

POEM

1

THE SPIDER AND THE FLY

சீலந்தியும் ஈயும்

மேரி போத்தம் ஹோவிட் Mary Botham Howitt

About the author (ஆசிரியர் குறிப்பு)

Mary Botham Howitt 1799-1888 was an English poet. She was born at Coleford, in Gloucestershire. She was educated at home and read widely. She commenced writing verses at a very early age. Together with her husband William Howitt she wrote over 180 books.

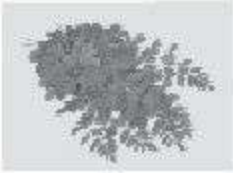


மேரி போத்தம் ஹோவிட் (1799 - 1888) ஓர் ஆங்கிலேயப் பெண் கவிஞர் ஆவார். அவர் குளோசெஸ்டர்ஷயரில் உள்ள கோலபோர்டில் பிறந்தார். அவர் வீட்டிலே கற்பிக்கப்பட்டார் மேலும் அதிகமாக கற்றார். மிக இளம் வயதிலேயே அவர் கவிதை வரிகளை எழுதத் தொடங்கினார். அவரது கணவர் வில்லியம் ஹோவிட்டுடன் இணைந்து 180க்கும் மேற்பட்ட புத்தகங்களை அவர் எழுதினார்.

WARM UP (சூப்பந்தம் செப்பல்)

1. If your little brother or sister does not like to eat any of these following vegetables,

உனது தம்பியோ அல்லது தங்கையோ பின்வரும் காய்கறிகளை உண்ணவில்லை எனில்,



- ♦ how will you make him or her eat them?

அவனை அல்லது அவளை எவ்வாறு அதை நீ உண்ண வைப்பாய்?

- ♦ What are all the flattering or tempting words you might use to convince them?

அவர்களைச் சும்மதிக்க வைக்க எத்தகைய முகஸ்துதி அல்லது ஆசைகாட்டும் வார்த்தைகளை நீ பயன்படுத்துவாய்?

- ♦ Work in pairs and enact that moment in front of your classmates.

உனது வகுப்பு மாணவர்களுக்கு முன் இருவராக அந்த வேளையை நடித்துக் காட்டுக.

Read the poem with your partner and then answer the questions that follow while one take up the role of the Spider and other the Fly.

"Will you walk into my parlour?" said the Spider to the Fly,
 "Tis the prettiest little parlour that ever you did spy;
 The way into my parlour is up a winding stair,
 And I've many curious things to show when you are there."

சிலந்தி ஈயிடம் கூறியது, எனது வரவேற்பறைக்குள் நீ செல்வாயா?
 இதுகாறும் நீ உளவு பார்க்காத ஒரு மிக அழகிய சிறிய வரவேற்பறை அது
 வரவேற்பறை செல்லும் வழியோ ஒரு சுழற்படிக்கட்டாகும்,
 நீ அங்கிருந்தால் உனக்குக் காட்ட ஆர்வமுட்டும் அநேக பொருட்கள் நான் கொண்டுள்ளேன்

"Oh no, no," said the little Fly, "to ask me is in vain,
 For who goes up your winding stair
 can never come down again."

"ஓ, இல்லை, இல்லை", என்றது அச்சிறு ஈ, "என்னைக் கேட்பது வீண் தான்,
 ஏன் எனில் உனது சுழற்படிக்கட்டில் செல்பவர்களெல்லாம்
 ஒருபோதும் மீண்டும் கீழே வரமுடிவதில்லையே".

"I'm sure you must be weary, dear, with soaring up so high;
 Will you rest upon my little bed?" said the Spider to the Fly.

"There are pretty curtains drawn around; the sheets are fine and thin,
 And if you like to rest awhile, I'll snugly tuck you in!"

