

## Preface

### Open Book Essays

1. Three aspects of Srila Prabhupada's mood and/or mission as revealed in the Preface to Bhagavad-Gita and comment, in own words, on the importance of these aspects for ISKCON.
2. Explain in your own words, with references to statements from the Preface, why Srila Prabhupada names his Bhagavad Gita "As It Is."

## Chapter 1

### Closed Book Short

1. Why was Duryodhana confident of full support of Bhismadeva and Dronacarya in the battle? (1.11)
2. List and explain the significance of the four signs of victory for the Pandavas. (BG 1.14-20)
3. What is the meaning of the word gudakesa? (1.24)
4. List the six kinds of aggressors. (1.36)
5. List the various consequences due to the destruction of the dynasty. (1.39-42)
6. Which quality of Arjuna makes him fit to receive the knowledge of Bhagavad-Gita, according to the last purport of Chapter 1?

### Closed Book Questions

1. Explain the significance of the words dharma-ksetre in relation to the outcome of the battle and the fear of Dhrtarastra. (BG 1.1)
2. Explain the significance of Dhrtarastra's usage of mamakah. (BG 1.1)
3. Discuss ways the signs of victory (BG 1.1, 1.14-20) connect to:
  - a. Krishna's protection
  - b. Vaishnava qualities and attitudes e.g. trust in Krishna.
  - c. Significance of omens in the life of sadhaka.
4. In connection with BG 1.21-22 purport, recollect an instance in which you readily came forward for service and experienced the helpful hand of the Lord as a reciprocation. What impact did this have on your practice of Krishna consciousness?
5. Srila Prabhupada writes in purport of verse 1.30 "Arjuna is showing ignorance of his real self-interest by Krsna's will. One's real self-interest lies in Visnu, or Krsna." Explain, with reference to Arjuna's situation on the battlefield and your own practice of Krsna consciousness.
6. Explain the significance of the following names of Krishna used in this chapter: Acyuta, Govinda, Madhava, Hrsikesa. (BG 1.15, 1.21-22, 1.24, 1.32-35, 1.36)

### Open Book Essays

1. Identify, and briefly explain, at least 3 examples of Duryodhana's duplicity as seen in his talks with Bhishma and Drona.
2. Discuss the significance of Arjuna's ordering Krishna and Krishna's accepting the position of a charioteer as seen in BG 1.21-22, senayor ubhayor madhya. Give reference to Srila Prabhupada's statements in the purport in your explanation.
3. Discuss the relevance of Arjuna's arguments, regarding destruction of the dynasty, in relation to modern society. Give reference to verses and purports from 1.39-43 in your explanation.

4. List and explain, at least 4 of Arjuna's reasons for not fighting with reference to the appropriate verses from BG chapters 1 & 2.
5. Discuss the consequences of misunderstanding within ISKCON the statement "women are generally not very intelligent and therefore not trustworthy" (Srila Prabhupada, Bhagavad-Gita 1.40, purport) and its appropriate understanding in relation to the overall teachings of Bhagavad-Gita Chapter 1.
6. Compare and discuss Arjuna's reasons for not fighting, given in Bhagavad-Gita Chapter 1 and 2, with your own occasional reluctance to engage in devotional service. Give specific reference to verses and purports from Bhagavad-Gita Chapter 1 and 2 in your answer.
7. Both Arjuna and Dhrtarastra heard the Bhagavad-Gita; explain how character traits displayed by Dhrtarastra and Arjuna influenced their ability to understand and apply its import. Give reference to appropriate verses, and statement from Srila Prabhupada's purports to Chapter 1 in your response.

