



ASSIGNMENT NO-3 SUBJECT: ENGLISH

CLASS: XI

October '26

Ch-4 The Adventure

Theme

“The Adventure” is anchored in the notion of alternate realities and parallel universes. The narrative examines how even a minor deviation in a historical event can give rise to a radically different present. By fusing science fiction with historical conjecture, the story underscores the capricious nature of time and the fragility of human existence. It also prompts reflection on destiny and on the extent to which individual actions shape the course of history.

1. In what ways does the concept of alternate realities form the central pillar of the story “The Adventure”?
2. Trace Professor Gaitonde’s passage into the parallel universe. Which differences between the two realities does he observe?
3. What part does science fiction play in moulding the narrative of “The Adventure”?
4. How does the author draw upon historical events to construct an alternate timeline? Illustrate your answer with examples.
5. What message does the story convey about the influence of individual decisions on the course of history?

P-5 Father to Son

Theme

“Father to Son” probes the intricacies of the bond between a father and his son, touching on communication, generational discord, and the struggle for mutual understanding. It examines the emotional distance that can open up between parents and children, and the yearning for closeness that persists despite misapprehension. The poem stresses the profound love and anxiety that lie beneath the estrangement, ultimately contemplating how difficult it is to span the chasm between differing outlooks and experiences.

Poetic Devices

- **Metaphor:** The father employs the metaphor of “the seed I spent” to represent his efforts in raising his son, hinting that despite his nurturing, the two have drifted apart.
- **Alliteration:** The recurrence of consonant sounds, as in “silence surrounds us,” accentuates the emotional gulf between father and son.
- **Enjambment:** The poem lets one line spill into the next without a pause, mirroring the unbroken flow of thoughts and the father’s inner turmoil.
- **Repetition:** The recurrence of words such as “father” and “son” underscores the relationship and the strain that marks it.
- **Imagery:** Visual imagery, such as “silence surrounds us,” conjures a sense of isolation and emotional remoteness between the two.

Questions

1. In what manner does the father convey his sense of estrangement and detachment from his son in the poem?
2. What does the poem imply about the evolving relationship between parents and children as they grow older?
3. How does the father endeavour to reconcile with his son, and what obstacles does he encounter along the way?
4. What part does communication, or the absence of it, play in the father-son relationship portrayed in the poem?
5. In what ways does the poem delve into the themes of love, misunderstanding, and regret between father and son?

NOTE MAKING

1. Good manners are the quiet language of a civilised society. Etiquette, which means the accepted code of polite behaviour, shapes the way we greet, listen, dine, dress and disagree. It may seem trivial, yet it decides whether a person is welcomed or avoided. A courteous individual earns trust quickly, for politeness signals respect, and respect is the foundation of every lasting relationship.
2. Among all social graces, the art of speaking softly deserves special mention. A gentle voice does not indicate weakness; it reflects self-control and confidence. When tempers rise, a calm tone can defuse tension, whereas a raised voice only inflames it. Research in communication also suggests that listeners remember and respond better to measured speech than to shouting. Moreover, soft speech is accompanied by careful word choice, which lessens the chance of hurting others unintentionally.
3. The benefits of etiquette extend well beyond personal life. In the workplace, employees who observe courtesy, such as being punctual, addressing colleagues respectfully and refraining from interrupting, create a harmonious environment and are often rewarded with leadership roles. In interviews, a polite manner can tip the balance between equally qualified candidates. In diplomacy, a single discourteous remark has been known to strain relations between nations.
4. Etiquette also has a social dimension. When people practise good manners in public, queuing patiently, speaking quietly in libraries and hospitals, and using phones considerately, shared spaces become pleasant for everyone. Children learn these habits chiefly by observation, so parents and

teachers must model them consistently. Schools, too, bear the responsibility of nurturing courtesy alongside academic excellence.

5. In an age of hurried communication and online rudeness, the need for etiquette is greater than ever. Those who cultivate gentle speech and gracious conduct not only enrich their own lives but also raise the standard of the community around them.

Questions

(a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations (minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Supply a suitable title to it.

(b) Make a summary of the above passage in about 80 words.