Class 9 English Kaveri – Chapter 7

Carrier of Words & Words

NCERT / TEXTBOOK-BASED SOLUTIONS • 2026–27

Solutions are organised around the textbook exercises and activities in the uploaded Chapter 7 material. Answers are concise, student-friendly and suitable for revision.

A. Carrier of Words – Understanding the Text

1. What is the significance of the title ‘Carrier of Words’?

The title refers to Khetaram, whose work is to physically carry letters and messages across a difficult desert landscape. More broadly, he carries communication, emotions and connections between people who live far apart.

2. Describe Khetaram’s journey to deliver mail.

Khetaram travels from the Somarad Branch Post Office towards remote hamlets near the Indo-Pakistan border. The route extends far beyond the last railhead, telephone connection and usable road. Because soft sand prevents bicycle travel, he often walks long distances carrying the mail.

3. What makes Khetaram’s service difficult but important?

The desert heat, sandstorms, long distances and scarcity of water make his work physically demanding. Yet his service is important because remote families depend on him for letters, money-related communication and contact with relatives living far away.

4. What does the chapter tell us about the role of Gramin Dak Sewaks?

GDS workers extend postal services to remote communities that may be difficult to reach by other means. They help connect isolated populations with the wider postal network and therefore perform an important social and communication role.

5. Why is Khetaram’s job important for his family?

Farming in his region is uncertain and even a good year may produce only one crop of bajra, which cannot support his family of five. His GDS job provides an assured income and helps his family survive.

6. Why do people trust Khetaram?

He has served the community for many years and is familiar with the people and their needs. Villagers trust him with their letters and often ask him to read letters and draft replies. His regular presence has made him a dependable part of village life.

7. What does the torn corner of an envelope signify?

The torn upper-right corner signals that the letter contains news of death. Khetaram recognises this sign and dreads receiving such letters.

8. How does Khetaram respond to a letter containing death news?

He stands outside the house, reads the letter twice and tears it into pieces. He feels that bad news should be destroyed rather than carried into the house.

9. What does Khetaram mean by ‘Main tayyar hoon’?

He means that he is ready to adapt to the future. If telephone connectivity reaches the region, he is willing to take on the role of carrying a mobile phone along with the post and continue serving the people.

B. Carrier of Words – Vocabulary & Expressions

10. What is meant by ‘far-flung hamlets’?

It refers to small settlements that are situated far away from the main village or town and are widely scattered.

11. What does ‘inaccessible’ mean in the context of the chapter?

It means difficult or impossible to reach, especially because of the remote desert terrain.

12. Explain ‘remitted’ as used in the chapter.

‘Remitted’ means sent or transferred, especially money sent by relatives to their families.

13. Explain the expression ‘give a new lease of life’.

It means to give something or someone a renewed opportunity to continue, survive or become useful.

14. What does ‘bearing words across this desolate geography’ suggest?

It describes the task of carrying written messages across a vast, harsh and sparsely populated landscape.

C. Grammar – Present Perfect Tense

15. What is the structure of the Present Perfect Tense?

The basic structure is: Subject + has/have + past participle (third form of the verb). Example: ‘Khetaram has served the people for many years.’

16. Why is the Present Perfect used in sentences about Khetaram’s service?

It is used for actions or situations that began in the past and have a connection with the present. Khetaram’s long service is presented as something that continues to have relevance now.

17. Give examples of the Present Perfect related to the chapter.

Examples: ‘Khetaram has delivered the mail for many years.’ ‘India Post has reached remote communities.’ ‘The postal network has expanded over time.’

D. Grammar – Active and Passive Voice

18. Change into passive voice: ‘The GDS delivers the mail at the border.’

The mail is delivered by the GDS at the border.

19. What is the difference between active and passive voice?

In active voice, the subject performs the action. In passive voice, the focus is on the person or thing receiving the action. For example, ‘The GDS delivers the mail’ becomes ‘The mail is delivered by the GDS.’

E. Poem ‘Words’ – Textbook-Based Solutions

20. What happens to words that do not satisfy the heart?

They are compared with summer birds that depart and leave empty air behind. Such words fail to provide the emotional satisfaction that the heart seeks.

21. Why does the poet say that a little said truly can bring deeper joy?

Truthful and sincere words can create a genuine emotional connection. Therefore, a few meaningful words can give more joy than many words that merely reach the head.

22. What is suggested by the image of a lonely home being cheered?

It suggests that a sincere voice or a few caring words can bring comfort, warmth and happiness to someone who is lonely.

23. Explain the comparison of words with plants that cannot grow fruit.

Some words may make a show like plants, but if they cannot produce fruit they have no useful result. Similarly, words may sound impressive but remain empty when they lack meaning and sincerity.

24. What is the central message of the poem?

The poem teaches that the value of communication lies in sincerity and emotional meaning rather than in the number of words. Words that touch the heart are more valuable than empty or superficial speech.

F. Poem – Poetic Devices

25. Identify the simile in the poem.

Words are compared to summer birds that depart and leave empty air. This comparison shows how words may disappear without leaving a meaningful effect.

26. Identify a metaphor used in the poem.

The heart is described as a ‘pilgrim upon earth’. This metaphor presents the heart as a traveller searching for meaning and fulfilment.

27. How is hyperbole used in the poem?

The idea that if words could satisfy the chest, the world might hold a feast is an exaggeration used to emphasise how deeply people desire meaningful emotional satisfaction.

28. How does repetition contribute to the poem?

Repeated references to ‘words’ keep the central idea in focus and reinforce the poet’s exploration of the power and limitations of language.

G. Speaking / Discussion – Model Answers

29. Which form of postal communication would be most useful in a remote area and why?

A letter can remain useful where modern communication facilities are unavailable. A money order can be important when families need to receive money. The choice depends on the purpose, cost, privacy and availability of the service.

30. What qualities should a person have to perform Khetaram’s work?

Such a person needs physical endurance, responsibility, patience, reliability, courage and sensitivity towards people. Khetaram demonstrates these qualities through his long service in difficult conditions.

H. Writing – Condolence Message

31. Write a suitable condolence message for the death of a relative.

Dear Bhawar Bhai, I was deeply saddened to hear about the passing of your uncle. Please accept my heartfelt condolences. May you and your family find strength and courage during this difficult time. My thoughts are with you and your family.

32. What are the main features of a good condolence message?

It should be brief, respectful and sincere. It should acknowledge the loss, express sympathy and offer emotional support without using insensitive or unnecessary details.

Quick Revision

- Prose: Khetaram, a Gramin Dak Sewak, carries mail through the remote Thar desert.
- Main idea: postal workers connect isolated people with families, services and the wider society.
- Grammar: Present Perfect Tense; Active and Passive Voice.
- Poem: ‘Words’ by Charles Swain.
- Poem message: sincere, meaningful words are more valuable than numerous empty words.

Source note: Prepared from the uploaded Class 9 English Kaveri Chapter 7 textbook. Where an activity depends on a transcript or information not contained in the available chapter material, no unsupported answer has been invented.