## Chapter 2

### Closed Book Short

1. List six symptoms of Bhagavan in English or Sanskrit (2.2)
2. Explain the analogy of the sun's three features (2.2)
3. What is the meaning of the phrase ksudram hrdaya-daurbalyam? (2.3)
4. What is the meaning of the phrase dharma-sammudha-cetah? (2.7)
5. What is the size of soul and what is the symptom of its existence? (2.17)
6. List the six kinds of transformations the body is subject to. (2.20)
7. Give the English meaning of anu-atma and vibhu-atma. (2.20)
8. Why is it that the killing of animals in sacrifice not considered an act of violence? (2.31)
9. What is the meaning of the word ksatriya? (2.31)
10. What is meant by sva-dharma and what are the two types of sva-dharma? (2.31)
11. Give the English meaning of the phrases pratyavayo na vidyate and vyavasayatmika buddhir (2.40-41)
12. The Vedas deal mostly with what? (2.45)
13. How is the purpose of Vedic culture best served? (2.46)
14. What is the meaning of the word prajna? (2.54)
15. A well-dressed fool cannot be identified unless what? (2.54)
16. How does a sthita-dhir muni regards happiness and distress. (BG 2.56)
17. What is the meaning of the phrase param drstva nivartate? (2.59)
18. Who is the example of a mat- parah given in 2.61?
19. List the eight stages of spiritual fall down in English or Sanskrit. (2.62-63)
20. What is the meaning of the phrase brahma-nirvanam rcchati? (2.72)

### Closed Book Questions

1. Discuss the significance of Srila Prabhupada's purport on the phrase "sri bhagavan uvaca" (BG 2.2)
2. Explain under what circumstances, according to scriptural codes, a teacher is fit to be abandoned. ( 2.5)
3. Present arguments to refute Mayavadi theory with reference to BG 2.12-13 verses & purports.
4. Explain how application of the principles conveyed in BG 2.14 can improve your service attitude.
5. Discuss how BG 2.16, verse and purport, can bring about a paradigm shift in relation to setting priorities in your life.
6. Explain the analogy of the sun covered by clouds to explain the presence of the soul in the body. (2.20)

7. Looking through the lenses of verse BG 2.20, and its purport, describe some key events from your life and reflect how they influence your sense of yourself.
8. Explain the analogies of the justice of the peace and the surgeon. (2.21)
9. Summarize main philosophical points, on attma tattva – the science of the soul, from BG 2.11-30 with reference to at least 4 key verses and 3 analogies cited in Srila Prabhupada’s purports.
10. Summarize Krishna’s instructions to Arjuna on karma-kanda found in BG 2.31-37. How are these instructions different from Krishna’s subsequent instructions in Chapter 2?
11. Explain the analogy of watering the root analogy. (2.41)
12. Discuss the relevance of the terms pratyavayah na vidyate (BG 2.40) and vyavasayatmika buddhi (BG 2.41), for your personal practice of Krishna consciousness.
13. List at least four qualities of a sthita-prajna, as mentioned in BG 2.55-71, and explain how developing them would help you improve your relationships.
14. Explain the analogy of the boat on water. (2.67)
15. Explain the analogy of the rivers entering into the ocean. (2.70)
16. Discuss how you can apply the “basic principle of real peace”, to help to address obstacles you may be facing, with reference to BG 2.71 verse and purport.
17. Define ‘nirvana’ in its correct perspective with reference to BG 2.72 verse and purport.
18. Explain how the second Chapter of Bhagavad-Gita summarizes the contents of the entire Gita. Give reference to relevant verses from the Chapter 2.