மிக உயரத்திற்கு நீ சென்றதால், செல்லம், நீ சோர்வுற்றிருப்பது எனது நிச்சயம்;
 எனது சிறு படுக்கையில் ஓய்வெடுத்துக் கொள்வாயா?, சிலந்தி ஈயிடம் கேட்டது
 சுற்றிலும் அழகிய திரைச்சீலைகள் உண்டு, மெத்தை விரிப்புகளோ அருமை! மென்மை!
 சற்றே நீ ஓய்ந்திருக்க விரும்பினால், நான் கச்சிதமாகக் கொண்டு செல்வேன் உள்ளே உன்னை

"Oh no, no," said the little Fly, "for I've often heard it said,
 They never, never wake again, who sleep upon your bed!"

"ஓ, இல்லை, இல்லை", என்றது அச்சிறு ஈ, ஏனெனில் அடிக்கடி அதை நான் கேட்டதில்லை.
 உனது படுக்கையில் உறங்கிடுவோர், ஒருபோதும் ஒருபோதும் மீண்டும் விழித்தெழுவதில்லை.

Said the cunning Spider to the Fly, "Dear friend what can I do,
 To prove the warm affection I've always felt for you?
 I have within my pantry, good store of all that's nice;
 I'm sure you're very welcome – will you please to take a slice?"

அன்பு நண்பா நான் உனக்கு என்ன செய்ய வேண்டும், வஞ்சகச் சிலந்தி ஈயிடம் கேட்டது
என் ஆழ்ந்த அன்பினை நிரூபிக்க, உனக்காக நான் எப்போதும் பரிவு கொண்டேன்
எனது உணவு இருப்பறையில், உண்ணச் சிறந்தவற்றை நான் வைத்துள்ளேன்
உன்னை வரவேற்பது என்னில் நிச்சயம், ஒரு துணிக்கையை நீ எடுத்துக் கொள்வாயா?

"Oh no, no," said the little Fly, "kind Sir, that cannot be,
I've heard what's in your pantry, and I do not wish to see!"

ஓ. இல்லை, இல்லை, 'எனச் சொன்னது சின்ன ஈ, இனிய ஐயா, அது முடியாதது'
உங்கள் உணவு இருப்பறையில் உள்ளவை பற்றி கேட்டுள்ளேன், அதை நான் காண விரும்பவில்லை.

"Sweet creature!" said the Spider, "you're witty and you're wise,
How handsome are your gauzy wings, how brilliant are your eyes!
I've a little looking-glass upon my parlour shelf,

If you'll step in one moment, dear, you shall behold yourself."

இனிய ஜீவராசியே, சிலந்தி கூறியது, நீ ஓர் அறிவாளி, நீ ஒரு ஞானியே
உனது கண்ணாடி இறக்கைகள் எத்தனை அழகு, மின்னிடுமே உன் கண்கள்
என் வரவேற்பறையில் அலமாரி மேல் உள்ளதே ஒரு சிறிய முகம் பார்க்கும் ஆடி
ஒரு நொடியில் நீ உள்ளே வந்தால், செல்லமே, உன்னையே கண்டு கொள்ளலாம் நீ

"I thank you, gentle sir," she said, "for what you're pleased to say,
And bidding you good morning now, I'll call another day."

எனது நன்றி உமக்கே, கனம் ஐயா, ஏனெனில் நீர் இதை மகிழ்ந்து சொல்வதால்
இப்போது உமக்கு கூறுகிறேன் காலை வணக்கம் கூறுகிறேன், மற்றொரு நாள் நான் அழைக்கிறேன்.

The Spider turned him round about, and went into his den,
For well he knew the silly Fly would soon come back again:
So he wove a subtle web, in a little corner sly,
And set his table ready, to dine upon the Fly.

சிலந்தி சுற்றி வளைத்து அவனைத் திரும்பி அவனது குகைக்குள் சென்றது,
அவன் நன்கு அறிவான் விரைவில் அறிவற்ற ஈ மீண்டும் திரும்பி வரும் என:
எனவே ஒரு நுட்பமான வலையைப் பிண்ணி, ஒரு சிறிய இரகசிய மூலையில்
அவனது மேசையை ஆயத்தப்படுத்தினான், ஈயினை உணவாக்கி உண்டிவே

Then he came out to his door again, and merrily did sing,
"Come hither, hither, pretty Fly, with the pearl and silver wing;

Your robes are green and purple – there's a crest upon your head;
Your eyes are like the diamond bright, but mine are dull as lead!"

