

Read the passage carefully:

On a remote island surrounded by endless sea, lived **Prospero**, once the rightful Duke of Milan, and his gentle daughter **Miranda**. Their life on the island seemed peaceful, but beneath it lay a long history of betrayal and loss. Years earlier, when Miranda was still a baby, Prospero had trusted his younger brother **Antonio** with the affairs of Milan so that he could devote himself to his studies. Antonio, however, grew ambitious. Slowly, with the support of **Alonso**, the King of Naples, he stripped Prospero of his authority, declared himself Duke, and cast Prospero and Miranda out of the city.

They were sent away on a frail boat, more suited to sinking than sailing. But loyal friends placed food, clothes, and Prospero's precious books inside it. Driven by fate and wind, the small boat miraculously reached an island full of mysteries—its air humming with unseen spirits and its ground echoing with strange voices. It was here that Prospero began rebuilding his life. Through tireless effort and deep learning, he unlocked the powers of magic and earned mastery over the island's supernatural forces.

Among the spirits of the island was **Ariel**, light as the wind and quick as thought, whom Prospero freed from a torment many years old. In gratitude, Ariel became his devoted helper. The island was also home to **Caliban**, the half-human son of the dead witch Sycorax. Prospero tried to educate him, teaching him language and kindness. But Caliban, wild and untamed, turned hostile, and so became an unwilling servant, forever resenting his master.

Prospero waited silently for the day he could confront those who had wronged him. One morning, Ariel brought news that Antonio and King Alonso were sailing nearby. The moment Prospero had long imagined had finally come. With a single command, he asked Ariel to raise a storm so fierce that the sea seemed to swallow the heavens. The sky roared, waves twisted like living monsters, and the ship carrying the nobles was torn apart. Yet not one life was lost. Ariel carried each person safely to different parts of the island, though each believed the others dead.

Miranda, seeing the storm's fury from the shore, begged her father to show mercy to the ship's passengers. Prospero gently revealed a past she had never fully known—how they had come to the island and how their lives had been shaped by her uncle's treachery. He assured her that the storm, though violent, had harmed no one.

Meanwhile, the King's son **Ferdinand**, separated from the others, wandered the island until he met Miranda. They fell in love at the very first sight, each seeing in the other a wonder they had never imagined. Though pleased, Prospero pretended suspicion and placed Ferdinand under trials of labour, ensuring his devotion was true and strong. Ferdinand bore every task with dignity, proving his love beyond question.

Elsewhere, the shipwrecked nobles wandered hopelessly. Antonio and **Sebastian**, the King's brother, plotted murder once again—this time aiming to kill King Alonso and seize his throne. But Ariel intervened, whispering warnings, confusing their minds, and stopping the treachery before it could begin.

In another part of the island, a comic misadventure unfolded. Caliban, plotting revenge on Prospero, allied himself with two drunken servants, **Stephano** and **Trinculo**. He promised them the island if they helped him overthrow his master. Their plan, full of foolish pride, dissolved in chaos when Ariel distracted them with magical illusions, leading them into a swamp.

When the time felt right, Prospero gathered everyone together. He revealed his identity and confronted Antonio, not with anger but with a calm readiness to forgive. Antonio remained silent, ashamed, but the King gratefully accepted Prospero's mercy. His grief turned to joy when he discovered that Ferdinand, whom he believed drowned, was alive and happily united with Miranda.

Having achieved justice without cruelty, Prospero prepared to leave the island. He freed Ariel, who had served him faithfully, and promised Caliban a chance to live with dignity. Renouncing his magic forever, Prospero looked forward to returning to Milan and restoring peace to his life. The island, once a place of exile, had become a place of healing, where storms gave way to harmony and every loss found a gentle restoration.

