

Class-12

Sub.-English

Poem -Seven Ages of Man

Write and learn the following questions:

B. Answer to the following questions should not exceed 10-20 words each :

Q. 1. Who is compared with a leopard ?

Ans. A soldier is compared with a leopard because a soldier is quick prompt and fast as a leopard.

Q. 2. What is the role of a nurse ?

Ans. A nurse takes care of a crying and puking child. A nurse takes care from its birth to a longer time.

Q. 3. Who sighs like a furnace ?

Ans. A lover sighs like a furnace. A lover is so much attached towards his beloved that he seems like a furnace.

Q. 4. At what stage does a man wear spectacles on his nose ?

Ans. In the sixth stage, a man wears spectacles on his nose. In this stage his eye sight becomes weak.

C. Answer to the following questions should not exceed 20-30 words each :

Q. 1. What is the importance of repetition of the word 'sans' ?

Ans. Repetition of the word 'sans' is important because it strengthens the comparison of second childishness (without teeth, eyes, taste etc.) with childhood.

Q. 2. Do you find any melancholy reference in the poem ?

Ans. Yes in the last stanza of the poem there is melancholy references. These are—Last scene....., That ends, and, Is second childishness.....

Q. 3. Pick out the similes from the poem.

Ans. These are — creeping like snail, sighing like furnace, bearded like the pard.

D. Answer to the following questions should not exceed 60-80 words each :

Q. 1. Describe the salient features of all the seven stages of a man's life.

Ans. In the first stage of a man's life, he is an infant who depends on his nurse for everything.

In the second stage, he is a school boy. He is not willing to go to school. In the third stage, he acts as a lover. In the fourth stage he is a soldier. He quarrels in the name of honour. In the fifth stage, he acts as a judge. He grows fat on capons. In the sixth stage, he becomes a thin comic figure due to his appearance. In the seventh stage, he becomes a child again.

Q. 2. Pick out the use of metaphors from the text.

Ans. Use of metaphors in the text :

- (a) All the world's a stage
- (b) All the men and women merely players
- (c) Shining morning face
- (d) The bubble reputation

Q. 3. How does the poem represent a mature view of life ?

Ans. The poem represents a mature view of life by comparing man's life to a drama and the world to a stage. To represent a mature view of life, the poet has divided man's life into seven stages—an infant, a school boy, a lover, a soldier, a justice, a pantaloon and an old man. The poet has described all the seven stages very realistically.

Q. 4. Explain how all the world is a stage in the context of the poem.

Ans. The world is a stage where men and women simply come and play the roles fixed for them. Just as actors in the drama enter and leave the stage after their performance, in the same way men are born and die after playing different roles of a infant, school boy, lover, soldier, justice, pantaloon and an old man. These seven stages of man's life are like the seven acts of the drama of life.

Q. 5. Discuss Shakespeare as a minute observer of human life.

Ans. The way Shakespeare has described a man's life from an infant to an old man, is an evidence that he is a minute observer of human life. He has very realistically portrayed the cry and helpless state of an infant, a school boy's unwillingness to go to school, a lover's impatience and sigh, vigour, anger and abusive words of a soldier, wise maxims of a judge, loose trousers and spectacles, and diminishing senses of an old man.



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