

Chapter 5: Salim's Song

Fill in the Blanks

1. Salim works in his father's _____ shop in Agra's Moti Bazaar.
2. Salim peels _____, chops garlic, and slices spinach and potatoes.
3. Salim jokes that a _____'s son never has to peel onions.
4. Salim's father is a fantastic _____.
5. Salim dreams of standing behind the big _____ to cook delicious meals.
6. Salim cannot reach the big pots because he needs to grow _____.
7. While working, Salim sings a song about peeling and chopping _____.
8. Salim's song includes the line: "But can you please tell me why, these smelly _____ make me cry."
9. A tall man praises Salim's singing and calls his words _____.
10. Salim admits he heard the tune from an _____ who practices music nearby.
11. The tune Salim hums is based on Raga _____.
12. The stranger asks Salim to sing for him and keeps the beat by tapping his _____.

13. The man wears a simple silk robe, pajamas, and an embroidered _____.

14. Salim's favourite tune reminds him of cloudy skies and the smell of _____ after rain.

15. The stranger identifies Salim's favourite tune as Raga _____.

16. The man offers to teach Salim _____ for free.

17. Salim's father wants him to learn music but cannot afford the _____.

18. The man invites Salim to meet him at the _____.

19. The stranger reveals he is Mian _____, the famous singer.

20. Salim doubts the man's identity because he isn't riding a _____.

21. Salim plays _____ with his friends after lunch.

22. The dal bubbles on the _____ while Salim's father grinds spices.

23. The man's shoes are made of good _____ and embroidered with gold.

24. Salim sings his favourite tune while flying a _____ on the roof.

25. The street is full of wandering _____ and people.

26. Tansen says the shop is not the place to accept a _____.

27. Salim describes the Ustad's music as having different _____.

28. The man sways and nods when Salim sings _____.

29. Salim's father prepares mutton curry and a _____ dish.

30. Salim feels the winter sun warm his _____ as he sings.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is Salim doing at the beginning of the chapter?

- (a) Playing marbles with friends
- (b) Singing while peeling onions and vegetables
- (c) Riding a horse through the market
- (d) Cooking mutton curry in the kitchen

2. Where does Salim work with his father?

- (a) In a music school in Agra
- (b) At the fort as a guard
- (c) In a food shop in Moti Bazaar
- (d) In a farmer's field

3. What does Salim dream of becoming in the future?

- (a) A cook like his father
- (b) A famous singer like Tansen
- (c) A nawab's son
- (d) A vegetable seller

4. How does the man describe Salim's tune when he first hears it?

- (a) "It's Raga Malhar"

- (b) "It's Raga Bhairavi"
- (c) "It's out of tune"
- (d) "It's a folk song"

5. What does the man offer to teach Salim for free?

- (a) Cooking
- (b) Horse riding
- (c) Music
- (d) Pottery

6. Where does the man ask Salim to meet him later?

- (a) At the food shop
- (b) At the Ustad's house
- (c) In the market
- (d) At the fort

7. Who does the man reveal himself to be at the end?

- (a) A nawab
- (b) Mian Tansen
- (c) Salim's uncle
- (d) A vegetable buyer

8. Why is Salim surprised when he learns the man's identity?

- (a) Because Tansen is riding a horse
- (b) Because Tansen is dressed simply and not like a famous singer
- (c) Because Tansen is a cook

(d) Because Tansen is his father's friend

9. What does Salim's favorite tune remind him of?

(a) The smell of spices

(b) The noise of the market

(c) His father's cooking

(d) Cloudy skies and wet earth after rain

10. What is Tansen's condition for teaching Salim music?

(a) Salim must work as a cook at the fort

(b) Salim must stay with Tansen at the fort

(c) Salim must pay for the lessons after becoming a singer

(d) Salim must promise never to sing in the market again