On the basis of your understanding, answer the following questions:

1. Prospero pretends to be stern with Ferdinand to achieve what effect on their relationship?

- a) To test his patience
 - b) To strengthen the sincerity of their bond
 - c) To frighten Miranda
 - d) To discourage the marriage
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2. Ariel's repeated interventions suggest a particular aspect of Prospero's leadership. This aspect is:

- a) He dislikes responsibility
- b) He relies on manipulation rather than clarity
- c) He balances justice with restraint
- d) He seeks personal revenge only

3. The storm at the beginning serves as a symbol indicating:

- a) It shows nature's anger
- b) It represents the collapse of royal authority
- c) It marks the beginning of moral transformation
- d) It warns of future wars

4. Antonio and Sebastian's actions mirror Prospero's earlier betrayal due to:

- a) They resent Prospero's magic
- b) They believe in destiny
- c) Their ambition remains unchecked
- d) They want to leave the island

5. Caliban's alliance with Stephano and Trinculo reveals a trait of his character, namely:

- a) He prefers solitude
- b) He easily places trust in false promises
- c) He aims to reform his behaviour
- d) He respects Prospero's authority

6. Forgiveness becomes more powerful than revenge in Prospero's final actions because it:

- a) It restores natural order
- b) It frightens the nobles
- c) It weakens Antonio
- d) It pleases Ariel

7. Miranda's reaction to Ferdinand indicates an upbringing that made her:

- a) She is accustomed to royal splendour
- b) She is unfamiliar with deception

- c) She has lived in complete isolation from sincerity
 - d) She lacks empathy
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8. Shakespeare's inclusion of comic scenes with Stephano and Trinculo mainly serves to:

- a) To lengthen the play
 - b) To provide political commentary
 - c) To balance emotional depth with humour
 - d) To weaken Caliban's importance
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9. The island functions in the narrative primarily as:

- a) A battlefield for power
 - b) A neutral ground for reconciliation
 - c) A symbol of hopeless isolation
 - d) A place of endless conflict
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10. Prospero's decision to renounce magic suggests inner growth leading him to value:

- a) He has lost confidence
 - b) He values peace over control
 - c) His powers have weakened
 - d) He fears confrontation
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11. Ariel's faithful service to Prospero is motivated by:

- a) Desire for dominance
 - b) Wish for freedom
 - c) Fear of Caliban
 - d) Loyalty to Milan
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12. Ferdinand accepts Prospero's imposed tasks without complaint due to:

- a) He wishes to escape the island
- b) He believes Miranda is magical

- c) He wants to prove honourable intentions
 - d) He fears Prospero's wrath
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13. The reunion between Alonso and Ferdinand contributes to the theme of:

- a) It highlights deception
 - b) It establishes political authority
 - c) It reinforces the possibility of redemption
 - d) It shows conflict is unavoidable
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14. Shakespeare presents Prospero as both strict and compassionate to show:

- a) To portray him as unpredictable
 - b) To show the dual demands of justice and mercy
 - c) To increase suspense
 - d) To justify Antonio's betrayal
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15. Caliban's final acceptance of responsibility indicates:

- a) The island changed him for the better
 - b) He fears Prospero's return
 - c) He desires power
 - d) He wants to rule the nobles
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16. "Tempest" most nearly means:

- a) Sudden illness
 - b) Violent storm
 - c) Deep silence
 - d) Gentle breeze
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17. "Reconcile" most nearly means:

- a) Separate permanently
- b) Refuse understanding

- c) Restore harmony
 - d) Delay decisions
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18. "Treason" most nearly means:

- a) Assistance
 - b) Loyalty to strangers
 - c) Betrayal of trust
 - d) Overwhelming success
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19. "Solitary" most nearly means:

- a) Lacking strength
 - b) Existing alone
 - c) Full of danger
 - d) Easily confused
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20. "Renounce" most nearly means:

- a) Adopt eagerly
 - b) Give up formally
 - c) Strengthen forcefully
 - d) Return quickly
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✓ Answer Key

1. b) To strengthen the sincerity of their bond
 2. c) He balances justice with restraint
 3. c) It marks the beginning of moral transformation
 4. c) Their ambition remains unchecked
 5. b) He easily places trust in false promises
 6. a) It restores natural order
 7. b) She is unfamiliar with deception
 8. c) To balance emotional depth with humour
 9. b) A neutral ground for reconciliation
 10. b) He values peace over control
 11. b) Wish for freedom
 12. c) He wants to prove honourable intentions
 13. c) It reinforces the possibility of redemption
 14. b) To show the dual demands of justice and mercy
 15. a) The island changed him for the better
 16. b) Violent storm
 17. c) Restore harmony
 18. c) Betrayal of trust
 19. b) Existing alone
 20. b) Give up formally
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