பின்னர் மீண்டும் அவனது வாசலுக்கு வந்தான், மகிழ்ந்து பாடினான்
வா இங்கே, இங்கே, அழகிய ஈயே, முத்து வெள்ளி இறக்கை உடையவளே
உனது ஆடையோ பசுமை ஊதா நிறமே – உன் தலை மீது ஒரு கொண்டையே
உன் கண்களோ ஒளிரும் வைரமே, ஆனால் என் கண்களோ மங்கிய காரீயமே

Alas, alas! how very soon this silly little Fly,
Hearing his wily, flattering words, came slowly flitting by;
With buzzing wings she hung aloft, then near and nearer drew,
Thinking only of her brilliant eyes, and green and purple hue -
Thinking only of her crested head – poor foolish thing!

ஐயோ, ஐயோ! எவ்வளவு அதிசீக்கிரம் இந்த அறிவற்ற ஈ,
அவனது தந்திர முகஸ்துதி வார்த்தைகளைக் கேட்டு, மெல்ல பறந்து வந்து
ரீங்கார இறக்கைகளுடன் அவள் அந்தரத்தில் தொங்கியபடி அருகே, மிக அருகே சென்றாள்.
அவளது ஒளிரும் பசுமை ஊதாக் கண்களை மட்டுமே எண்ணியவாறே
அவ்வெளிய முட்டாளின் கொண்டை மண்டையை எண்ணியவாறே!

At last,
Up jumped the cunning Spider, and fiercely held her fast.
He dragged her up his winding stair, into his dismal den,
Within his little parlour – but she ne'er came out again!
கடைசியில்,

நயவஞ்சகச்சிலந்தி குதித்து, வேகமாய் கடுமையாய் அவளைப் பிடித்தான்
அவன் அவளை சுழற்படிக்கடமில் அவனது மோசமான குகைக்குள் இழுத்துச் சென்றான்
அவனது சிறிய வரவேற்பறையினுள் – ஆனால் அவள் ஒருபோதும் மீண்டும் வரவில்லை வெளியே

And now dear little children, who may this story read,
To idle, silly flattering words, I pray you ne'er give heed:
Unto an evil counsellor, close heart and ear and eye,
And take a lesson from this tale, of the Spider and the Fly.

இப்போதும் சின்னச் செல்லக் குழந்தைகளே, இக்கதையை வாசிப்பவர் யாராக இருந்தாலும்
வீணான, அறிவற்ற முகஸ்துதி வார்த்தைகளுக்கு, ஒரு போதும் செவிசாயக்காதே, என நான் வேண்டுகிறேன்;
தீய ஆலோசகருக்கு (உன்) உள்ளத்தை, காதை, கண்ணை மூடிக்கொள்
சிலந்தியும் ஈயும் கதையில் ஒரு பாடத்தைக் கற்றுக்கொள்.

A. Read the following lines from the poem and answer the questions in a sentence or two.

1. *"The way into my parlour is up a winding stair,
And I've many curious things to show when you are there"*

a) How to reach the spider's parlour?

Through a winding stair, you can reach the spider's parlour.

b) What will the fly get to see in the parlour?

The fly will get to see many curious things in the parlour.

2. *"Oh no, no," said the little Fly, "kind Sir, that cannot be,
I've heard what's in your pantry, and I do not wish to see!"*

a) Is the fly willing to enter the spider's pantry?

No, the fly is not willing to enter the parlour.

b) Can you guess what was in the pantry?

No, I cannot guess what was in the pantry.

3. *"Sweet creature!" said the Spider, "You're witty and you're wise,
How handsome are your gauzy wings, how brilliant are your eyes!"*

a) List the words used by the spider to describe the fly.

