

INTERNATIONAL INDIAN SCHOOL, RIYADH

WORKSHEET

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

STD:XII

POETRY(FLAMINGO)

MY MOTHER AT SIXTY SIX

1. What are the two similes used to describe the poet's mother?
2. What is the childhood ache that the poet talks about?
3. Why has the poet used the imagery of 'young trees' and 'merry children'?
4. What does the simile in the last line signify?
5. Why has the poet compared the old mother to 'late winter's moon'?

AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM IN A SLUM

1. What message does Stephen Spender convey through the poem?
2. Describe the occupants of the classroom.
3. What is different about the young boy at the back of the classroom?
4. What do sour cream walls signify?
5. What kind of future can the children from the slum expect?
6. Why has Shakespeare been called wicked and the map a bad example?
7. Explain the line 'history theirs whose language is the sun'.

KEEPING QUIET

1. 'Under the apparent stillness, there is light'. Justify this statement, giving an example from the poem.
2. Why does the poet ask the readers to keep quiet for 12 seconds?
3. Why would silence be an exotic moment?
4. What is the sudden strangeness referred to in the poem?
5. How would a green war affect the earth?
6. Explain the line 'I want no truck with death'?
7. What is the sadness that the poet refers to?
8. What lesson can humans learn from the Nature?

A THING OF BEAUTY

1. Why does the poet say that beauty only increases with time?
2. Elucidate grandeur of dooms and mighty dead.
3. What is immortal drink referred to in the poem?
4. What does the poet mean when he says 'wreathing a flowery band to bind us to the earth'?
5. Explain 'inhuman dearth of noble natures'.

AUNT JENNIFER'S TIGERS

1. How have the tigers been described by the poet?
2. Why do you think the aunt has embroidered tigers on the panel?
3. How do the tigers provide a contrast to aunt's character?
4. Why do aunt's fingers tremble while holding the needle?
5. Why do you think uncle's wedding band creates a massive weight on aunt's fingers?
6. Explain 'terrified hands'.
7. What image does the word 'ringed' create?
8. What will happen to the tigers after aunt's death?
9. Upon analyzing the poem, do you think Aunt Jennifer was happy with her married life?