

On Another's Sorrow

Pre-reading Activities

Question 1:

What will you do?

Form groups of four students each, and decide what will be your reaction in the following situations. [AI, pg. 139]

i. When your classmate can't continue his / her higher studies due to lack of textbooks

Answer:

I will help him get the books from a library, raise some funds from parents and classmates to buy books, request the seniors to donate their books or lend my books when I am not studying, so that he can make his notes and prepare for the exams.

ii. When you see a person lying on the road, and is seriously injured due to accident

Answer:

I Will immediately give a call to the police, ambulance and give him first aid with the help of the people gathered around. We will inform his family' by checking his wallet or mobile.

iii. When you see a small boy begging for alms on the street

Answer:

I will ask the boy about his parents and also contact an NGO working for the orphans and poor children, so that they can take care of him and provide him shelter and education.

iv. When your teacher punishes your friend, and you know he is innocent

Answer:

I will explain the truth to the teacher that he is innocent and request the teacher not to punish him for the mistake he has not done. I will also try to cheer my friend up.

v. When your friend has lost the amount collected for the class picnic

Answer:

I will inform our teacher / principal about the lost money and search for the same. I will also put up the same on the notice board and announce in the assembly and request to hand over the money if found, in the school office.

Question 2:

Remembering Almighty

Work in pairs and complete the table given below.

When do you remember the Almighty?	When do you forget the Almighty?

Answer:

When do you remember the Almighty?	When do you forget the Almighty?
When I am afraid of something.	When I am happy.
When someone very dear to me is in trouble or sick.	When I and my near and dear ones are enjoying good health.
When I am confused and undecided.	When I am tension free.
When I want my wish to be fulfilled.	When I am blessed with everything I want.

Question 3:

After Listening

Listening competition! Your teacher will read out the whole poem. After listening to the poem, note down reasonable / meaningful lines that you have listened to. The student who will write maximum lines will be declared winner.

The only condition for this competition is that you have to keep your books closed and just listen to the teacher.

[Students are expected to do the above activity on their own.]

A1. Factual Reading

Question 1:

Read the extract carefully and select the alternatives to complete the following.

*i. The poem is about _____. (Grief and sorrows of others/ joys and happiness of others) [A3 – 1, pg. 139]

*ii. The infant's care is taken by . (Mother/ god) [A3 – 5, pg. 139]

Answer:

i. grief and sorrows of others,

ii. mother.

Question 2:

What are the expected reactions in the following situations? [Oct 14]

i. to see another's troubles _____ .

ii. to see another's grief _____ .

iii. to see a falling tear _____ .

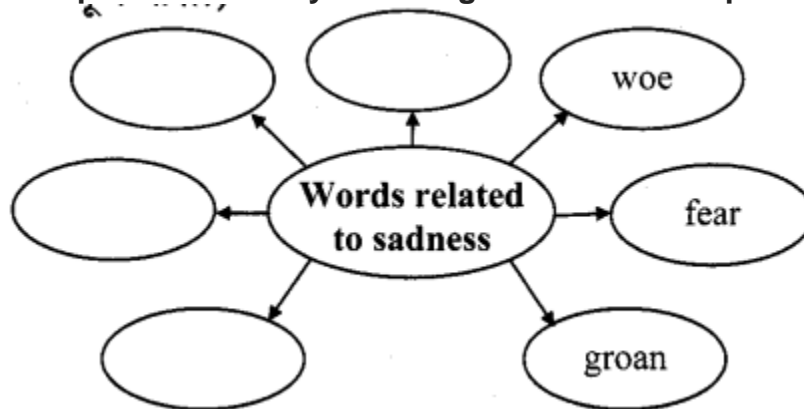
iv. father sees his child weeping _____ .

Answer:

- i. be in sorrow too
- ii. seek for kind relief
- iii. feel our sorrow's share
- iv. filled with sorrow

Question 3:

Complete the web by choosing words from the passage related to sadness.



Answer:

- i. sorrow
- ii. Grief
- iii. Tear
- iv. Weep

Question 4:

State whether the following sentences are True or False.

- i. A father is not filled with sorrow when he sees his child weep.
- ii. A mother cannot sit and hear an infant groan with fear.

Answer:

- i. False
- ii. True

Read the extract from line (1 to 12) on page..(140) of your textbook and answer the following questions.

[Can I see another's _____
_____ never can it be.]

A3. Vocabulary

Question 1:

Write words from the extract that create a musical effect.

