



Brain International School

Vikas Puri, New Delhi

ASSIGNMENT NO. 6

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

CLASS- VII

NOVEMBER'25

LITERATURE

P 10- AS I GREW OLDER

Theme- The poem explores the theme of lost dreams and racial oppression. It shows how, as the speaker grows older, racism and discrimination build a wall that blocks his dreams, once bright and full of hope. The poem also expresses a strong message of struggle and resistance, as the speaker gathers strength to break through the wall of darkness and reclaim his dreams. Ultimately, it is a poem about hope, determination, and the fight against injustice.

Poetic Devices

1. Metaphor- A comparison between two unlike things without using "like" or "as".
Example: *"The wall rose..."* (The wall represents obstacles or racism)
2. Imagery- Descriptive language that appeals to the senses.
Example: *"Bright like a sun"* (creates a vivid mental image of hope)
3. Symbolism- Use of symbols to signify deeper meanings.
Example: *"Shadow"* (symbolizes oppression or hopelessness)
4. Repetition- Repeating words or phrases for emphasis.
Example: *"Only the shadow. / Only the wall."*
5. Alliteration- Repetition of consonant sounds at the beginning of words.
Example: *"Smash this shadow"*
6. Enjambment- The continuation of a sentence without a pause beyond the end of a line.
Example: *"I have almost forgotten my dream. / But it was there then,"*

Answer the following questions:

Q1. *"To smash this night,
To break this shadow
Into a thousand lights of sun
Into a thousand whirling dreams"*

- a) What is the significance of 'smash' and 'break'?
- b) What is the tone of the final lines?
- c) Why is the word 'thousand' repeated?

Q2. How does the speaker hope to recapture his dream?

Q3. Which words suggest that the speaker will not give into the darkness?

Q4. Is the poem optimistic or pessimistic? Give reasons for the same.

CH-12: MY LOST DOLLAR

Theme- The story highlights the comedic side of human miscommunication and how simple misunderstandings can escalate, causing confusion and chaos. Leacock uses humour to satirise the way people often misinterpret each other's intentions, emphasising the absurdity that can result from such situations.

Answer the following questions:

Q1. What painful thought haunted the speaker? Give reasons.

Q2. How do we know that Todd has forgotten about the dollar?

Q3. *"I asked him one day what his trip cost him and he said that he kept no accounts"*

- a) What had Todd's trip cost the speaker?
- b) Is it odd that the speaker remembers all his meetings with Todd?
- c) What is the mood of the speaker?

Q4. Write a character sketch of the narrator of the story.

P-13: ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

Theme - The poem is a monologue taken from Shakespeare's play "As You Like It," which reflects on our lives and the roles we play in them. He says that God has assigned us "seven roles" to play in our lives, just like professional actors playing their roles in a drama happening on a stage. It is part of a monologue by Jacques. He proclaims that a Man plays "seven roles" in his life.

Poetic Devices

1. Simile: 'creeping like a snail'; "soldier... bearded like the pard"; etc.
2. Metaphor: The entire speech itself is more like symbolism; men and women are portrayed as players, whereas life is portrayed as the stage. Shakespeare uses the "stage" as an extended metaphor.
3. Repetition: words like *sans*, *age*, etc., are repeated to emphasise.
4. Anaphora: It is used in the eighth and ninth lines, beginning with the words "And".
5. Synecdoche: "Made to his mistress' eyebrow"; "And then the justice"; etc.
6. Alliteration: "his shrunk shank"; "quick in quarrel"; etc.
7. Onomatopoeia: "pipes / And whistles in his sound"

Answer the following questions:

Q1. How does a man play his part as 'the justice'?

Q2. "*Last scene of all,
That ends this strange eventful history,
Is second childishness and mere oblivion*"

- a) Which scene is being spoken about here?
- b) How is the last act like a second childhood?
- c) What are the characteristics of this stage?

Q3. What is the central idea of the poem?

Q4. Describe the various stages of a man's life picturised in the poem "All the World's a Stage."

CH-14: THE HOLY PANCHAYAT

Theme - The story serves as a critique of the oppressive social and religious structures prevalent in Indian society. It exposes the hypocrisy and corruption of those in authority and advocates for the need to challenge and question traditional norms to bring about social change and justice.

Answer the following questions:

Q1. How did the judgement proclaimed by Algu impact their friendship?

Q2. How was the altercation between Algu and Jumman settled?

Q3. *"This is justice. This is not the work of a man"*

a) Who said this and why?

b) Why were the speakers happy?

c) What was 'justice' in this context?

Q4. Comment on the significance of the word 'Holy' in the story's title 'The Holy Panchayat'.