Handsome, gauzy (wings), brilliant (eyes) are the words the spider used to describe the fly.

b) Why does the spider say that the fly is witty?

The spider is flattering. So it says that the fly is witty.

4. *The spider turned him round about, and went into his den,
For well he knew the silly Fly would soon come back again:*

a) Why is the poet using the word den to describe the spider's web?

Wild animals live in their dens. Spider is wild and also has its web as its dwelling place. So the poet uses the word 'den' to describe the spider's web.

b) Why was the spider sure that the fly would come back again?

The fly was silly and ignorant. So the spider was sure that the fly would come back again.

5. *With buzzy wings she hung aloft, then near and nearer drew,
Thinking only of her brilliant eyes, and green and purple hue-*

a) Who does 'she' refer to?

'She' refers to the fly.

b) What was 'she' thinking of?

She was thinking of her brilliant eyes, and green and purple hue.

6. *And now dear little children, who may this story read,
To idle, silly flattering words, I pray you ne'er give head:*

a) Who does 'I' refer to?

'I' refers to the poet.

b) What is the advice given to the readers?

"Never listen to idle, silly flattering words," is the advice given to the readers.

+ Additional Comprehension Questions & Answers

1. *"I'm sure you must be weary, dear, with soaring up so high
Will you rest upon my little bed?" said the Spider to the Fly.*

a) Who does 'I' refer to?

I refers to the Spider.

b) Who does 'You' refer to?

You refers to the Fly.

c) Who was weary according to the Spider?

The Fly was weary.

d) Why was the Fly weary?

The Fly was because was going up very high by flying.

e) What did the Spider ask the Fly?

The Spider asked the Fly if she would rest upon his little bed.

2. *There are pretty curtains drawn around; the sheets are fine and thin.
And if you like to rest a while, I'll snugly tuck you in.*

a) Describe the Spider's bed.

There are pretty curtains around and the sheets are fine and thin.

b) What is the condition laid by the Spider?

If the Fly likes to rest a while, the Spider will snugly tuck the Fly in.

3. *I have within my pantry, good store of all that's nice;
I'm sure you're very welcome - will you please to take a slice?*

a) What is a pantry?

A pantry is a room where beverages, food, dishes are used.

b) What kind of pantry is it?

It is a good pantry of all nice things.

4. *So he wove a subtle web, in a little corner sly
And set his table ready, to dine up the Fly.*

a) Who wove a subtle web?

The Spider wove a subtle web.

b) What is a subtle web?

A subtle web is the dwelling place of a Spider.

c) What is the table mentioned here?

It is the dining table.

d) Why is the table ready?

The table is ready for eating the Fly.

5. *Your robes are green and purple - there's a crest upon your head
Your eye are like the diamond bright but mine are dull as lead.*

a) **Whose robes are green and purple?**

The Fly's robes are green and purple.

b) **What is there upon the Fly's head?**

A crest is upon the Fly's head.

c) **What are the Fly's eyes compared to?**

The Fly's eyes are compared to bright diamond.

d) **Whose eyes are dull like lead?**

The Spider's eyes are dull like lead.

6. *Up jumped the cunning Spider, and fiercely held her fast,
He dragged her up his winding stair, into his dismal den.*

a) **Why did the Spider jumped up?**

The Spider jumped up to catch hold of the Fly.

b) **How did the Spider hold the Fly.**

The Spider fiercely held the Fly fast.

c) **Who dragged whom up the winding stair?**

The Spider dragged the Fly up the winding stair.

d) **Where did the Spider take the Fly?**

The Spider took the Fly into his dismal den.

e) **What is meant by 'dismal den'?**

'Dismal den' means a gloomy or horrible cave.

f) **What is the dismal den?**

The dismal den is the cobweb. (home of the spider)

g) **Why is it called a dismal den?**

The Spider kills and eats his prey in the cobweb. So it is called a dismal den.

