



CLASS X
ADDITIONAL ENGLISH
CHAPTER 6 - INDIAN WEAVERS
SAROJINI NAIDU

SOLUTIONS

EXERCISES

COMPREHENSION

Answer the following Questions in about 25-30 lines)

Q1. What are the three kinds of cloth being woven?

Ans:- The three kinds of cloth being woven are the robes of a new born, marriage veils of a queen and a dead man's funeral shroud.

Q2. Give the respective colours and times of the cloth woven?

Ans:- The colour of the robe of a new born baby woven at the early morning is blue. The colour of the bridal veils of a queen woven during the fall of the night is purple and green and that of the colour of the dead man's funeral shroud woven in the moonlight chill is white.

Q3. How does the poetess describe the craftsmanship of Indian weavers?

Ans:- The poem, 'Indian Weavers,' gives the true representation of the craft and skill of the Indian weavers. They are highly skilled that they are capable of weaving varieties of clothes according to occasions and incidents- be it a robe of a new born, a marriage veil or a shroud.

Q4. Which kind of cloth do the weavers weave in the moon-light chill?

Ans:- The weavers weave a dead man's shroud in the moon-light chill.

Q5. Give the rhyme scheme of the poem.

Ans:- The rhyme scheme of the poem is *aabb*. In each stanza of four lines, the last words of the first and second lines have the same rhyming scheme *aa* and that of the third and fourth lines have the same rhyming scheme *bb*.



Q6. Why does the poetess repeat the word ‘Weavers’?

Ans:- The poetess repeats the word ‘Weavers’ as she appreciates the craftsmanship and skill of Indian weavers. At the same time, to add meaning to the poem, she asks them question in the beginning of each stanza of the poem.

APPLICATION

Answer the follow questions in 90-100 words

Q1. Write the theme of the poem, ‘Indian Weavers’?

Ans:- The poem ‘Indian weavers’ describes the different stages of human life- birth, marriage and death. In another way, it tells about the life cycle of a human being - Childhood, Youth, and Old age. The poetess asks three questions to Weavers and their answers relate to life. The Weavers tell the poetess that they are weaving the clothes of new born baby, the marriage veils of a queen and the funeral shroud of a dead man. The colour, clothes and the times of the day suggest the three stages of life. The life starts its journey with blue colour representing joy and happiness and then come green and purple that represent the ups and downs of life along with happiness and finally comes a single colour-white that represents the last stage of human life.

Q2. Give the imagery of the poem?

Ans:- ‘Indian Weavers’ has been used as an imagery to describe the three stages of human life from birth to death, just as the weavers weave from dawn to night. The poem has rich imagery like ‘break of the day’, ‘fall of night’, ‘solemn and still’, moonlight chill. The imagery of the gay and blue colour of a wild halcyon in the case of the robes of a new born child, that of the bright purple and green colour of the plumes of a peacock in the case of the marriage veils of a queen and finally that of the white colour as that of the feather and a cloud in the case of a dead man’s shroud- these are all beautiful pieces of imagery. Through this poem, she salutes the weavers of India. It seems to portray skill, talent, and hard working nature of Indian weavers.



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Q3. Attempt the appreciation of the poem.

Ans:- Sarojini Naidu has rightly been called “ The Nightingale of India.” In this poem, ‘Indian Weavers,’ she has beautifully penned down the three stages of human life, taking the skill and craftsmanship of the Indian weavers.

The three stanzas, with the rhyming scheme of aabb, clearly depict the three stages of human life – birth, youth and death. She has used a number of literary devices like simile, imagery, metaphor, etc to express her ideas. She takes help of the colours and times of day to represent the life stages. The poem begins at dawn with blue colour which represents the happiness, freshness, hope, beauty, etc of Birth; then comes the late evening with the addition of purple and green colour representing the happiness and sorrows, the ups and downs of Adult life- Youth; and lastly comes the dead chilly- cold night with the white colour representing purity and old age- Death. These stages portray different aspects of life in an individual and every person should be prepared to overcome whatever challenges that come their way. This poem is an allegory to the happenings of the real life of a person.

COMPOSITION

Q1. Pick out the comparisons /similarities used in the poem.

Ans:- The comparisons /similarities used in the poem are as follows :-

- a) The robe of a new born baby is being compared with the blue wing of a wild halcyon or kingfisher.
- b) The marriage veils of a queen are being compared with the purple and green plumes of a peacock.
- c) The funeral shroud of a dead man is being compared with the white feather and cloud.