### **Open Book Essays**

1. Do soldiers killed on modern battlefields attain the heavenly planets? Discuss how violence on the battlefield of Kurukshetra compares and contrast with the principles of jihad as seen in modern times. Give references to Bhagavad-Gita Chapters 1-3 in your response.
2. Identify at least 3 general principles drawn from Arjuna’s dilemma. and discuss how are they relevant to your own practice of Krishna consciousness with reference to Bhagavad-Gita 2.6-11, verses and purports
3. Describe the significance of surrender to guru in order to solve the perplexities of life, with reference to Bhagavad-Gita 2.6-11, karpanya doso upahata svabhava, etc.
4. Explain the process of transmigration with reference to specific Sanskrit words and phrases, from 2.13, dehino smin yatha dehe & 2.22, vasamsi jirnany yatha vihaya and analogies from these purports in your answer.
5. With reference to specific Sanskrit words and phrases, from at least four verses from Bhagavad Gita 2.11-30, explain the principles of atma tattva.
6. Discuss the significance of the principles conveyed in Bhagavad Gita 2.14, matrasparsas tu kaunteya in the practice of sadhana bhakti in general and for you personally. Give reference to 2.14 and optionally the bhakti sastras in general in your response.
7. Explain the two analogies, given in 2.21 purport, with reference to Arjuna’s dilemma and the utility of violence.
8. Discuss, in your own words, the following, with reference to verses, analogies, and statements from Srila Prabhupada’s purports. (Bhagavad-Gita 2.21 & 2.27)

- a. Why did Krishna, who is all-loving, incite Arjuna to war?
  - b. When is violence justified?
  - c. To what degree is violence in the name of religion appropriate?
  - d. How is the violence on the battlefield of Kurukshetra different from modern terrorism?
9. Briefly explain the principles of karma-yoga/buddhi-yoga with reference to appropriate verses, purports and cited analogies from Bhagavad-Gita 2.38-53.
  10. Discuss the significance of at least 3 statements from 2.41, vyavasatmika buddhir, verse and purport, in your personal application of Krishna consciousness. Give reference to other bhakti sastras in your response.
  11. Explain, in your own words, the process of sense control by Krishna consciousness with reference to verses, purports, cited analogies and examples from Bhagavad-Gita 2.54-68. How is this relevant for:
    - a. Arjuna's situation on the battlefield of Kurukshetra?
    - b. Your own practice of Krishna consciousness?
  12. Discuss the significance of BG 2.62-63 for your own practice of Krishna consciousness. Give specific reference to verses and purports in your answer.
  13. Select principles of atma jnana, self realization, as described in 2.11-30, and discuss how applying them could enrich your relationships with Vaishnavas and others. Give reference to verses, and purports from Bhagavad-Gita 2.11-30, in your answer.
  14. Discuss the significance of statements from 2.41, verse and purport, in Srila Prabhupada's mission. Give specific reference to 2.41 verse and purport in your response.
  15. Present an overview of Krishna's responses to Arjuna's question in BG 2.54 as to the symptoms of a self-realized soul. Give reference to verses, purports, cited analogies & examples from Bhagavad-Gita 2.54-68 in your response.
  16. How to control the senses by the process Krishna consciousness with reference to verses, purports, cited analogies and examples from Bhagavad-Gita 2.54-68. How is this relevant for:
    - a. Arjuna's situation on the battlefield of Kurukshetra?
    - b. Your own practice of Krishna consciousness?
  17. Explain the stages of fall down as presented in Bhagavad-Gita 2.62-63, dhyayato visayan pumsah etc.
  18. Srila Prabhupada writes in purport of verse 1.41 "Simply by performing devotional service, one can deliver hundreds and thousands of forefathers from all kinds of misery." Discuss the significance of this principle for Krishna conscious communities. Give reference to Bhagavad-Gita Chapters 1-3 in your response.

## Chapter 3

### Closed Book Short

1. What is Krishna consciousness sometimes misunderstood as? (3.1)
2. Give the English meaning of the following:
  - a. *tad ekam vada.* (3.2)
  - b. *mithyacarah.* (3.6)

- c. *karma-yogam asaktah sa visisyate.* (3.7)
  - d. *tad-artham karma kaunteya mukta-sangah.* (3.9)
  - e. *yo bhunkte stena eva sah.* (3.12)
  - f. *annad bhavanti bhutani.* (3.14)
  - g. *vikarma* (3.15)
3. Explain the analogy of an antiseptic vaccine. (3.14)
  4. Why is a fully Krishna conscious person not obliged to follow the Vedic injunctions? (3.17)
  5. Give the English meaning of acarya. (3.21)
  6. Give the English meaning of the phrase nirasir nirmamo. (3.30)
  7. Explain the analogy of cashier counting millions of dollars. (3.30)
  8. Explain the analogy of milk in contact with sour tamarind. (3.37)
  9. Give the English meaning of the phrase nitya-vairina. (3.39)
  10. Explain the analogy of fire being never extinguished by fuel. (3.39)
  11. List the three sitting places of lust. (3.40)