7. *Unto an evil counsellor, close heart and ear and eye,
And take a lesson from this tale, of the Spider and the Fly.*

a) **To whom should you close your heart, ear and eye?**

I should close my heart, ear and eye.

b) **What lesson do the readers take from this tale?**

'Don't listen to evil counsellor and don't take their advice' is the lesson the teachers take from this tale.

c) **Do you want to be the Spider or the Fly?**

I don't want to be the spider or the Fly.

d) **Who is an evil counsellor in general?**

In general, the one who makes the other as his prey through his evil advice.

e) **What is the advice given here?**

"Beware of evil counsellors" is the advice given here.

B. Complete the summary by filling in the spaces with suitable words.

The poem begins with the spider's friendliness of the fly. He requests the fly to come into his home. The spider describes his parlour as the prettiest one. The spider kindles the curiosity of the fly so that she may enter his home. Fortunately, the fly is wise and refuses to get into his home. Now the spider pretends to be a good man and asks her to come and rest in his home. He offers her bed and a thin fine sheets to rest. This time also the fly refuses the spider's offer very politely. The next weapon that the spider uses is flattery. The spider praises the wing and eyes of the fly and also praises her head. He invites her to look at herself in the mirror which is in his parlour. The fly is enticed / tempted by the words of the spider and she falls a prey to her enemy.

C. Answer the following questions in about 80 - 100 words.

1. Write a character sketch of the spider.

Title	- The Spider and the Fly
Poeters	- Mary Botham Howit (1799 - 1888)
Character	- Spider and Fly
Theme	- Beware of evil counsellors
Outline	- Spider - inveigles fly to enter his home - tells about parlour - comfortable - promises rest - treats from pantry - Fly resists - Spider flatters - praises wings, eyes - offers mirror to look into vanity motivates - Fly enters Spider's den - fly ensnared - poet's advice - not to be trickers. Finally Fly becomes a prey to spider.

In the poem, the spider first tries to inveigle the fly into the Spider's home. He tells the fly that his parlour is comfortable and he will be welcoming the fly. The Spider promises the fly a rest on his bed and treats from his pantry. The fly wisely resists these attempts to get her to enter the Spider's house. However she cannot resist the Spider's flattery. The Spider praises her wings and eyes and offers her a chance to look into the mirror. Motivated by her great vanity, the fly enters the Spider's den and is ensnared. The poet tells the readers not to be tricked by "idle, silly, flattering words" at the end of the poem. The Spider is cunning and full of vice. Spider wins in its attempt. He deceive the fly at the end. Vanity makes people susceptible to doing foolish things. So the people need to be wary of others who flatter them only to deceive them. The poet advises the readers to close their hearts, eyes and ears to the evil counsellors.

PARAGRAPH FOR SLOW LEARNERS

Title	- The Spider and the Fly
Poeters	- Mary Botham Howit (1799 - 1888)
Character	- Spider and Fly
Theme	- Beware of evil counsellors
Outline	- The spider - cunning creature - inveigles Fly - invites Fly - Firstly Fly resists - Spider flatters - Fly - Praises eyes, wings - Fly cannot resist flattery - Fly enters Spider's den - becomes prey to Spider - Poet's advice - not to be tricked by flattery - avoid foolish things - fight and prevent getting deceived.

The Spider is a cunning creature. He tries to inveigle the Fly into his house. He tells the Fly about the comforts in his parlour. He wishes to welcome the Fly. The spider promises the Fly a rest on his bed and treats from his pantry. The Fly resists firstly. The Spider flatters but the Fly fails to resist. The Spider praises her eyes, and wings. He offers a mirror to look into. Vanity defeats the fly. She enters the Spider's den. The Fly is trapped. The poetes tells the readers not to be deceived by "idle, silly, flattering words. Spider makes the Fly his prey. Vanity makes the people susceptible to doing foolish things. So people must be wary of others who flatter and cheat them.

