of the day. It is said that **Tansen**, the famous musician who decorated the court of Emperor Akbar, could make clouds shower rain, with his rendering of the raag 'Megh Malhar'! Though in the recent times, Fusion music mixing the classical and the popular or western music has become a big hit with the masses, the pure form of Indian music enjoys wide popularity not only in India but also in other countries.

In the Hindustani style, **Pandit Bhimsen Joshi, Pt. Jasraj, Rajan Mishra and Sajan Mishra, Kishori Amolkar, Prabha Apte, Girija devi, Parveen Sultana, Shubha Mudgal** are some of the vocalists famous for their vocal recitals both within our country and abroad.

In the Carnatic Style, **Dr. Bal Murali Krishna Madurai Shesha Gopalan** are two of the many veterans who inspire the youth to learn classical music and keep the tradition alive. Late **M. S Subbulakshmi**'s voice had the power to mesmerize any number of listeners during her recitals. Vocalists who are now popular are **Sudha Raghunathan, Aruna Sairam, Sowmya, Nithyasree Mahadevan, Unnikrishnan, T.N. Krishna. Hyderabad bothers, Sanjay Subramanian, Neyveli Santanam Hyderabad bothers, Jesudas.** Here is a list of exponents of some of the Indian musical instruments.

Instrument	The Hindustani style	The Carnatic Style
Flute	Hariprasad Chaurasia, Pannalal Ghosh	T.R. Mahalingam, Dr. N. Ramani, Sikkil sisters, Shashank,
Sitar	Ustad Vilayat Khan, Pt. Ravishankar, Ustad Imrat Khan, Ustad Abdul Halim Zaffar Khan, Ustad Rais Khan and Pt Debu Chowdhury.	-----
Sarod:	Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, Pt. Buddhadev Das Gupta, Zarin Daruwalla and Brij Narayan.	-----
Saranggi	Rehman Bakhs, Pt Ram Narayan, Ghulam Sabir and Ustad Sultan Khan	-----
Tabla	Late Ustad Allahrakha, Ustad Zakir Hussain, Kishan Maharaj and Rashid Mustapha	-----
Violin:	Pt. Jog, N. Rajam	Chandrashekhar, T.N. Krishnan, Lalgudi Jayaraman, Dr. L. Subramanaian
Mridangam	-----	T.V. Gopalakrishnan, Umayalpuram Shivaraman, Vellore Ramabhardran
Veena	-----	E. Gayatri, R K Suryanarayana, Late Chitti Babu, Late S Balachandran, Late Savitri Ammal
Nadaswaram	-----	Sheikh Chinna Moulana, Madurai Sethuraman & Ponnuswamy, Mambalam Siva, (Late) Thiruvaarur Rajaratnam Pillai
Shehnai	Late Bismillah Khan, Pt. Jagannath	-----

Gottu Vadhyam	-----	Ravi Kiran
Mandolin	-----	U. Srinivas
Saxophone	-----	Kadiri Gopalakrishnan
Santoor	Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma, Bhajan Sopori	-----
Electric Guitar	Vishwa Mohan Bhatt	Prasanna

In addition to the classical forms, the other forms like **sufi kalams, ghazals** are also famous among the masses. From the poetry of Amir Khusro through Mirza Ghalib to Faiz Ahmed Faiz, the ghazal style has exploited many emotional verses to endear itself to its millions of fans.

Folk music has become an integral part of our culture. The **Bhangra from Punjab, Lavni from Maharashtra, the Baul songs of Bengal and the Gujrati Garba, Karnataka's Bhavageete, Pandavni of Madhya Pradesh** are very popular. **Teejan Bhai** has popularized pandavni In Rajasthan different communities, the **saperas, lohars, manganiyars, langas, bhopa and jogis**. The songs are steeped in emotions and are sung for different occasions right from birth, through young age, love, marriage, motherhood, worship of gods, festivals to old age and then death. Songs from the labour community, the farmers, the weavers and other workers sung on different stages of their work, still live in our villages. Tribal people have also contributed to our rich musical heritage. The clarity in the lyrics and the catchy, heart wrenching tunes are the main features of their songs.