### **Closed Book Questions**

1. Present a summary of Bhagavad-Gita Chapter 3, identifying the main philosophical concepts and sections of verses, and how they connect.
2. Explain how by performance of sankirtan-yajna the demigods are automatically satisfied. (3.10-16)
3. Discuss appropriate and inappropriate application, for both ISKCON members and society in general, of the statement "tasya karyam na vidyate" ('for him there is no duty'), in BG 3.17.
4. Explain the *Acarya* principle, as mentioned in the purport to 3.21, and discuss its relevance, particularly in regard to the consequences of its absence, for you personally, and for ISKCON members in general.
5. Based in BG 3.20-24, identify principles of spiritual leadership and discuss their relevance for you.
6. Explain why Krishna performed prescribed duties. (3.23)
7. Discuss the relevance of the statement from BG 3.34 purport: "There is always the chance of an accident, even on the royal roads", for ISKCON members and society in general.
8. Discuss at least 3 principles of varnasrama-dharma, as discussed in Bhagavad-Gita Chapters 2 & 3, in relation to ISKCON's development, present and future.

### **Open Book Essays**

1. Give arguments supporting the superiority of karma-yoga (prescribed duties performed with detachment) over karma-sannyasa (renunciation of duties) and discuss its relevance for Arjuna and practitioners of bhakti yoga with reference to verses, cited analogies and examples from Bhagavad-Gita 3.4-9.
2. Explain how one gradually becomes purified by the performance of Vedic yajnas with reference to BG 3.10-16, verses, cited analogies and purports.
3. Discuss the relevance of the principles of demigod-worship, as explained in BG 3.10-16, in preaching Krishna consciousness. Give reference to BG 3.10-16 verses and purports in your answer
4. Explain the advantages and disadvantages of demigod-worship, as presented in Bhagavad-Gita 3.10-16, *annad bhavanti bhutani* etc. Give at least 3 references to Bhagavad-Gita 3.10-16 in your answer.
5. Explain how Krishna responds to Arjuna's argument about destruction of dynasty, with reference to Bhagavad-Gita 3.20-24. Discuss the acharya principle and its relevance for ISKCON's development in your response.

6. Srila Prabhupada writes in the purport to 3.21: “As long as one is not liberated, one has to perform the duties of his particular body in accordance with religious principles in order to achieve liberation.” Explain the relevance of this statement in relation to personal and preaching application. Give relevant references to Bhagavad Gita Chapter 3, verses and purports, in your response.
7. Explain the difference between following and imitating with reference to examples from the purport to 3.24. Discuss its significance for personal and preaching application.
8. Srila Prabhupada writes in the purport to 3.26: “..a slightly developed Kṛṣṇa conscious person may directly be engaged in the service of the Lord without waiting for other Vedic formulas.” Discuss the significance of this statement for the development of the Krishna consciousness movement. Give relevant references to Bhagavad Gita Chapter 3, verses and purports, in your response.
9. Srila Prabhupada writes in the purport to 3.29: “..the devotees of the Lord are more kind than the Lord because they understand the purpose of the Lord.” Discuss the significance of this statement for preaching Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Give reference to 3.29 verse and purport, in your response.
10. Draw general principles from Krishna’s analysis of lust in 3.36-43 and discuss, in your own words, the application of these principles in your personal practice of Krishna consciousness. Give references to key Sanskrit words and phrases from relevant verses and statements and analogies from the purports.
11. Explain how Krishna consciousness is transcendental to varnasrama-dharma, and how application of varnasrama-dharma can support the practice of your personal Krishna consciousness, with supportive references from Bhagavad-Gita Chapters 2 & 3.
12. Discuss ways the statements in Bg. 3.30, verse and purport, impact your attitude toward serving Krishna. Give reference to Bg. 3.30, verse and purport, in your response.
13. Explain how Krishna consciousness is transcendental to varnasrama-dharma, and how application of varnasrama-dharma can support the practice of your personal Krishna consciousness, with supportive references from Bhagavad-Gita Chapters 2 & 3.