2. What happens if we fall a prey to flattery? Give instances from the poem 'The Spider and the Fly'.

Title	- The Spider and the Fly
Poeters	- Mary Botham Howit (1799 - 1888)
Character	- Spider and Fly
Theme	- Prevention is better than cure.
Outline	- Flattery - deadly weapon - defeats enemy - poem stresses this idea - social trends today succumbed to superficiality - bad things stay near - Fly is ensnared - due to praises - spider ensnares Fly - Fly gives in to praise - becomes a prey - people also fall a prey.

Flattery is a deadly weapon to defeat the enemies. The poem stresses the idea that can be seen in social trends today. If individuals succumb to superficiality, bad things are not far behind. The fly is ensnared because of the superficial praises of the Spider.

*'To idle, silly, flattering words, I pray you never give heed
Unto an evil counsellor, close heart and ear and eye'*

The Spider is able to 'weave a web' to ensnare the fly because of the superficial praise heaped on it. When the Fly gives in to this praise, believing it as truth, the fly is destroyed. In the society,

if the people are giving in to tempting words and praises then they fall a prey to flattery. Just as the Fly is destroyed by the Spider, the people will also be affected by the flatters.

PARAGRAPH FOR SLOW LEARNERS

Title	- The Spider and the Fly
Poeters	- Mary Botham Howit (1799 - 1888)
Character	- Spider and Fly
Theme	- Prevention is better than cure.
Outline	- Flattery - deadly weapon - overcomes enemies - poem stresses idea - today's social trends - superficiality - tends to bad things - Fly gives in to praises - ensnared by Spider - becomes a prey - people yield to flattery - fall prey to flatters - avoid evil counsellors.

Flattery is a deadly weapon to overcome the enemies. The poem stresses this idea. It is seen in the society. If people who succumb to superficiality, bad things approach them easily. The spider praises the Fly excessively. The fly becomes a prey to the flattery of the Spider. The Spider is able to 'weave a web'. The Spider ensnares the fly by his praises. Trusting the flattery, the Fly gives in to destroy herself. There are people in the society, who yield to the tempting words fall a prey to their enemies. The poet advises the readers not to keep their hearts, eyes and ears open to the evil counsellors.

3. In your own words give a detailed description of:

- a) The Spider's Parlour
- b) The Fly's Appearance

a) The Spider's Parlour:

The story "The Spider and the Fly" tells about a cunning Spider who ensnares a naive Fly through the use of seduction and flattery. The Spider invites the Fly to his parlour. The way to the parlour is up a winding stair. It is the prettiest little parlour that the Fly has ever spied. There are many curious things. The Spider wants to show them to the Fly. There is a little bed to rest upon. There are pretty curtains drawn around. The sheets are fine and thin. On the whole the Spider's parlour is the best and the prettiest.

b) The Fly's appearance:

The Spider tries to flatter the Fly by praising her appearance and inviting her in to look into a mirror. The Spider tells the Fly that she has handsome gauzy wings and brilliant eyes. The spider further tells that the Fly is pretty with pearl and silver wing. The Fly's robes are green and purple hue. There is a crest upon the Fly's head. Her eyes are like the bright diamond. On the whole the Fly is elegant and beautiful.

APPRECIATE THE POEM

Anthropomorphism means to endow a non-human character with human traits and behaviour. For example: Throughout the poem, we see the spider's web described with features as in a normal house. We see a pantry, bed, mirror, and stairs and so on.

மனித குணாதியங்கள் மற்றும் நடத்தையும் ஒரு மிருக குணாதியத்தை வரையறுக்கின்ற வழிமுறை மாந்தவுருமியம் ஆகும். எடுத்துக்காட்டாக, இப்பாடல் முழுவதிலும் ஒரு வீட்டிலுள்ள சிறப்பம்சங்களுடன் சிலந்தியின்

FIGURES OF SPEECH (மொழி அணி வகைகள்)

1. **Consonance** (ஒலி இசைவு): Repetition of similar consonant sounds in the neighbouring words.

அடுத்தடுத்த சொற்களில் ஒத்த மெய் ஒலியை (மீண்டும் மீண்டும்) ஒலிக்கின் வகை அணியாகும்.

