

# STRONG ROOTS

## APJ ABDUL KALAM

### ONE LINER QUESTION FOR QUICK REVISION

- 1) 'Strong Roots' is taken from – Wings of Fire.
- 2) APJ Abdul Kalam belongs to – a middle-class Tamil family in island town of Rameswaram in erstwhile Madras state.
- 3) About his father – (i) Jainulabdeen, (ii) had neither much formal education nor much wealth, (iii) possessed great innate wisdom and a true generosity of spirit, (iv) was austere, (v) avoid all inessential comforts and luxuries,
- 4) About his mother – (i) Ashiamma, (ii) an ideal helpmate of Kalam's father, (iii) her lineage was the more distinguished, (iv) one of her forebears having been bestowed the title of 'Bahadur' by the British, (v) fed more outsiders than all the members of her family every day.
- 5) About Kalam – (i) a short boy with rather undistinguished looks, (ii) born to tall and handsome parents.
- 6) People regarded Kalam's parents as – an ideal couple.
- 7) About Kalam's House – (i) ancestral house, (ii) built in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, (iii) a fairly large pucca house, (iv) made of limestone and brick, (v) was on the Mosque Street in Rameswaram.
- 8) Kalam had a secure childhood – materially and emotionally.
- 9) About Kalam's Food Habit – (i) ate with his mother, (ii) sitting on the floor of the kitchen, (iii) placed a banana leaf before him, (iv) ladled rice and aromatic sambar, a variety of sharp, home-made pickle and a dallop of fresh coconut chutney.
- 10) In Rameswaram there is a famous – Shiva temple.
- 11) The Shiva temple made Rameswaram so famous to – pilgrims.
- 12) From the shiva temple, Kalam's house was – ten minutes walk.
- 13) Kalam's locality was – predominantly Muslim.
- 14) In Kalam's locality \_\_\_\_\_ lived amicably – Hindu families.
- 15) In Kalam's locality there was – an old mosque.
- 16) Kalam was taken to an old mosque for – evening prayers by his father.
- 17) Prayers were chanted in the mosque in – Arabic.
- 18) People who waited for Kalam's father outside the mosque belonged to the – different religions.
- 19) People offered Kalam's father – bowls of water.
- 20) People offered bowls of water for Kalam's father to – sanctify.
- 21) This water was carried home for – only the invalids.
- 22) Kalam's father always instructed the people visiting his house to thank – Allah, the merciful.
- 23) The high priest of Rameswaram temple was – Pakshi Lakshmana Sastry.
- 24) APJ Abdul Kalam's father and the high priest of Rameswaram temple used to be in – traditional attire & discussed spiritual matters.
- 25) APJ Abdul Kalam asked his father about the relevance of prayer when he was – old enough to ask questions.
- 26) According to APJ Abdul Kalam's father, prayer made – possible a communion of the spirit between people.
- 27) Kalam said his father could convey complex spiritual concepts in – simple, down-to-earth Tamil.
- 28) According to Kalam's father, every human being is a specific element in the whole of the manifest – divine being.
- 29) When trouble comes, we must try to understand the relevance of our – sufferings.

- 30) Adversity always presents opportunities for – **introspection**.
- 31) An answer of Kalam's father filled him with – **strange energy and enthusiasm**.
- 32) When human beings find themselves alone, as a natural reaction they start – **looking for company**.
- 33) Whenever human beings are in trouble, they look for someone to – **help them**.
- 34) Whenever human beings reach an impasse, they look for someone to show them – **the way out**.
- 35) Every recurrent anguish, longing and desire finds its own – **special helper**.
- 36) According to APJ Abdul Kalam's father, for the people who came to him in distress, he was a go-between in their effort to propitiate demonic forces with – **prayers and offerings**.
- 37) One vision of destiny is – **fear-ridden**.
- 38) Kalam's father started his day – (i) **at 4 a.m.** (ii) **by reading namaz** (iii) **before dawn**.
- 39) Kalam's family owned a – **coconut grove (about four miles from Kalam's house)**.
- 40) Kalam's father followed his routine even in his – **late sixties**.
- 41) APJ Abdul Kalam tried to emulate his father in his own world – **of science and technology**.
- 42) To be on the road to freedom, happiness, and peace of mind, an individual needs to sever his – **physical and emotional bond**.
- 43) What is the significance of the title 'Strong Roots' in this extract? – **It symbolizes the fundamental values instilled in the author during his childhood**.