Answer:

- i. sorrow's share
- ii. no, no never

Question 2:

Find any two pairs of rhyming words from the extract. [Oct 14]

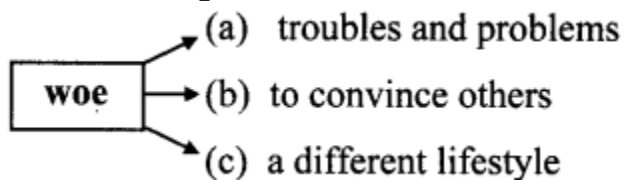
Answer:

- i. grief-relief
- ii. hear-fear

Question 3:

Find the correct meaning of the words in the box.

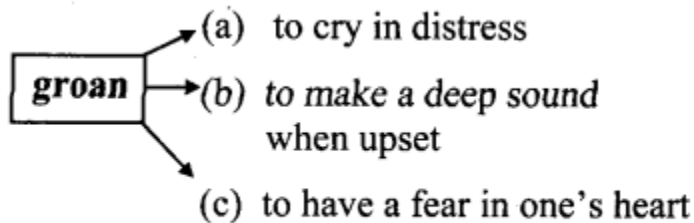
i.



Answer:

woe – (a) troubles and problems.

ii.



Ans: groan – (b) to make a deep sound when upset

Extract 2

A1. Factual Reading

Question 1:

Read the extract carefully and select the alternatives to complete the following,

- *i. There are two characters in the poem, _____. (god and man / god and animals) [A3 – 2, pg. 139]
- *ii. He, His and Maker are words referring to _____. (God/Man) [A3-3, pg. 139] [July 16]
- *iii. The cradle here is used as _____. (swing for boys / an infant's bed) [A3-4, pg. 139]
- iv. The bird which has small sorrows is (wren / sparrow)

Answer:

- i. god and man

- ii. God
- iii. an infant's bed
- iv. the wren

Question 2:

Read the extract and select the alternative. [Mar 16]

- i. God becomes a small infant because _____.
 - a. He likes to become an infant
 - b. He wants to feel its sorrow
 - c. He needs a change

Answer:

- b. He wants to feel the sorrow

- ii. God destroys our sorrow by _____.
 - a. saving us from sorrow
 - b. giving us strength
 - c. giving us His joy

Answer:

- c. giving us His joy

Question 3:

Choose the correct alternatives and complete the sentences.

- i. God makes us happy by
 - a. becoming a Maker
 - b. becoming a father
 - c. becoming a child

Answer:

- c. becoming a child

- ii. God becomes _____ for us in sorrow.
 - a. a man of woe
 - b. a man of strength
 - c. a man of action ‘

Answer:

- a. a man of woe

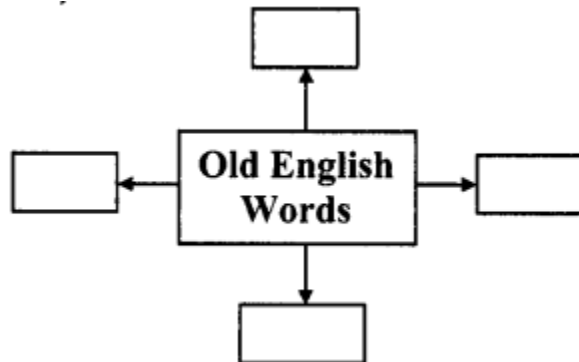
- iii. _____ gives us the joy to help us overcome our sorrow.
 - a. Mother
 - b. God
 - c. Man

Answer:

- b. God

Question 4:

Complete the web by choosing the Old English words from the extract.



Answer:

- i. doth
- ii. thou
- iii. canst
- iv. thy

Question 5:

Complete the following sentences with reference to the extract.

- i. The poet says that God sits next to us both day and night and _____.
- ii. According to the poet, we should not think that when we weep a tear, _____.

Answer:

- i. wipes away all our tears,
- ii. our Maker is not near us.

A2. Understanding the Extract

Question 1:

What is the reaction of God towards small things in the nature? [A5-III (1), pg. 141]

Answer:

God hears and cares for every small thing in the nature. He hears the wren who has small sorrows, he hears the small bird's grief and care. He also hears the woes that infants bear.

Question 2:

Who becomes a small infant? [A5 -1 (3), pg. 141]

Answer:

God becomes a small infant.

Question 3:

Who is referred to by 'He', 'His' and 'Maker' in the poem? [A5 – II (1), pg. 141]

Answer:

God is referred to by 'He', 'His' and 'Maker' in the poem.

Question 4:

How does God help us to regain our joys and remove our grief? [A5 – II (2), pg. 141]

Answer:

God is always by our side when we are in sorrow. He gives us His joy, so that our grief may be destroyed. He sits by us and moans until our grief is fled and gone.

Question 5:

How does the Maker help us to come out of sorrow? [Mar 16]

Answer:

The Maker gives us all of his joys and destroys our grief. Until our sorrows have vanished, He sits by us and moans along with us. In this way, He helps us to come out of sorrow.

