



CLASS X

ENGLISH LITERATURE READER (POETRY)

CHAPTER 4 - SONG OF THE FLOWER

(KHALIL GIBRAN)

SOLUTIONS

A. On the basis of your understanding of the poem complete the following statements:

- I. The flower, at dawn announces the coming of sunlight.
- II. The plains become beautiful with different colours of flower.
- III. The flower drinks dew for wine.
- IV. The last gift of the living to the dead because it is used as a wreath to be placed on a dead body.

B. Answer each of the following questions in a sentence.

- I. **What becomes of the star when it falls from the blue tent of sky?**
Ans: The star becomes the flower when it falls from the blue tent of the sky.
- II. **Who conceived the flower?**
Ans: The flower is conceived by winter.
- III. **What does the flower do at eventide?**
Ans: The flower bids farewell to the sun along with the birds in the eventide.
- IV. **What watches over the flower when she embraces Slumber?**
Ans: The eyes of night watches over the flower when she sleeps.
- V. **What does the flower do with the rhythmic swaying of the grass?**
Ans: The flower begins to dance to the rhythmic swaying of the grass.
- VI. **Why does the flower look up so high?**
Ans: The flower looks up so high to see only the light.



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C. Answer the following questions briefly:

- I. The poet compares the flower with a kind word. Bring out the appropriateness of the comparison.**

Ans: A kind word can make us pleasing and solace. It can also make us happy, joyful and ecstatic. In the same manner the flower can make us cheerful by bracing our mind.

- II. “I am a star fallen from the blue tent upon the green carpet.”**

Explain why the flower says so.

Ans: The earth with different colours of flower makes it more beautiful and attractive. As the night approaches and when the flower falls from its tree and scatter on the earth’s surface it looks like stars falling from the heaven during the night. Hence, the flower says so.

- III. Why does the flower say that it is the daughter of the elements?**

Ans: The flower says that it is the daughter of the elements because it has been created by these elements consisting of nature, fire, earth, air and water.

- IV. How is the flower ‘winter conceived’?**

Ans: The flower is conceived in winter and gets ready for a new birth in winter. So that it leaps to new bud in the spring season.

- V. What does the flower do at dawn?**

Ans: At dawn the flower unites with the soft morning breeze and announces the coming of light on earth.

- VI. “I drink dew for wine, and harken to the voices of the birds.” Explain.**

Ans: As men enjoy life with drinks and listen to music, the flower drinks dew as its wine and listen to the voices of the birds as its music.

- VII. “I am the memory of a moment of happiness.” Explain.**

Ans: Sometimes, a flower acts as a memory of happier times, a symbol of one’s happy past that is remembered in the present time.

- VIII. What should man learn from the flower?**

Ans: The flower gives us the wisdom that man should always learn to be optimistic rather than pessimistic and must stand high against the difficulties of life.