Questions for the Music section:

1. Carnatic style of Indian music is popular in which of the following states?
a. Rajasthan b. Uttar Pradesh c. Assam d. Tamil Nadu
2. Thyagaraja was a famous composer of which style of music?
a. Hindustani b. folk music c. Carnatic Music d. ghazals
3. Which Hindustani style raag is supposed to have the power of bringing rain?
a. Bhupali b. Yamankalyan c. Megh Malhar d. Thodi
4. Which is the odd pair among the following?
a. Santoor-Debu Chowdhary b. Flute-Hariprasad Chaurasia
c. Violin-Lagudi Jayaraman d. Mridangam-Vellore Ramabhadran
5. Who among the following is not a vocalist?
a. Pandit Jasraj b. Vishwa Mohan Bhatt c. Sudha Raghunathan d. Bhimsen Joshi
6. Which instrument is associated with U. Srinivas?
a. Nadaswaram b. Saxophone c. Veena d. Mandolin
7. The name Mirza Ghalib is associated with
a. Carnatic music b. folk music c. Akbar's court d. ghazals.
8. To which state does the Baul songs of folk music belong?
a. Madhya Pradesh b. Kashmir c. West Bengal d. Bihar
9. Teejan Bhai's name is associated with
a. Garba songs . b. lavni songs c. bhavageete d. Pandavni
10. The songs from the manganiyars belong to which state?
a. Uttar Pradesh b. Haryana c. Punjab d. Rajasthan

The Indian Dance:

Among the art forms, the most universally understood and appreciated is the dance form. Through its intricate movements, of the hands and legs, and facial expressions, it achieves better attention than any speech, or painting. The legacy of dance in India is very old and very rich. The statuette of the dancing girl one of the famous relics, dates back to 6000 B.C. The form pervades poetry, sculpture, architecture, literature, music and the theatre.

One reason for its popularity in India is the worship of Lord Shiva, one of the Holy Trinities of the Hindu mythology. It is said that His cosmic dance encompasses the processes of creation, preservation and destruction- the ultimate principle on which Hinduism rests. (One can see several postures including the dancing Shiva at the Nataraja temple at Chidambaram). In addition to this, the themes chosen are mostly from mythology like, the story of Ramayana, and Krishna and Radha's relationship. The dances contain methodical training of different kinds of postures, the **mudras or hand formations** and different expressions of emotions or **rasas**. Movements coordinate with the appropriate rasa and thus communication with the rasikas is achieved. The nine rasas (Navrasas) unique to our dance are **hasya**(happiness), **kroda**(anger),**Bhipasha**(disgust), **bhaya**(fear), **shokh**(sorrow), **veeram**(courage), **karuna**(compassion), **adbhuta**(wonder) and **shanta**(serenity). The attire and ornaments are special for each type of classical dance. Dancers use the dancing bells or the ghungroo tied to their ankles; these bells give a pleasant sound that coincides with the syllables given on the percussion instrument(like Mridangam, tabla, pakhlawaj, taal) for foot work by the dancer. The syllables are accompanied by the vocalists, and instruments such as violin, flute.

Different Classical Dances of India:

Name of the dance form & its meaning	State of origin	Famous exponents	Beats/Percussion instrument used
Bharata Natyam (dance of India) (‘Bha’from Bhava, ‘ra’ from raga ‘ta’ from tala)	Tamil Nadu	Bala saraswati, Vyjayantimala, Padmini, Sudharani Raghupati, Chitra Vishweswaran, Alarmel Valli, Malavika Sarukkai, Komala Varadan, Prema Vaidyanathan, Shobhana, Hemamalini, Padma Subramanian, Mallika Sarabhai, Anita Ratnam	Nattuvangam, Mridangam

