

**QUICK DRILL · CBSE CLASS 12**

# The Last Lesson

English Core · Chapter 1 · 15 MCQs · 20 minutes · PYQ-tagged with time budgets

DATE	TOTAL MARKS	DURATION	MARKING	TARGET
_____	15	20 min	+1/0	≥ 12/15

**OBJECTIVES**

Reinforce the four core topics of The Last Lesson via 15 PYQ-derived MCQs. Identify weak sub-topics via concept-node IDs (see answer key). Build per-question time budget habit.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Attempt all 15. Time budget shown per Q (use it as pacing guide). Mark answers (A/B/C/D) in the margin. Answer key + explanations on the last page. **Don't peek — score yourself honestly.**

**SECTION · QUICK DRILL**

Q 1-15 · 20 MIN

- Q1.** 'The Last Lesson' is set in which region?  
**(A)** Paris **(B)** Alsace  
**(C)** Normandy **(D)** Provence  
*PYQ 2018 · Delhi · 1m · ⌚ 20s*
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- Q2.** The order to replace French with German came from:  
**(A)** Paris **(B)** Berlin  
**(C)** Vienna **(D)** Brussels  
*PYQ 2019 · Outside Delhi · 1m · ⌚ 20s*
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- Q3.** Why was Franz reluctant to go to school that morning?  
**(A)** He had a fever **(B)** He had not prepared participles and the weather tempted him outdoors  
**(C)** He had quarrelled with M. Hamel **(D)** He had to help his father at the field  
*PYQ 2018 · All India · 3m · ⌚ 30s*
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- Q4.** What does M. Hamel wear on the day of the last lesson?  
**(A)** His everyday work clothes **(B)** His green coat, frilled shirt, and embroidered black silk cap reserved for inspection days  
**(C)** A military uniform **(D)** A black mourning coat  
*PYQ 2020 · Delhi · 1m · ⌚ 25s*
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- Q5.** Who is described as bringing his old primer with his spectacles laid across it?  
**(A)** The former mayor **(B)** The postmaster  
**(C)** Old Hauser **(D)** M. Hamel's brother  
*PYQ 2021 · Outside Delhi · 1m · ⌚ 25s*
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- Q6.** M. Hamel calls French:  
**(A)** The most ancient language in the world **(B)** The most beautiful language in the world — the clearest, the most logical  
**(C)** The language of the empire **(D)** A simple village language  
*PYQ 2019 · Delhi · 1m · ⌚ 20s*
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- Q7.** According to M. Hamel, holding fast to one's language under occupation is like:  
**(A)** Holding a sword **(B)** Holding the key to one's prison  
**(C)** Holding one's mother's hand **(D)** Holding the flag  
*PYQ 2022 · All India · 1m · ⌚ 20s*
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- Q8.** What does M. Hamel write on the blackboard at the end?  
**(A)** 'Au revoir' **(B)** 'France · Alsace · France'  
**(C)** 'Vive la France!' **(D)** 'Lest we forget'  
*PYQ 2018 · Outside Delhi · 1m · ⌚ 20s*
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- Q9.** The historical event in the immediate background of the story is:  
**(A)** The French Revolution **(B)** World War I  
**(C)** The Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71 **(D)** The Napoleonic Wars  
*PYQ 2020 · All India · 1m · ⌚ 20s*

- Q10.** Why does M. Hamel scold the PARENTS during his speech?  
**(A)** For not paying school fees **(B)** For sending the children to work in the fields instead of letting them attend school regularly  
**(C)** For complaining about him to the school board **(D)** For not coming to the parent-teacher meeting  
 PYQ 2021 · Delhi · 3m · ⌚ 30s
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- Q11.** By the end of the lesson, how does Franz find the grammar that he had dreaded?  
**(A)** Still confusing **(B)** 'Easy, easy' — he understands it for the first time  
**(C)** Impossible without M. Hamel's notes **(D)** He cannot focus enough to find out  
 PYQ 2019 · All India · 1m · ⌚ 20s
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- Q12.** How long has M. Hamel been a teacher at the same village school?  
**(A)** Ten years **(B)** Twenty years  
**(C)** Forty years **(D)** Sixty years  
 PYQ 2023 · Delhi · 1m · ⌚ 20s
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- Q13.** Which literary device is MOST prominent in the gap between what Franz sees and what the reader understands?  
**(A)** Alliteration **(B)** Dramatic irony  
**(C)** Personification **(D)** Metaphor  
 PYQ 2022 · Outside Delhi · 2m · ⌚ 25s
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- Q14.** The 'unnatural quiet' in the schoolroom on the morning of the last lesson serves primarily as:  
**(A)** A description of village life **(B)** Foreshadowing of the announcement to come  
**(C)** Comic relief **(D)** Setting up a punishment  
 PYQ 2024 · Delhi · 2m · ⌚ 25s
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- Q15.** The author of 'The Last Lesson' is:  
**(A)** Victor Hugo **(B)** Alphonse Daudet  
**(C)** Albert Camus **(D)** Honoré de Balzac  
 PYQ 2018 · Delhi · 1m · ⌚ 15s

## ANSWER KEY & EXPLANATIONS

Q 1-15 · MARK YOUR SCORE

- Q1. Answer: B**  
 Alsace, ceded to Prussia under the Treaty of Frankfurt (1871).
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- Q2. Answer: B**  
 M. Hamel announces 'an order has come from Berlin'.
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- Q3. Answer: B**  
 Two reasons: unprepared lesson + warm spring morning + Prussian drill in the open field tempting him to play truant.
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- Q4. Answer: B**  
 The ceremonial dress signals the importance of the day — a prize-day, not a Wednesday.
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- Q5. Answer: C**  
 Old Hauser reads the alphabet with the children in a trembling voice — the chapter's most piercing image.
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- Q6. Answer: B**  
 Verbatim from the text — central to every theme question.
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- Q7. Answer: B**  
 'As long as they hold fast to their language, it is as if they had the key to their prison'.
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- Q8. Answer: C**  
 Written in his largest hand, just before he dismisses the class with a gesture.
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- Q9. Answer: C**  
 Treaty of Frankfurt (1871) ceded Alsace + Lorraine to Prussia.
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- Q10. Answer: B**  
 He says parents preferred sending their children to work for a few sous more — and now French is being taken away. The criticism extends to himself for not insisting harder.
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- Q11. Answer: B**  
 Franz's transformation: regret + new comprehension as the lesson is about to be taken away.

**Q12. Answer: C**

Forty years at the same desk — the depth of his vocation.

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**Q13. Answer: B**

The reader, knowing the historical outcome, perceives meanings the child narrator cannot fully articulate.

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**Q14. Answer: B**

Daudet uses the silence to alert the reader that something important is about to be revealed — foreshadowing.

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**Q15. Answer: B**

Alphonse Daudet (1840-1897), French naturalist short-story writer.