Ex: T is the prettiest little parlour that ever you did spy;

‘T’ is, prettiest, little, that” are the words which sound similarly or repeatedly.

Another line:

For well he knew the silly Fly would soon come back again.

2. **Assonance** (உயிரொலி இசைவு): Repetition of similar vowel sounds in the neighbouring words.

அடுத்தடுத்த சொற்களில் ஒத்த மெய் ஒலியை (மீண்டும் மீண்டும்) ஒலிக்கின்ற வகை அணியாகும்.

Eg: ‘Tis is the prettiest little parlour that ever you did spy.

3. **Anaphora** (அந்தாதித் தொடை):

Repetition of word or a phrase at the beginning of a sequence of sentence, paragraph and lines.

வாக்கியங்கள், பத்திகள் மற்றும் வரிகளின் ஒரு தொடரின் தொடக்கத்தில் ஒரு சொல் அல்லது சொற்றொடர் மீண்டும் மீண்டும் வரும் வகை அணியாகும்.

Eg: How handsome are your gauzy wings, how brilliant are your eyes!

Identify the figures of speech

Your eyes are like the diamond bright but mine are dull as lead.

Ans: The figure of speech is ‘simile’ (clues : like / as)

4. **Alliteration**:

Repetition of consonant sounds at the beginning of words.

(ஒரு பாடல் வரியில்) சொற்களின் தொடக்கத்தில் மீண்டும் மீண்டும் வரும் மெய்யொலியைக் குறிக்கும் வகை அணியாகும்.

Eg: For who goes up your winding stair.

The words ‘who’ and ‘winding’ are alliterated. Here the sound / w / is repeated.

THE POETIC DEVICES

Repetition : Repeating the same words more than once.

Line 5 : ‘O, no, no!’

Line 30 : ‘Come hither, hither, pretty fly

Line 36 : Thinking only of her brilliant eyes, and green and purple hue —

Line 37 : Thinking only of her crested head — poor foolish thing!

Alliteration : Repetition of initial consonant sounds.

Line 7 : Soaring up so high [/s/ sound is repeated]

Line 19 : You're witty and you're wise [/w/ sound is repeated]

Consonance : Repetition of similar consonant sounds in the neighbouring words.

Line 2 : 'T is the prettiest little parlour' [/t/ is repeated]

Line 16 : 'I'm sure you're very welcome; will you please to take a slice?' [/v/, /w/ are repeated]

Line 42 : idle, silly, flattering talk [/l/ sound is repeated]

Assonance : Repetition of similar vowel sounds.

Line 2 : 'T is the prettiest little parlor. [/i/ sound is repeated]

Line 38 : Up jumped the cunning Spider [/ʌ/ sound is repeated]

Elision : Omission of a sound or syllable.

In words like ne'er, you're, I've, you'll etc, the poet has omitted a sound or syllable to maintain the rhythm by dropping it wherever necessary.

LISTENING (கேட்கு)

Listen to the passage and fill in the blanks with appropriate answers.

- Without trust there is no _____.
- _____ is a very rare thing to find in life.
- When people betray you learn from the _____.
- Don't let _____ on the road _____.
- If we keep moving forward you will have a wonderfully _____ life.

Ans: 1. relationship 2. Trust 3. situation 4. small bumps, throw you back. 5. fulfilling

SPEAKING (பேசுதல்)

The cunning spider was waiting for a chance to pull the fly into its web and it used all the possible ways to trap her. Have you ever been trapped by flattery to do something you did not want to do? Discuss in pairs and share your experience in the class.

A model speech:

Ajay and I are friends. Ajay is elder to me by a year of age. We used to go every where together. Ajay is cleverer than me. We both were studying in the same class. We occupied the same bench in the class. Many have called us twin though we don't look alike nor brothers. Ajay was in the habit of making fun of me often. But I never minded it. Oneday he told me about going to the river and bathing there. He knows swimming. But I don't swim well. He flattered me that day saying that I could swim well and he promised me to make me swim better. Eventhough I refused to swim, he compelled me to get into the river. I trusted him and jumped into the river. The river was deep and the water was flowing faster.

