

# St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

9th Avenue, I.P. Extension, Patparganj, Delhi – 110092

Session: 2024-2025 - NOTES

## Class: VII Subject: English Topic: How It all Began

Read to understand

A. 1. c) of Leggie.

2. b) at all hours of the day and night

3. a) he could not identify more than a couple of dozen birds or trees.

4. a) Several nurseries in the vicinity, the foliage of many old papari trees and bushes of *cannabis sativa*

B. 1. a) The speaker is talking about his record of getting to know about the flora and fauna he had encountered so far.

b) When the speaker says that he has a 'restricted landscape' for nature watching it is because he does most of it only in his private back garden.

c) Speaker's private back garden is a small and rectangular in shape which on two adjacent sides has a barbed wire fence covered by bougainvillea creepers and other two sides are formed by ten-year-old avocado trees. It has some limes, oranges, grape-fruits, a pomegranate, a bush of gardenia, a couple of jasmines, and a queen of the night.

2. a) The narrator has such a variety of birds in his garden because there are several nurseries in the vicinity, the foliage of many old papari trees and bushes of *cannabis sativa* which grow wild.

b) It means that the birds often visit the garden of the narrator.

c) 'there is never a time when there are none' is a double negative phrase which means that there are birds in narrator's garden at all times.

C. 1. The Wints lived in London. Guy Wint was on the staff of *The Observer* and his wife Freda had converted to Buddhism and was in Buddhist meetings most of the time. They had a son named Ben, and a three-year-old daughter Allegra. Narrator was a friend of theirs' who had spent a summer with them long time back.

2. Narrator's interest in nature developed as he used to go on walk along paths running through woods of oak, beech, and rhododendron to the University cricket grounds with Wints' daughter Allegra who was avid collector of flowers.

3. The dawn chorus is the sound of birds singing very early in the morning. Birds like Thrushes and blackbirds participate in it.

4. In order to know more about nature, the narrator acquired books on trees, birds, and insects, and spent his spare time identifying those he did not know, and he sought the company of bird-watchers and horticulturists.

5. The narrator felt he was in alien territory as he could not identify more than a couple of dozen birds or trees around him.

6. He spend it in the countryside armed with a pair of binoculars and Salim Ali's or Whistler's books on Indian birds.