Question 6:

Match the words in Column 'A' with their meanings in 'Column B' [July 16]

	Column A		Column B
i.	grief	a.	you
ii.	doth	b.	sorrow
iii.	infant	c.	does
iv.	thou	d.	a newborn baby

Answer:

(i – b), (ii – c), (iii – d), (iv – a)

A3. Vocabulary:**Question 1:**

Point out the repeated lines in the extract. [July 16]

Answer:

- i. Think not thou canst sigh a sigh
Think not thou canst weep a tear
- ii. And Thy Maker is not by
And thy Maker is not near

Question 2:

List all the rhyming words from the extract. [Mar 16]

Answer:

all – small

care – bear
nest – breast
near – tear
day – away
sigh – by
joy – destroy
gone – moan

Question 3:

Write from the extract words that create a musical effect.

Answer:

- i. sorrows small
- ii. pouring pity

Question 4:

Enlist the words repeated in the same line.

Answer:

- i. never
- ii. sigh

Question 5:

Find words from the extract that mean

- i. a feeling of sympathy at the suffering of someone
- ii. long, deep sound expressing unhappiness

Answer:

- i. pity
- ii. moan

Additional Questions for Practice

Question 1:

Read the poem again and after discussing with your partner answer the following questions.

- i. What do you feel when you see people in grief, pain and sufferings? How would you help them to come out of the situation?

Answer:

I can't bear it when I see people in grief, pain and suffering. In order to help them come out of the situation, I would:

- i. talk to them and try to find out the cause for the suffering.
- ii. try to solve their problems
- iii. lend them support and help them in every possible manner.

- ii. How do parents try to reduce their children's sorrow?

Answer:

Parents try to reduce their children's sorrow by giving them moral support and being by their side in times of need. They advice, guide and bring out solutions to the problems faced by their children in order to reduce their sorrow.

iii. Why, do you think, interrogative sentences are used in the poem?

Answer:

According to me, interrogative sentences are used in the poem to highlight and emphasise the poet's views. They do not expect any answers. They are used for rhetorical effect.

Question 2:

Questions and answers Form pairs and make a list of various questions seen in the poem. Try to find out the possible solutions for the questions that are present in the questions themselves.

	Questions	Possible answers
i.	Can I see another's woe and not be in sorrow too?	No, I cannot see other person suffering or in pain. I feel sorrow for such people.

Answer:

	Questions	Possible answers
i.	Can I see another's woe and not be in sorrow too?	No, I cannot see other person suffering or in pain. I feel sorrow for such people.
ii.	Can I see another's grief and not seek for kind relief?	No, I cannot see another person's suffering or sorrow. I would try to understand the problem of the other person and help him or her in any possible way.
iii.	Can I see a falling tear and not feel my sorrow's share?	No, I cannot see someone weeping in sorrow without feeling and experiencing the same sorrow.
iv.	Can a father see his child weep, nor be with sorrow filled?	No, a father cannot see his child weep without being filled with sorrow himself.
v.	Can a mother sit and hear an infant groan, an infant fear?	No, a mother cannot sit and hear an infant groan because she loves her baby the most and it is a part of her.

Question 1:

Music of words .

Look at the phrases 'sorrow's share', 'sorrows small', etc. [A7, pg. 141]

i. Say these words again and again
[Students are expected to attempt this activity on their own.]

ii. Note the effect

Answer:

It creates a musical effect.

iii. Look at the similarity of sound

Answer:

The sound of 's' is repeated for a musical effect.

iv. Find some more phrases of this type

Answer:

- i. no, no, never
- ii. pouring pity
- iii. sigh a sigh
- iv. never, never

Question 4:

Rhyming words

i. Read the poem again.

ii. Look at the last word of each line.

iii. Note the rhyming words in pairs

Answer:

grief—relief;
hear—fear;
all—small;
care—bear;
nest—breast;
near—tear;
day—away;
sigh—by;
joy—destroy.

iv. What effect do these rhyming words create?

Answer:

These rhyming words create a musical effect.

Question 5:

Opposites

Look at the line and the underlined part and discuss with your partner the questions and note your responses. 1A9, pg. 1411

And not sit both night and day

i. What special thing do you observe in the underlined words?

Answer:

The underlined words 'night and day' have opposite meanings.

ii. What is the effect of the ideas of this type brought together in one line?

Answer:

When such expressions (words having opposite meanings) are brought together in one line, they create an unusual effect of contrast.

iii. Find some more expressions of this type.

Answer:

a. Can I see another's grief and not seek for kind relief?

b. He becomes an infant small, He becomes a man of woe.

c. O! He gives to us His joy That our grief He may destroy.

