Ramayana Questions:

- 1. Who was the author of Ramayana—Sage Valmiki
- 2. What language is Ramayana written in--Sanskrit
- 3. How many verses are there in Ramayana—24,000
- 4. **B-** Why Ramayan is a known as Adikavya (adiKAAVya)—Because it is believed to be the first poetic work written in Sanskrit language
- 5. Name the Parents of Lord Rama—Dasharath –(Dasharath) and Kaushalya—(Koshal—ya)
- 6. How many Khandas (books) are there in Ramayana—6+1
- 7. **B-** Name the Khandas—Bala khanda (book on Childhood), ayodhya khanda, aranya khanda (Aranya means Forest), Kishkinda Khanda, sundara khanda and yuddha khanda, ---uttara khanda
- 8. What was the name of the country and city lord Rama was born in—Kosala and ayodhya
- 9. How many queens did King Dasharath have—3—Kaushalya, Kaikeyi and Sumitra
- 10. What ritual did king Dasharath do before his children were born—performed yagna—maha-puja
- 11. How many half-brother's did lord Rama have--3—laxman, Bharat, Shatrughan
- 12. What was the name of Bharat's mother—Kaikeyi
- 13. What was the name of Shatrughan and Lakshman's mother—Sumitra
- 14. What type of education did lord Rama and his brothers have—learned Vedas, mastered riding horses and elephants and use of various weapons.
- 15. Which sage took lord Rama and his brother Lakshman to fight with rakhshas (Demons)—Sage Vishwamitra
- 16. Which demons did Lord Rama kill before the age of 16—Tataka, Subahoo.
- 17. After killing the demons where did sages took lord Rama and Lakshman? Mithila
- 18. Who was the king of Mithila? Janak
- 19. What was the famous possession of King Janak? Lord Shiva's bow Shiva-dhanssu
- 20. What was the name of King Janaka's adopted daughter? Sita
- 21. What was the significance of lord Shiva's Bow? It could not be strung by any king.
- 22. Where did king Janak find Sita when she was a baby? While he was ploughing a site
- 23. How many men were needed to pull Lord Shiva's bow? 500
- 24. What were Sita's wishes regarding Shiva's Bow----if anybody strings the bow she will marry him.
- 25. How did lord Rama and Sita get married? Lord Rama effortlessly lifted the mighty bow of lord Shiva and while he was stringing the bow broke into 2 pieces. After lord Rama broke the bow, king Janaka offered Sita's hand in marriage to lord Rama.
- 26. Who was king Dasharat's first choice as crown prince? Lord Rama
- 27. Who told Kaikeyi, that lord Rama being made crown prince? Manthra
- 28. How did Kaikeyi react to the news of lord Rama's possible coronation? Initially she happily accepted the news. On Manthra's wicked insistence she changed her mind.
- 29. What Manthra wanted Kaikeyi to do? Manthra wanted Kaikeyi to ask king Dasharath to make Bharat the crowne prince.

- 30. How did Kaikeyi convince king Dasharath to change his plans to change crown prince? King Dasharath owed Kaikeyi 2 boons.
- 31. Why did king Dasharath owe 2 boons to queen Kaikeyi? Because Kaikeyi saved his life during the war in the past.
- 32. What did Kaikeyi ask in return for the 2 boons? 1. To make Bharat the crown prince. 2. Send lord Rama in exile to the forest for 14 years.
- 33. What was the reaction of lord Rama on hearing these boons? He accepted without question.
- 34. What is the morale of the story till now?—Think a thousand times before making a promise and once a promise is made keep it at all cost. Other moral—respect your elders wishes like Lord Rama.
- 35. **B-** Before going to the forest what did Lord Rama pray when he passed through the coronation hall-May the God protect Bharat and the coronation items be dedicated to Bharat
- 36. Who all went to the forest with Lord Rama—Sita and Lakshman.
- 37. What was Lakshman's reaction when he heard that lord Rama is not made crown prince—Lakshman did not agree with King Dasharat's decision
- 38. What did Lord Rama tell Lakshman when he was not happy with the wishes of king Dasharath—he said to uphold the Dharma (divine law—moral responsibility-Righteousness)—I will act on my father's promises.
- 39. **B-** On their way to the forest where did Lord Rama, Lakshman and Sita rest--- on the banks of River Tamara.
- 40. **B-** Which rivers did Lord Rama, Sita and Lakshman crossed on their way to Forest---Tamara, Vedashurti, and Gomati.
- 41. Who greeted lord Rama when he reached northern banks of river Ganga? Chief of the tribes of hunters.
- 42. What did the tribal chief of hunters do for lord Rama? He helped lord Rama to cross the river Ganga.
- 43. Where did Rama, Sita and Lakshman meet sage Bhardwaj---At Prayag where river Ganga and Yamuna meet?
- 44. **B-** What advice did sage Bhardwaj give to lord Rama? They should live on the mountain Chitrakuta
- 45. **B-** Where did lord Rama and Lakshman build their hut? In the Chitrakuta by river Mandakini.
- 46. Which relative visited lord Rama, Lakshman and Sita at Chitrakuta? Bharat and Shatrughan.
- 47. Why did he visit lord Rama at Chitrakuta? Because he wanted to take back lord Rama to Ayodhya and make him the king of Kosala.
- 48. What type of news did Bharat give lord Rama? He told that their father has passed away.
- 49. What did lord Rama say to the pleading Bharat? It is our dharma to redeem our fathers pledge to mother Kaikeyi.
- 50. What did Bharat do when lord Rama asked to go back to Ayodhya and rule? He took lord Rama's paduka(Sandal) and said that I will place them on the throne as the symbol of lord Rama's authority.