## Chapter 4

### Closed Book Short

1. The *Gita* was spoken by the Lord to Vivasvan, how many years ago? (4.1)
2. List the six kinds of *avataras*. (4.8)
3. List the eight steps from *sraddha* to *prema*, in English or Sanskrit. (4.10)
4. What is a *pasandi*? (4.12)
5. List the modes predominantly influencing the four divisions of human society. (4.13)
6. List the 12 *mahajanas*. (4.16)
7. Matter dovetailed for the cause of the Absolute Truth regains what? (4.24)

### Closed Book Questions

1. Present a summary of Bhagavad-Gita Chapter 4, identifying the main philosophical concepts, sections of verses, and how they connect.
2. Explain how verse 4.2 and Srila Prabhupada's purport reflects Srila Prabhupada's mood and mission regarding the purpose of Bhagavad-Gita in relation to human society and its leadership.
3. Discuss the significance, in general, of Krishna's words '*sa kaleneha mahata*', Bg 4.2, and specifically its relevance to preserving Srila Prabhupada's teachings and his unique position in ISKCON.
4. Explain the significance of the statement *yogah proktah puratanah*, Bg 4.3.
5. Discuss the significance of Krishna's statement "*bhakto 'si me sakha ceti rahasyam hy etad uttamam*", Bg 4.3, in relation to understanding and presenting Bhagavad-Gita.
6. Explain the term *atma-mayaya*. (4.6)
7. Explain the analogy Srila Prabhupada gives in 4.6 to explain how the Lord appears in every millennium in His original transcendental form? (4.6)
8. Present the appropriate understanding of "*mama vartmanuvartante*" (everybody follows My path) BG 4.11, in comparison to common misunderstandings of the statement e.g. "The devil made me do it.../ "It was fate..."yatha mat tatha path.." etc.
9. Explain the analogy the rain. (4.14)
10. Explain, giving examples for each, the distinction between '*karma*', '*akarma*' and '*vikarma*' in relation to the practice of Krishna bhakti, as discussed by Sri Krishna in 4.17-18.
11. Explain the analogy of the patient suffering from bowel disorder. (4.24)
12. List some of the sacrifices enumerated by Sri Krishna in Bhagavad-Gita 4.24-33, and explain their ultimate purpose.
13. Describe a devotee's attitude to longevity. (4.29)
14. Compare Srila Prabhupada's explanation of Bg 4.35 with Mayavada explanation of the same subject.
15. Discuss at least three statements from Bhagavad-Gita, chapter 4, that reflect Srila Prabhupada's mood and mission.

## Open Book Essays

1. Identify values in BG 4.1-2 that you consider important for accomplishing Srila Prabhupada's mission and discuss their relevance for you. Give reference to BG 4.1-2, verses and purports in your response.
2. Present the history of the dissemination of Bhagavad-Gita with reference to BG 4.1-3 verses and purports.
3. Krishna explains in verses 4.1-2, *imam vivasvate yogam...*, etc, that Bhagavad Gita is imparted to kings and rulers. Discuss the relevance of this principle for ISKCON's future. Give reference to Bhagavad Gita 4.1-2 in your response.
4. Explain in your own words the nature and purpose of Krishna's appearance and activities with reference to verses and purports BG 4.5-9.
5. Explain the three types of obstacles to spiritual progress and how to become free from them with reference to Bhagavad-Gita 4.10 verse and purport.
6. Discuss the significance of the principles found in BG 4.34, *tad viddhi paripatena..* How is this relevant for society at large, for ISKCON and for you personally? Give reference to BG 4.34, verses and purports, in your response.
7. Why does Krishna introduce the element of transcendental knowledge at this point in the Bhagavad-Gita? Discuss, with reference to relevant verses and purports from this section Bhagavad-Gita.
8. In Bg. 4.21, purport, Srila Prabhupada writes: 'As a machine part requires oiling and cleaning for maintenance, so a Krishna conscious man maintains himself by his work just to remain fit for action in the transcendental loving service of the Lord. He is therefore immune to all the reactions of his endeavors'. Explain the significance of this statement in the practice and spreading of Krishna consciousness with reference to verses and purports from Bhagavad-Gita.
9. In BG. 4.24, purport, Srila Prabhupada writes: 'The Absolute Truth covered by maya is called matter. Matter dovetailed for the cause of the Absolute Truth regains its spiritual quality'. Explain the significance of this statement in relation to Srila Prabhupada's mission. Give reference to verses and purports from Bhagavad-Gita in your response.