Question 6:

Capital

Read the poem, observe and note. [A10, pg. 142]

i. Find out the words used in capital within the lines.

Answer:

The words 'He', 'His' and 'Maker' begin with capital Letters within the lines.

ii. Whom do these words refer to?

Answer:

These words refer to God, the creator.

iii. Why, do you think, only these words are in capital?

Answer:

Only these words are in capital to show the greatness of God and as a symbol of respect to him.

Question 7:

Repetition

Look at the line and the underlined part. [A11,pg. 142]

Never. never can it be

Discuss

i. Do you hear the music as you read them?

Answer:

Yes, we can hear the music as we read them.

ii. What makes it musical?

Answer:

The repetition of the word 'never' makes it musical.

iii. Find some more examples of this type.

Answer:

- a. An infant groan, an infant fear?
- b. No, no never can it be
- c. Never, never can it be
- d. Think not thou canst sigh a sigh

Question 8:

Sorrow and Happiness

Read the poem again and you will find that the poet uses many words expressing the feelings of either sadness or happiness. Form pairs and make a list of various words you know which are related to sadness or happiness. Develop a table as given below. [A12, pg. 142]

Words suggesting Sadness	Words suggesting Happiness
sorrow	smile

Answer:

Words suggesting Sadness	Words suggesting Happiness
(From the poem) sorrow, woe, grief, tear, weep, groan, sigh, moan	(From the poem) smile, joy
(Out of the poem) misery, gloom, unhappiness, depression, loneliness, mourning, distress, pain, disappointment, remorse	(Out of the poem) contentment, enjoyment, laughter, pleasure, cheerfulness, gladness, rejoicing, mirth, jubilation, glee

Question 9:

Who am I?

Go through the poem again and find the answers. Frame some more questions of this type and puzzle out your partner! [A13, pg. 142]

i. I feed, nourish and mould my children = _____

Answer:

a mother

ii. I watch from the top and take care of the whole world = _____

Answer:

God

iii. I sleep in the cradle, sometimes I weep and smile = _____

Answer:

an infant

iv. I fly in the sky, live in the nest = _____

Answer:

a bird

v. I am creation of God, I can speak, think, feel and sense = _____

Answer:

a human being

More questions:

i. I am all about, but cannot be seen, can be captured but cannot be held, no throat but can be heard = _____

Answer:

Wind

ii. Until I am measured, I am not known. Yet how you miss me when I have flown = _____

Answer:

Time

iii. I am black when you buy me, red when you are using me, and white when you are through with me = _____

Answer:

Charcoal

iv. I always run but never walk, often murmur but never talk, have a bed but never sleep, have a mouth but never eat = _____

Answer:

a river

v. Say my name and I disappear = _____

Answer:

silence

Question 10:

Recitation

The teacher will conduct a recitation competition in the class. Every row will recite the poem. Before reciting the poem, you have to keep following things in your mind. [A14, pg. 142]

- i. sound, speed
- ii. proper rhyme and rhythm
- iii. correct pronunciation
- iv. proper intonation
- v. singing together

[Students are expected to attempt this activity on their own.]

Question 11:

Picture Reading

Select a picture of your choice. [A15, pg. 143]

Look at the picture. Write a small story after reading the picture. What kind of emotions and feelings arise in your mind when you see this. Consider your attitude towards the characters in the picture. Remember you speak your mind when you write.

[Students are expected to attempt the above activity on their own.']

Question 12:

Be a Poet

- i. Work in pairs and compose a poem. Some lines are given for you; add some more lines to make a meaningful stanza.

On Another's Happiness

When I see another's joy

My heart bounces like a ball

And I feel like a small boy

Dancing, rejoicing like a mountain fall.

Happiness is, in giving, caring and sharing

Answer:

On Another's Happiness

When I see another's joy

My heart bounces like a ball

And I feel like a small boy

Dancing, rejoicing like a mountain fall.

When I see someone dancing in the rain,

My heart and body joins the rhythm;

For I want to spread pleasure and remove pain, By singing the tunes of delightful anthem.

When I hear the chirping of birds,

I rejoice at the wonderful creations of God.

What they try to convey without words,

Carrying the message from the Lord.

Question 13:

Reading a Poem

Arrange for poetry reading competition. Select the poem of your choice.

- i. Read it silently again and again.
- ii. Pay attention to proper pronunciation.
- iii. Consider the groups of words.
- iv. Think of the pauses.
- v. Have a rehearsal before you present.
- vi. Read with confidence and fluency.
- vii. Read the poem, again and again, to understand better.

[Students are expected to attempt the above activity on their own.]