

NORTH EX PUBLIC SCHOOL (Session 2020-21)

CLASS - X

SUBJECT - ENGLISH (FIRST FLIGHT)

POEM - 3

TOPIC - A TIGER IN THE ZOO

WORKSHEET NO. - 5

***Note-** before attempting the question and answers you must check the link given below which will help you understand the chapter thoroughly.

LINK : <https://youtu.be/LmVhoXC85s>

The NCERT solutions are given below. You can download the solutions or if you do not have facility to get printout then you can ask your ward to copy the answers in a simple notebook and must learn the question and answers.

NOTES

This poem contrasts a tiger when it is in its natural habitat and when it is imprisoned in a zoo.

On a starry night, the poet sees a tiger in a zoo.

The tiger moves slowly up and down in his cage.

The tiger is full of rage but is quiet in his helplessness.

The poet is moved to pity for the tiger.

The poet says that the tiger should have been in the jungle..

But sadly the tiger is locked behind bars in a concrete cell.

The tiger does not take any notice of the visitors.

The tiger is no longer free to move in his natural habitats.

NCERT Solutions

First Flight Poem 3

A Tiger in the Zoo

Page No: 30 Thinking about the Poem

1. Read the poem again, and work in pairs or groups to do the following tasks.

(i) Find the words that describe the movements and actions of the tiger in the cage and in the wild. Arrange them in two columns.

(ii) Find the words that describe the two places, and arrange them in two columns. Now try to share ideas about how the poet uses words and images to contrast the two situations.

Ans: (i)

In the cage	In the wild
Stalks	Lurking in shadow
Few steps of his cage	Sliding through long grass
Quiet rage	Snarling around houses

Locked in a concrete cell	Baring his white fangs, his claws
Stalking the length of his cage	Terrorising the village
Ignoring visitors	
Stares at the brilliant stars	

(ii)

Cage	Wild
Few steps of his cage	Shadow
Concrete cell	Long grass
Locked	Water hole
Behind bars	Plump deer
Visitors	Houses at the jungle's edge
Patrolling cars	Village

2. Notice the use of a word repeated in lines such as these:

(i) On pads of velvet quiet,

In his quiet rage.

(ii) And stares with his brilliant eyes At

the brilliant stars.

What do you think is the effect of this repetition?

Ans: This repetition is a poetic device used by the poet in order to increase the intensity of the tiger's rage and his helpless silence. 'Velvet quiet' refers to the quiet, velvet paws of the tiger, which cannot run or leap. They can only walk around the limited space in the cage. The use of 'quiet rage' symbolizes the anger and ferocity that is building up inside the tiger as it wants to run out into the forest and attack a deer. But the rage is quiet because it cannot come out in the open as it is in the cage. This double use of 'quiet' has brought immense beauty to the poem. Similarly, the use of 'brilliant' for the tiger's eyes as well as the stars also brings out the magnificence of these lines. The tiger has dream of being free in its 'brilliant' eyes. It sees the stars (that have also been described as brilliant) with the same eyes. It stares at the brilliant stars with its brilliant eyes thinking about how beautiful its life could be in the forest. The repetitiveness of these words gives a wonderful effect to the poem.

3. Read the following two poems – one about a tiger and the other about a panther. Then discuss:

Are zoos necessary for the protection or conservation of some species of animals? Are they useful for educating the public? Are there alternatives to zoos?

The Tiger

The tiger behind the bars of his cage growls,
The tiger behind the bars of his cage snarls,
The tiger behind the bars of his cage roars.

Then he thinks.

It would be nice not to be behind bars all
The time

Because they spoil my view

I wish I were wild, not on show.

But if I were wild, hunters might shoot me,
But if I were wild, food might poison me,
But if I were wild, water might drown me.

Then he stops thinking

And...

The tiger behind the bars of his cage growls,
The tiger behind the bars of his cage snarls,
The tiger behind the bars of his cage roars.