## Chapter 5

### Closed Book Short

1. Give the English meaning of the word *pradhana*. (5.10)
2. Give the English meaning of the phrase *phalam tyaktva santim apnoti naisthikim*. (5.12)
3. List the nine gates of the body. (5.13)
4. Give the English meaning of the words *vibhu* and *anu*. (5.15)
5. Give the English meaning of the phrase *panditah sama-darsinah*. (5.18)
6. List the eight limbs of *astanga-yoga*. (5.27)

### Closed Book Questions

1. Present a summary of Bhagavad-Gita Chapter 5, identifying main philosophical concepts and sections of verses, and how they connect.
2. Explain the analogy of lotus leaf. (5.10)
3. Explain the analogy of smelling the flower. (5.15)

4. What lessons regarding karma-yoga and karma-sannyasa does Krishna present in BG. 5.2-6?
5. How can one become dear to everyone according to BG 5.7?
6. Explain how a living entity can “live happily within the city of nine gates” as mentioned in BG 5.13 verse and purport.
7. Explain the analogy beginning with the quote, "By vision, by meditation, and by touch only do the fish, the tortoise and the birds maintain their offspring," in relation to the practice of Krishna Consciousness. (Bg 5.26)
8. Krishna is the supreme well-wisher of all (5.29). What guidelines can you derive from this verse for your dealings with others?

### Open Book Essays

1. Explain, with reference to appropriate verses, purports, how the question Arjuna poses, in the beginning of this chapter, relates to relevant philosophical concepts in Bhagavad-Gita.
2. Discuss, in relation to Srila Prabhupada’s mood and mission, phalgu (artificial renunciation) and yukta vairagya (using everything in Krishna’s service) with reference to BG 5.1-2, verses and purports.
3. List reasons (at least 2) why karma-yoga (work in devotion) is better than sannyasa (renunciation of work) with reference to verses, analogies and purports from Chapters 5.
4. Srila Prabhupada writes in BG 5.7 purport: “One who is on the path of liberation by Krsna consciousness is very dear to every living being, and every living being is dear to him.” Discuss possible misunderstanding and appropriate application of this principle for you individually and for ISKCON as a whole. Give reference to BG Chapter 5, verses and purports, in your response.
5. Explain who is responsible for the suffering of the conditioned living entities with reference to verses and purports, from Bhagavad-Gita 4.14, *na mam karmani limpanti* and 5.14-15, and *nadatte kasyacit papam*.
6. List qualities presented in BG 5.18, verse and purport, and discuss their appropriate and inappropriate application, in the practice of sadhana bhakti.
7. Discuss, with examples from his life, how Srila Prabhupada demonstrates the principle described in 5.18.
8. Discuss practical application of the principle of “panditah samadarsinah” in relation to issues such as nationalism, racism, environmentalism, animal rights, gender relations, genocide etc. with reference to Bhagavad-Gita 5.18.
9. Explain principles of equanimity found in BG 5.19-26. Discuss the relevance and appropriate application of these principles for Vaishnavas. Give reference to BG 5.19-26, verses and purports, in your response.
10. Explain what is the highest welfare work and why, with reference to Bhagavad-Gita 5.25 purport. Discuss how this purport reflects Srila Prabhupada’s mood and mission.
11. Explain how application of the principles of BG 5.29 can contribute to world peace. Give reference to BG 5.29 verse and purport in your response.
12. Draw guidelines from Bhagavad-Gita, 5.29, *bhoktaram yagya tapasam*, which by applying would help you enhance your relationships with vaishnavas and people in general. Give reference to BG 5.29 and Nectar of Instruction in your response.
13. Reflect on how the teachings of Chapters 3 and 5 can be useful in fostering in you a spirit of cooperation with other devotees in serving Srila Prabhupada’s mission. Give reference to Chapters 3 and 5, verses and purports, in your response.