- 51. What advice did lord Rama give Bharat? He said look after the kingdom and protect mother Kaikeyi and don't be angry with mother.
- 52. **B-** Which sage gave lord Rama the celestial weapons? Sage Agastya
- 53. **B-** What did sage Agastya (Agastya rishi) tell lord Rama? He told them to live at Panchavati.
- 54. Who did lord Rama, Sita and Lakshman meet on the way to Panchavati? A vulture named Jatayu.
- 55. What did Jatayu tell Lord Rama? He said I am a friend of your father. I will stay with you in case you need my help.
- 56. Who was the king of Kishkindha? Vali or Bali
- 57. Who was the brother of Vali? Sugriva.
- 58. Where did Sugriva live after he lost battle with his brother Vali? Rishamukha mountain.
- 59. What did Ravana decide; when he heard that Sita is the most beautiful woman in the world? Ravana decided to abduct Sita.
- 60. Which demon helped Ravana abduct Sita? Maricha
- 61. Who took the form of a beautiful golden deer and began to graze near Rama's cottage in Panchayati? Maricha
- 62. Before dying, Maricha imitated Ram's voice and shouted what? "Oh Lakshman! Oh Sita! Help! Help1"
- 63. What did Maricha do when Ravana approached him with the plan of abducting Sita? Maricha tried to persuade Ravana to stay away from Rama.
- 64. What options did Ravana give Maricha, on hearing Marcia's advice? 2 Choices (1. Help to carry out plan and 2. Prepare to die)
- 65. What did Maricha do on hearing Ravana's choice? Maricha preferred to die in Rama's hand and agreed to help Ravana in the abduction plan.
- 66. On hearing Maricha's voice what did Sita do? Sita asked Lakshmana to go and help lord Rama.
- 67. What did Lakshmana do on hearing Sita's request to rescue lord Rama? Lakshmana tried to convince Sita that the voice was only a fake.
- 68. What did Ravana do as soon as he found Sita alone? Ravana in the form of ascetic came near Sita's cottage and asked for alms (bhiksha)
- 69. What did Sita do when Ravana disguised as ascetic asked for alms? Sita tried to offer rice to the holy man, while staying within the protection line drawn by Lakshmana
- 70. What did Sita do when ascetic asked her to come near and offer? Sita was unwilling to cross the line but when Ravana pretended to leave the place without alms-- Sita crossed the line to offer the alms.
- 71. What did ascetic do after Sita crossed the line? Ascetic turned into Ravana and took Sita away in chariot.
- 72. Who tried to save Sita from Ravana? Jatayu, the king of eagles (vultures).
- 73. Who told lord Rama about Sita's abduction? Jatayu.
- 74. Who advised Rama to go to the monkey king Sugriva, to get help in regaining Sita? Demon Kabandha.
- 75. **B-** Where did Lord Rama and Lakshmana meet Hanuman? Rishyamukha mountain

- 76. What Sugriva did when he met lord Rama? Sugriva told his story and sought help from Rama to kill Vali.
- 77. **B-** Who confirmed that Ravana took Sita to Lanka? Sampati, the brother of Jatayu. (Vanara or Monkey army met Sampati on Mahendra hill when they went in search of Sita.)
- 78. Where did Hanuman found Sita in Lanka? Ashoka grove
- 79. What did Hanuman do after finding Sita? He gave Rama's ring to Sita and asked Sita to take a ride on her back to return to Rama.
- 80. Did Sita agree to go with Hanuman? No. she said "I do not want to go home. There are many like me in Lanka. I want Rama to free every one". Sita gave her necklace to Hanuman as evidence confirming their meeting.
- 81. What did Hanuman do before leaving the Ashoka grove? Hanuman wanted to see Ravan, so he began destroying the Ashoka grove by uprooting the trees.
- 82. What did Ravana do on hearing from the Rakshasa about the monkey destroying Ashoka grove? He asked Indrajeet, his son, to capture Hanuman.