<p>Kathak “kathakar’ storyteller</p>	North India	Birju Maharaj, Shaswati Sen, Shovana Narayan, Sitara Devi	Tabla
<p>Kuchipudi Kuchipudi is a village in Andhra Pradesh from where it originated</p>	AndhraPradesh	Radha Reddy, Raja Reddy, Kashalya reddy, Yamini Krishnamurthy, Jayaram and Vanasree Jayaram, Swapna sundari	Mridangam
<p>Odissi From/of Orissa</p>	Orissa	Kelucharan mahapatra, Protima Bedi, Madhavi mudgal, Sonal Man Singh, Kiran Sehgal, Indrani Rehman, Rekha Tandon	Pakhawaj
<p>Mohini Attam Dance of the attractive maiden</p>	Kerala	Bharati Shivaji, Kanak Rele, Omanakutty, Rema Shrikant	Mridangam
<p>Kathakali Story-play</p>	Kerala	Kalamandalam Ramankutty Nair, Padma Shri Kalamandalam Gopi, Kottakkal Sivaraman, Madavoor Vasudevan Nair, Sadanam Krishnankutty, Kalanilayam Gopalakrishnan.	Chenda, Maddalam
<p>Manipuri House of many mansions</p>	Manipur	Singhajit Singh and Charu Siya Mathur.	Naal
<p>Chhau Chayya-mask dance</p>	East India	Madan Mohan Lenka ,Sri Hari Nayak Ileana Citaristi	Nagra, a huge kettledrum, Dhol

Folk Dances of India: The dances in the villages and tribal belts of India are epitome of Indian culture. They are simple and come straight from the heart. The dances are performed usually in groups on a variety of occasions mostly during festivals, marriage, after harvest, onset of spring.

State of origin	Name of the dance
Rajasthan	Kalbelia Dance, Chari Dance, Ghoomar Dance Fire Dance, Kachhi Gori, Bhavai, Mayur dance
Punjab	Bhangra, Gidda
Gujarat	Garba, Dandiya
Assam	Bihu, Bagurumbha
Maharashtra	Tamasha, Lavani, Dindi, Lezim
Jammu & Kashmir	Hafiza, Bacha nagma, Ruf, Wuegi-nachun, Roul, Dogri
Ladakh	Mask dance at the Buddhist monasteries
Tamil Nadu	Kummi, Kolattam, Karagattam, Poykkalkudirai, Devarattam, Mayilattam
Karnataka	Veeragase, Gaarudi <u>Yakshagana</u>
Orissa	Dalkai, Goti Pua
Bihar	Karma/Munda
Goa	Koli
Kerala	Padayani
Madhya Pradesh	Charkula

Questions:

1. In the Indian classical dance what is the mudra?
a. foot work b. dance syllables c. the beats from the percussion d. hand formations
2. Among the following which one is not one of the navrasas?
a. raslila b. kroda c. hasya d. shokh
3. Among the following which percussion instrument is used in kathak?
a. tabla b. mridangam c. maddalam d. dholak
4. Who among the following is not an exponent of the Bharatanatyam dance form?
a. Padma Subramanyam b. Balasaraswati c. Birju Maharaj d. Hemamalini
5. Find the mismatch:
a. Kathak-Sitara Devi b. Mohini Attam-Indirani Rehman c. Manipuri-SingajitSingh
d. Odissi-Sonal Mansingh
6. The kalbelia folk dance belongs to which state?
a. Haryana b. Punjab c. Gujarat d. Rajasthan
7. Find the odd one out:
a. Ghoomar b. giddha c. Bhavai d. kachri gori
8. Which among the following is not a folk dance form of Tamil Nadu?
a. Kummi b. veeragasse c. kolattam d. karagattam
9. Which of the following is performed by Buddhist monks of Ladakh?
a. Bihu b. dalgati c. chaau d. the mask dance
10. Of which state is 'tamasha' a folk dance?
a. Uttar Pradesh b. Karnataka c. Madhya Pradesh d. Maharashtra

Current Affairs: (From Mid August to Mid September 2009)

Mid August: NASA's (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) Jet propulsion lab released a report that says that more than 108 cubic Kilometres of ground water disappeared from Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan. That is 1 foot per year.