## Chapter 6

### Closed Book Short

1. When is the mind the best of friends and when is the mind greatest enemy? (6.6)
2. Give the English meaning of the words *ekaki* (6.10) and *sucau dese*. (6.11)
3. What is the result of extravagance in eating, sleeping, defending, and mating? (6.17)
4. Give the English meaning of the term *yukta*. (6.18)
5. Give the English meaning of *pratyahara*. (25)
6. Yogis who are attracted to what cannot attain the stage of perfection? (6.23)
7. Explain with an analogy to illustrate that the mind is strong and obstinate. (6.34)
8. Describe what happens to an unsuccessful yogi. (41-42)

### Closed Book Questions

1. Present a summary of Bhagavad-Gita Chapter 6, identifying main philosophical concepts and sections of verses, and how they connect.
2. Discuss how does 6.9 inspires you to cultivate friendly Vaishnava dealings.
3. Explain the significance of the story of the sparrow. (6.24)
4. Discuss the relevance of Srila Prabhupada's statements on determination in BG 6.24 purport for your own life as a practicing devotee.
5. Explain the analogy of the acute infection which may surpass the efficacy of medicine. (6.34)
6. Discuss the significance of the word 'bhajate' and its distinction from the word 'worship' as explained in Bhagavad-Gita 6.47 purport.
7. Discuss examples of modern religious practices, philosophies & ideologies that relate to steps on the yoga ladder.
8. Explain, with reference to Chapter 6 verses and statements from Prabhupada's purports, the importance of regulation in yoga practice and discuss its relevance for your own practice of Krishna consciousness.
9. Summarize the process and goal of the astanga-yoga practice with brief reference to BG chapter 6.
10. Explain, with reference to appropriate verses from Bhagavad-Gita 6, how the principles of astanga-yoga are included in Krishna consciousness.
11. Explain, the processes and respective results of karma-kanda, karma-yoga jnana-yoga and dhyana-yoga, with reference to appropriate verses from Bhagavad-Gita Chapters 2-6.

### Open Book Essays

1. Explain the stages of astanga yoga, including yogaruruksu and yogarudha stages, and how astanga yoga ultimately relates to Bhakti-yoga, with reference to Bhagavad-Gita 6.3 verse and purport.
2. Discuss the importance of regulation in all spheres of life with reference to BG 6.16-17 verses and purports. Also discuss how you plan to apply or improve your application of the same and how this will enhance your practice of Krsna consciousness.
3. With reference to Bhagavad-Gita 6.20-23 verses and purport, describe the symptoms of a person situated in Samadhi, and explain the true meaning of liberation.