PETER NIBLETT

The Panther

His vision, from the constantly passing bars,
has grown so weary that it cannot hold
anything else. It seems to him there are
a thousand bars; and behind the bars, no world. As he
paces in cramped circles, over and over, the movement
of his powerful soft strides is like a ritual dance around
a center
in which a mighty will stands paralyzed.
Only at times, the curtain of the pupils
lifts, quietly. An image enters in,
rushes down through the tensed, arrested muscles,
plunges into the heart and is gone.

RAINER MARIA RILKE

Ans: The Zoo is very necessary place for some animals to stay safe as they could be hunted down, poisoned by some wild food, or could drown in water in the forest. They also create awareness among the public about the nature of animals and make people friendly with animals. However, a zoo is not the correct substitute for a forest. In a zoo, an animal would feel caged, bound, and not free to roam about in the wild. It is for this reason

that wildlife sanctuaries and national parks have been instituted in order to conserve several endangered species. These places provide protection as well as natural surroundings to these species. They can roam about freely in their habitat and are safe too. The public can visit these parks and get educated about the animals and their lifestyles. The parks and sanctuaries are run using a strict set of rules, the most prominent being the ban on hunting. Since the animals are in the open, visitors are not allowed to feed them and would not misbehave or try to play with them as they are under strict guidance. Such incidents have been recorded in zoos where people irritate and tease the animals. Hence, a wild life sanctuary is a good alternative for animals to be safe as well as to live freely in their natural surroundings.

WORKSHEET 5

1. What would the tiger do in the forest?
2. Why do you think the tiger was stalking in the cage? What did it show?
3. Freedom is a birthright. It is the most beautiful gift of God. It is valuable for all creatures. Describe.
4. Is it right to confine wild animals into cages? Why or why not? Answer in the context of A Tiger in the Zoo.
5. **Read the following extracts and answer the question/complete the sentences that follow:**

But he's locked in a concrete cell His
strength behind bars, Stalking the length
of his cage, Ignoring visitors.

Who is 'he' in the poem?
Why is he ignoring visitors?
Here 'stalking' means _____.
Where is the tiger locked?

6. **Read the following extracts and answer the question/complete the sentences that follow:**

He should be lurking in shadow, Sliding
through long grass Near the water hole

Where plump deer pass
The tiger is moving through _____.
The tiger lies in wait near the water hole _____.
The word plump shows that deer is referred to as _____.
Name the poet.

ANSWERS

1. In the forest, the tiger would walk freely without any foundation and terrify the villagers snarling around their houses. The tiger in the wild would be majestic. He would be free and lie under the shades and hunt for prey.
2. I think the tiger was feeling restless and uneasy in that small cage. The tiger was walking from one end of the cage to another as if trying to measure the length of the cage. It shows that he was frustrated and helpless as he could not come out of the cage and enjoy his freedom. He did not want to be a mere showpiece and a source of entertainment for human beings.
3. It is rightly said that love for freedom is the natural instinct of every living being. Everyone loves freedom and does not want to live in confinement. Freedom is the most beautiful gift of God. It is our birthright. God has made all living beings equal and thus, the animals too have the right to freedom.
4. Wild animals are not meant to be caged and displayed in the zoos. They are meant to live in the wild. There used to be a time when the tiger used to roam proudly and freely in the jungle. But we all know that the majestic species of tiger is on the verge of extinction now. The animals also have the right to freedom like all other living beings. They are not meant to live a life in confinement. Confinement leads to depression and misery. Moreover, their offsprings lose hunting capabilities as they are not trained to hunt in the wild. As a result, they are not be able to feed themselves. Furthermore, confining wild animals disturbs the whole ecological balance. We should, thus, let the animals run free in the wild. They belong to the forest and not to the cage.
5.
 - A. 'He' here refers to the tiger.
 - b. He is ignoring the visitors because he is locked in the cage and is angry.
 - c. Here 'stalking' means 'pacing'.
 - d. The tiger is locked in a concrete cell.
6.
 - the long grass.
 - for a fat deer to pass from there.
 - healthy
 - Leslie Norris.

