

## READING COMPREHENSION

### THE CHRISTMAS TREE

One of the most common traditions of Christmas is the Christmas tree. Homes of the world decorate an evergreen tree with ornaments and lights. Christmas gifts are placed underneath the tree where they stay until opened. Many stores, offices and buildings decorate trees through the season. They also place a tree as a way of celebrating a holiday. The idea of decorating an evergreen tree or its branches during winter began thousands of years ago in many parts of the world. As an evergreen tree stays green even in winter it symbolized eternal life and the hope that spring would come again. Historians believe that the modern Christmas tree began in Germany during the 1500s. Martin Luther the protestant reformer, is said to have been the first one to add lights to the tree by placing candles on the branches. In England the tree was popular with the royalty where as it was introduced in North America by German soldiers during the American Revolution.

The discovery of electric lights in the early 1900 replaced the candles on the tree. Artificial trees made out of aluminium or plastic started becoming popular during the same time. Ultimately the Christmas tree remains the well-loved part of the holiday season.

#### Answer the following questions.

- Q-1) What did the evergreen tree symbolize?
- Q-2) Who is the first one to put candles on a Christmas tree?
- Q-3) Who introduced the Christmas tree to North America?
- Q-4) What are the two materials used for making artificial trees?
- Q-5) Which discovery made the Christmas tree safer and what did they replace?

#### II) Give one word for the following.

- A) A person who is an expert in the subject of history - \_\_\_\_\_
- B) Un natural - \_\_\_\_\_
- C) Lasting for ever - \_\_\_\_\_