4. Identify statements Srila Prabhupada makes about the practice of astanga-yoga in chapter 6 and discuss their application in contemporary context.
5. Srila Prabhupada quotes in Bhagavad-Gita 6.24 “God helps those who help themselves” discuss the relevance of this principle for your own life as a practicing devotee. Give reference to the sparrow analogy, in your response.
6. Summarize the impracticality of astanga-yoga for the modern age, with reference to BG 6.10-14 & 6.33-35, verses and purports.
7. With specific mention of the obstacles presented by Arjuna and solutions given by Krishna, explain the importance of controlling the mind in yoga practice, with reference to BG 5-6 and 35-37.
8. Discuss the significance of Krishna’s statement to Arjuna: abhyasena tu kaunteya in BG 6.35, for personal and preaching application. Give reference to analogies mentioned in the purport in your explanation.
9. State Arjuna’s concern and Krishna’s response in relation to destination of unsuccessful yogi. Give reference to Bhagavad-Gita 6.37-45 in your explanation.
10. Identify points from Krishna’s instruction to Arjuna on ashtanga yoga applicable for the practice of bhakti yoga. Give reference to Bhagavad Gita Chapter 6, verses and purports, in your response.
11. Discuss common misconceptions prevalent in our current times regarding the process and purpose of astanga-yoga and refute them with reference to BG chapter 6 verses and purports.

## Chapters 1-6 Thematic Questions

### Closed Book Thematic Questions

1. With reference to Bhagavad gita 2nd Chapter verses and purports, explain the statement from Bg 2.25 purport: "...there is no source of understanding the soul except by studying the Vedas."
2. Srila Prabhupada writes in BG 5.7 purport: "A man of controlled senses cannot be offensive to anyone." Discuss the relevance of this statement for society at large as well as for your own life as a practicing devotee.
3. Srila Prabhupada writes in BG 5.12 purport: "This is the secret of Krsna consciousness—realization that there is no existence besides Krsna is the platform of peace and fearlessness." Discuss the relevance of this statement for devotees and society at large with appropriate reference to Chapters 1-6, verses and purports.
4. Choose three verses from Bhagavad gita Chapters 1-6 which, if applied, would enhance your own Krishna consciousness. Write down a plan for doing this.
5. Choose four verses from Bhagavad gita Chapters 1-6 which you consider most useful in preaching. Explain why and discuss.

### Open Book Thematic Questions

1. Discuss the relevance for modern society, and for Krishna conscious communities, of Arjuna's arguments about the destruction of family traditions and pollution of women. Give reference to verses and purports from Chapters 1 and 2 in your response.
2. Srila Prabhupada writes in purport of verse 1.41 "Simply by performing devotional service, one can deliver hundreds and thousands of forefathers from all kinds of misery." Discuss the significance of this principle for Krishna conscious communities. Give reference to verses and purports from from Chapters 1-3 in your response.
3. Srila Prabhupada writes in purport of verse 1.46 "Such a kind and soft-hearted person, in the devotional service of the Lord, is fit to receive self-knowledge". Discuss qualities, which help one receive self-knowledge, which reference to verses and purports of Bhagavad Gita Chapters 1-6. Explain the actual meaning of detachment or renunciation with reference to Krishna's instructions and statements from Srila Prabhupada's purports in BG chapters 1-6.
4. Establish, in your own words, the superiority of bhakti over the other yoga systems with reference to verses and purports from Bhagavad-Gita, Chapters 2-6. In your answer explain the following:
  - a. The impracticality of yoga systems, other than bhakti-yoga, in Kali-yuga.
  - b. How bhakti-yoga contains all the components of the other yoga systems.
  - c. How bhakti-yoga can be practiced without having practiced other yoga systems. (Pres)
5. Express in your own words, deepened faith in and appreciation of the practice of bhakti-yoga over and above all other forms of spiritual practice. Provide supporting references from BG chapters 1-6 in your response.
6. Srila Prabhupada writes in the purport to 3.29: "...the devotees of the Lord are more kind than the Lord because they understand the purpose of the Lord." Explain, with references to Bhagavad Gita Chapters 1-6, the relevance of this statement for a practitioner of Krishna consciousness.
7. The genius of Bhagavad Gita is, it takes a real life situation, examines it philosophically, and then offers a universal solution. Expand on this comment with reference to verses and purports from Bhagavad Gita Chapters 1-6.
8. Select content from verses and purports of Bhagavad Gita Chapters 1-6, and present them to an audience, new to Krishna consciousness, in a way they can appreciate its timeless wisdom.