Aug 19th : A report says that 8.32 crores of the India's population are below the poverty line.

Aug. 22nd: Joint experiment conducted by NASA and the ISRO can throw light upon the subject if ice exists on the Moon. The experiment is called 'Bi static experiment'.

Aug 22nd : Nepal's PM Shri Madhav Kumar visited India for better political and trade relationship.

Aug.24th The PM's council on climate change has approved a mission for energy efficiency.

Aug 26th Govt. has approved a proposal to raise reservations for women in the Panchayat to 50%

Aug.26th India and China will work together to explore ways to combat global warming and reforestation by setting up a joint expert working group.

Aug.29th Chandrayan-1, India's moon mission terminated; lost contact at 1.30A.M

Aug.30th Yukio Hatoyama led Democratic Party of Japan won the elections. He is the Prime ministerial candidate.

Sept.1st Fiji islands is suspended from being a member by the Common Wealth .

Sept. 2nd : Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Mr. Rajasekhara Reddy passed away at Kurnool in a plane mishap.

Sept.4th : Two day meeting of Trade Ministers of WTO concluded at New Delhi after talks on food security and livelihood.(Ref)

Sept.7th Union Minister for Human Resource and Development, Mr. Kapil Sibal announced the inauguration of a new education system. For the session 2009-10, the CBSE will conduct the examinations and grade the students. From 2010-11, grades will be awarded by the schools. "After the board examination is abolished in 2011 (for class X), students will have a choice to take the board exam on demand for transfer (to another school) or entry into pre-university institutes," human resources minister Kapil Sibal said at a press conference.

Sept.13th WHO says spread of H1N1 can be slowed from 30-50% by closing schools.

Sept.16th (Ref)International Ozone Day Union minister of state for Environment and Forests Mr. Jairam Ramesh announced India has phased out ODS ahead of its schedule (2010) and has invited school children be a part of the delegation in the global negotiations on climate change.

News from the world of Sports and Entertainment:

The 12th IAAF world Athletics Championships: were conducted in Berlin August The fastest man on earth Usain Bolt broke his own record of 9.69 sec by finishing Men's 100mts in 9.58 secs. Another world record he set was in 200 mts. In 19.19 secs

Other achievers were

Melaine Walker (Jamaica) in 400mts hurdles; Shelly Anna Fraser (Jamaica) in 100mts women

Kenenisa Bekele (Ethiopia)10,000mts men, Sanya Richards(U.S) 400mts women

World Badminton Championship concluded on Aug 16th at Hyderabad, India. China won the men and women's categories.

Chess: Parimarjan Negi defeated Emmanuel senador of Philippines

Football : Aug 31st India lifted the Nehru Cup beating Syria

Cricket: England won the Ashes beating Australia in the fifth and final test

Srilanka won the series against Newzealand(2-0)

Newzealand won the T20 series against Srilanka

Golden league Jackpot standings : Kenenisa Bekele, Sanya Richards and Yelena Isinbayeva(Russia)(Pole vault women) share I million dollar prize money.

Car Racing: Sept 12th: Lewis Hamilton of UK won the Italian Grand Prix leaving behind the german, Adrian Sutil of Force India by an advantage of 2/10ths of a second! The 7th position also went to Force India's Vitantonio Liuzzi.

Billiards Sept.7th : At the IBSF world professional Billiards championships, Pankaj Advani beat Mike Russel (9 times champion.)

Do you know?

Lewis Hamilton is represents formula one team by McLaren and McLaren and Ferrari are both formula one rival teams.

Force India team is sponsored by kingfisher, owned by Vijay Mallya

Mike Russel belongs to Qatar and Usain Bolt is from Jamaica

National Film Awards:

National Film Awards for 2007 were announced.