He saw me struggling in the river shouting for help. Ajay took it as fun and did not come to my rescue. I thought that I would die. But to my surprise, a few people who were watching me in this panic-stricken situation swam across the river and took me to the bank of the river. They advised Ajay not to be playful and betraying anyone. He was ashamed for his senseless act. Later I was taken to my house. I forgave Ajay but never wanted to be his friend anymore.

Only a friend in need is a friend indeed.

WRITING (எழுதுதல்)

The fly gives into flattery and becomes the spider's prey. If you are asked to give a happy ending to the poem, how will you save the fly? Write in your own words.

The cunning spider tried to ensnare the fly. Firstly the Fly refused to accept the invitation to enter the Spider's parlour. Then the Spider used flattery to seduce the Fly. The Spider started praising the Fly. The Fly believed the Spider's words and gave in to his praises. Atlast the Spider jumped up and caught the Fly fast. The Fly realised the danger and wanted to escape. While the Spider was trying to make the Fly its prey, there came a lizard. The Spider was scared of it. So the Spider went up leaving the Fly half-dead. The Fly became alert. It struggled hard to come out of the thin thread half hazardly. The fly got some hope. In the last attempt, the fly fell down and flew away from there. The Spider's hard effort with great flattery entered in vain. The Spider had to wait for another chance to get any other little creature as its prey.

"Where there is a will, there is a way"

READ AND ENJOY (வாசித்து மகிழ்)

Never Trust a Mirror - ஓர் ஆடியை ஒருபோதும் நம்பாதே

Never trust a mirror,
For a mirror always lies,
It makes you think that all you're worth,
Can be seen from the outside,
Never trust a mirror.
It only shows you what's skin deep,
You can't see how your eyelids flutter,
When you're drifting off to sleep,
It doesn't show you what the world sees,
When you're only being you,
Or how your eyes just light up,
When you're loving what you do,

ஓர் ஆடியை ஒருபோதும் நம்பாதே.
ஏனெனில் எப்பொழுதும் ஓர் ஆடி பொய் சொல்கிறதே
நீ மதிப்புடையவனென அது உன்னை நம்பச்செய்கிறது.
வெளியிலிருந்து அதைக் காணக்கூடும்,
ஓர் ஆடியை ஒருபோதும் நம்பாதே
உன்னை அது மேலோட்டமாகவே காட்டுகிறது
உன் கண்ணிமைகள் படபடப்பதை நீ காண முடியாதே
நீ தூங்கி விழுந்து கொண்டிருக்கும்போது
உலகம் பார்க்கின்றபோது அது உன்னைக் காட்டுவதில்லை
நீ நீயாக மட்டும் இருக்கும்போது
அல்லது உன் கண்கள் எப்படி ஒளிருகிறது
நீ செய்கின்றதை நீ நேசிக்கும்போது

It doesn't capture when you're smiling,
Where no one else can see,
And your reflection cannot tell you,
Everything you mean to me,
Never trust a mirror
For it only shows your skin,
And if you think that it dictates your worth,
It's time you looked within.

நீ புன்முறுவலிக்கையில் அது உன்னைப் (படம்) பிடிப்பதில்லை
அங்கே ஒருவருமே உன்னைக் காணமுடியாதே
உனது பிம்பங்கள் உனக்கொன்றும் கூற இயலாதே.
எல்லாமே எனக்கு நீ தானே
ஒருபோதும் ஓர் ஆடியை நம்பாதே
அது உன் சருமத்தை மட்டுமே காட்டிடுதே
உனது மதிப்பை அது உனக்குக் கூறிடுமென நீ நினைத்தால்,
அந்த வேளையில், நீ உள்ளே பார்த்ததுதானே

Erin Hanson - எரின் ஹேன்ஸன்

