



Lesson.1

Gitanjali --- *Rabindranath Tagore.*

SOLUTIONS:

Q1. Answer the following questions.

I) What is the poet trying to express in this poem?

Ans: The poet is trying to express that God blesses or favors those who work really hard in life facing the hot sun and rain.

II) What does the poet mean by “Chanting” and “telling of beads”?

Ans: By “Chanting”, the poet means the recitation of devotees in singing manners.

And “telling of beads”, means counting beads and praying to God by the devotees.

III) The poet says that God is not to be found in the temple. What is your opinion on this?

Ans: The poet says that God is not to be found in temple because God himself is among those who work really hard in the field, tilling the hard ground and who is making the path breaking stones all covered with dirt facing the hot sun and rain.

IV) According to the poet, where can God be found?

Ans. According to the poet, God can be found working with the labourers in the field, breaking stones and making paths facing the hot Sun and rain all covered with dirt.

V) What does the poet mean by deliverance?

Ans. By deliverance, the poet means setting free from the bondage.

VI) What does the poet mean by “meditations” and “flowers and incense”?

Ans. By “meditations” the poet means the act of thinking deeply for the sake of seeking God’s blessings. “flowers and incense” means the prayers and offerings to God by the devotees.



2. Read the quotations and answer the questions that follow:

i. “whom dost thou worship in this lonely dark corner of a temple with doors shut”?

a) who is “thou”?

Ans. 'Thou' represents the devotees.

b) Whom is he worshipping?

Ans. He is worshipping “God”.

c) What does “the worshipping in this dark corner of a temple with doors shut mean”?

Ans. It means that the devotees do not want to be disturbed while they are meditating inside the temple.

i. “ He is with

them in sun and shower and his garment is covered with dust.”

a) Who is “ he”?

Ans. “He” represents God.

b) To whom does the word “them” refer to?

Ans. “Them” refers to the labourers who are working in the field and those breaking stones to make the path.

c) Whose garment is covered with dust and why?

Ans. God's garment is covered with dust because he is with the labourers who are working hard facing the hot sun and rain all covered with dirt and dust.

iii. “ He is bound with us forever”

Who is “He”?

Ans. “He” represents God.

Why is “He” bound with us forever?

Ans. God is the creator of all the creatures on the Earth. He has a strong relationship with his creation.

3. Explain the meaning of the following lines:

- i. Put off thy holy mantle and even like him come down on the dusty soil!

Ans. These lines are taken out of the poem, “Gitanjali” written by Rabindranath Tagore.

In these lines, the poet asks the devotees to leave aside their prayers and offerings wearing holy garments. He urges the devotees to work hard and face the difficulties in life so that they can attain God's blessings.

- ii. Our master himself has

joyfully taken upon him the bonds of creation;

Ans. These lines are taken out of the poem, “Gitanjali” written by Rabindranath Tagore.

In these lines, the poet praises God, and his works of creation. He himself is always bound with his creation. So, the devotees should work hard in life.

- iii. Meet him and stand by him in toil and in sweat of thy brow.

Ans. These lines are taken out of the poem, “Gitanjali” written by Rabindranath Tagore.

In these lines, the poet expresses that God is not to be found in the temple. One cannot get his blessings just by prayer and offerings. It is only through hard work that God will shower his blessings. God favors those who sweat by working hard facing the hot sun and rain.

4. Find in the poem an antonym (a word opposite in meaning) for each of the following words:

i. Light (as in daylight) - Dark

ii. Soft - Hard

iii. Sadly - Joyfully

iv. After - Before

v. Separated - Bound



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