Q2. Give the meanings of the following expressions:

- a) plumes of a peacock
- b) the marriage veils of a queen
- c) a dead man’s funeral shroud

Ans:- a) **plumes of a peacock:-** purple and green feather of a peacock. The second stage i.e adulthood is being compared with the plumes of peacock to signify a quest for better and prosperous life.



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b) the marriage veils of a queen:- the bridal wear of a queen made of thin, fine clothes for covering the face- representing the second stage of life, Youth.

c) a dead man's funeral shroud:- it is a white cloth to cover the dead body of a person at the time of funeral - representing the last stage of life, Death.

Q3. The Indian weavers weave a dead man's funeral shroud.

- a) At break of day b) in the moon-light chill c) at fall of night.

(Choose the correct answer from the given alternatives)

Ans:- b) in the moon-light chill.

Q4. Describe the weaving skills of Manipuri women.

Ans:- Manipur has a rich and unique tradition of handloom and handicraft. Women are the only weavers in the handloom industry. Most of the women who are famous for their skill and intricate designing are from Wangkhei, Bamon kampu, Kongba, Utlou etc. Many artistic designs of clothes are woven by Manipuri women and they are in great demand in other parts of India and even outside. Few of such designs are Ningthou phee, Lamthang khullak, Khamen Chatpa, Moirang phee, Leiroom etc. Manipuri women have high skill in weaving.

EXTRA QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q1. Why are the weavers solemn and still?

Ans:- The weavers are solemn and still because they are weaving a thin white cloth to cover a dead body.

Q2. Why are the weavers making the garment so bright coloured?

Ans:- The weavers are making the garment so bright coloured because they are weaving marriage veils for a queen.

Q3. Give the examples of alliteration from the poem.

Ans:- Weavers-weaving, peacock-purple, wing-wild.



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Q4. What are the weavers weaving at dawn?

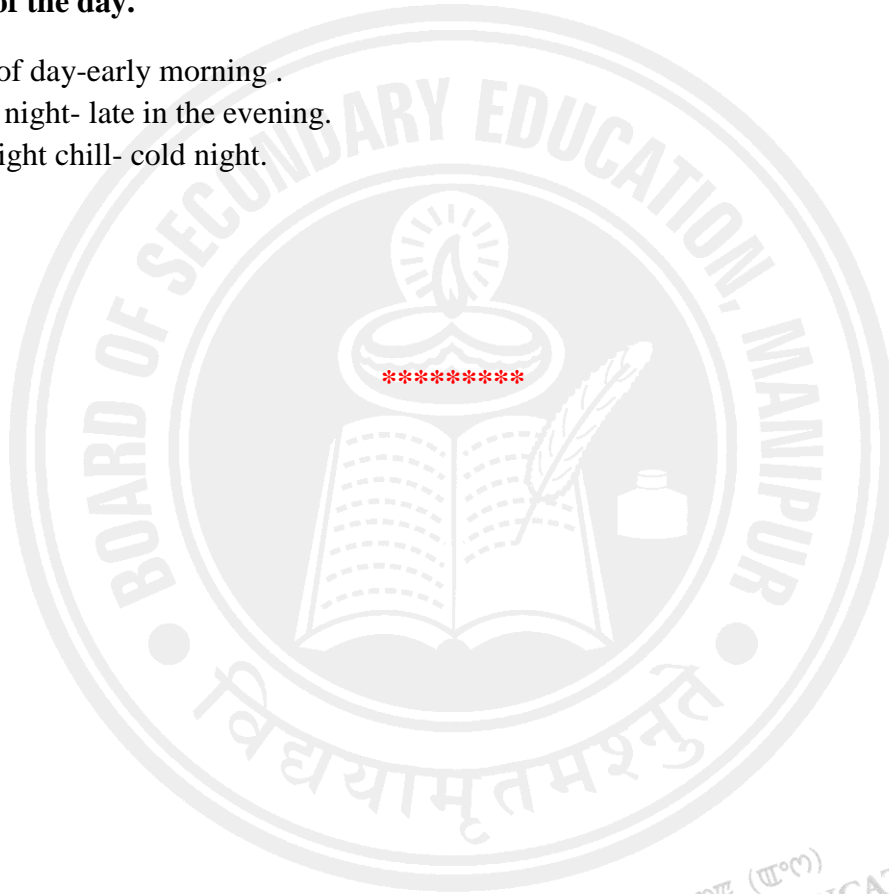
Ans:- At dawn, the weavers are weaving a blue garment for a new born baby.

Q5. Pick out the expressions, words or phrases from the poem that indicate different times of the day.

Ans:- Break of day-early morning .

Fall of night- late in the evening.

Moonlight chill- cold night.



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