Best film	Kanchivaram (Tamil)
Best director	Adoor Gopalakrishnan(Malayalam, Naalu Pennugal)
Best actor(male)	Prakash Raj(Tamil, Kanchivaram)
Best actor(female)	Umashree (Kannada, Gulabi Talkies)
Best lyrics	Prasoon Joshi (Tare zameen par)
Best playback singer(Male)	Shankar mahadevan
Best playback singer(female)	Shreya Goshal
Best film on family welfare	Tare zamin Par (Amir Khan received the prize)
Best film for wholesome entertainment:	Chak de India

Saraswati Samman: Lakshminandan Bora(Assamese) Mannu Bhandari (Hindi)

Rajiv Gandhi Awards for different fields:

Sports: Abhinav Bindra

Woman achiever :Krushnaa patil (youngest to climb Mt. Everest)

Super achiever: Madhavan Nair(Chairman ISRO)

Young Prodigy: Avika Gor(Balika Vadu)

Global Indian: Sam Pitroda(Chairman, Knowledge Commission)

Grassroot Grammy:A.R. Rahman for the sound track in the Tamil film Varalaru

Questions:

1. When did Chandrayan-1 get terminated?
 2. Who is the present PM of Nepal?
 3. Who is Dr. Madhavan Nair?
 4. Who are the athletes who shared the golden league jackpot prize money?
 5. Who is likely to become Prime Minister of Japan?
6. After the death of Mr. Rajasekhara Reddy who has taken over as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh?
- a. Jagan reddy b Chranjeevi c. Rosaiah d. there is no CM right now
7. Which of the following is the name of the mask recommended by doctors to ward off H1N1 flu?
- a. N90 b N95 c. N94 d. any mask
8. Who is the first Indian to have got two Oscar awards (he is the winner of the Grassroot Grammy award this year)?
- a. A.R. Rahman b. Rasool pookkutty c. Gulzar d. Bhanu Athaiah
9. Saraswati Samman is an award given to achievers in which field?
- a. literature b. film world c. Music d. Sports
10. For what is the town of Kanchipuram famous?
- a. films b silk sarees c. beach d. spices

Answer sheet: (For teachers)

Theatre	Music	Dance	Current Affairs
1 d	1 d	1 d	1 Aug. 29 th 2009*
2 d	2 c	2 a	2 Madhav Kumar
3 c	3 c	3 a	3 Chairman of ISRO
4 c	4 a	4 c	4 Sanya Richards, Kenenisa Bekele, Yelena Isinbayeva
5 a	5 b	5 b	5 Yukio hatoyama
6 b	6 d	6 d	6 c
7 c& d	7 d	7 b	7 b *
8 Feroz Khan	8 c	8 b	8 a
9 Association with NSD	9 d	9 d	9 a*
10 Girish Karnad	10 d	10 d	10 b

*Earlier on Aug 21st the Chandrayan module flew along with NASA's lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter. It could not complete one year since it was launched. It completed only 312 days sending 70,000 high quality images to earth while orbiting the moon for 3400 times

* N95 is called so because this mask which has 3 layers of electrostatically charged microfibres that can block 95% of the small particles that spread H1N1 virus

*Saraswati Samman is given to outstanding poetry/prose literary works in any of the Indian languages.

Ref: WTO stands for World Trade Organization

Ref: ODS stands for Ozone Depleting Substances; Global negotiation on climate change will start On December 7th 2009 at Copenhagen, Denmark.

Do you know? : - The present reservation for women in the panchayat is 33%

- On Aug 31st 3 sisters in Bhagalpur village performed the last rites to their grand father.

- Geeta Varadan is the first woman to hold ISRO's high office as the Director of a national Centre ADRIN(Advanced Data Research Institute) in Hyderabad.

- Margieh Vahid became the first female cabinet minister in the Iranian Parliament