

4

The Blessings of God (Poem)

خدا کی نعمتیں (نظم)

Words	Meanings	Words	Meanings	Words	Meanings
Bright	روشن، چمکدار	Great	عظیم	Wise	عقلمند
Creatures	مخلوقات	Wonderful	حیرت انگیز	Tiny	چھوٹے
Ripe fruit	پکے ہوئے پھل	Purple	ارغوانی	Meadows	چراگاہیں
Rushes	آبی پودے				

Stanza No. 1

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Great God made them all.

تمام خوبصورت اور چمکتی ہوئی چیزیں، تمام چھوٹی اور بڑی مخلوقات، تمام عقل والی اور حیرت انگیز چیزیں، خدا نے سب کو پیدا کیا ہے۔

Reference:

These lines have been taken from the poem "The Blessings of God" composed by Cecil Alexander.

Context:

This beautiful hymn makes us realize the God's grandeur. The poetess says that all the small and the great objects of this universe have been created by God. All the things, which God has blessed us, show His presence.

Paraphrase:

In these lines, the poetess describes the greatness of God. He has made all the shining and beautiful things. He is the creator of all small and great things. All the wise and wonderful things are also His creation.

Stanza No. 2

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings.

ہر چھوٹا پھول جو کھلتا ہے۔ ہر چھوٹا پرندہ جو گاتا ہے، اُس نے ان کے چمکتے ہوئے رنگ بنائے اور ان کے چھوٹے چھوٹے پر بنائے۔

Reference:

These lines have been taken from the poem "The Blessings of God" composed by Cecil Alexander.

Context:

This beautiful hymn makes us realize the God's grandeur. The poetess says that all the small and the great objects of this universe have been created by God. All the things, which God has blessed us, show His presence.

Paraphrase:

God Almighty has made every little flower that blooms in the world. He has also made the little singing birds that have small wings with pretty colours.

Stanza No. 3

The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning,
That brightens up the sky.

از غوائی پہاڑ، بہتا ہوا دریا، سورج کا ڈوبنا اور دن کا نکلنا جو آسمان کو روشن کرتا ہے۔

Reference:

These lines have been taken from the poem "The Blessings of God" composed by Cecil Alexander.

Context:

This beautiful hymn makes us realize the God's grandeur. The poetess says that all the small and the great objects of this universe have been created by God. All the things, which God has blessed us, show His presence.

Paraphrase:

God has created the reddish-peaked mountains, the flowing rivers and the sunset. He has also made the morning which illuminates the sky and everything under it.

Stanza No. 4

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruit in the garden,
He made them every one.

سردی کی ٹھنڈی ہوا، گرمی کی خوشگوار دھوپ، باغ میں پکا ہوا پھل ہر ایک چیز کو اس نے بنایا ہے۔

Reference:

These lines have been taken from the poem "The Blessings of God" composed by Cecil Alexander.

Context:

This beautiful hymn makes us realize the God's grandeur. The poetess says that all the small and the great objects of this universe have been created by God. All the things, which God has blessed us, show His presence.

Paraphrase:

The cold wind that blows in winter and the pleasant sun of summer are the blessings of God Almighty. The ripe and delicious fruits that grow in the garden are also the creation of God.

Stanza 5:

The tall trees in the greenwood,
The meadows where we play,
The rushes by the water,
We gather every day.

ہرے بھرے جنگل میں اونچے درخت، سبزہ زار جہاں ہم کھیلتے ہیں، پانی میں پودے، جنہیں ہم روز چنتے ہیں۔

Paraphrase:

These lines have been taken from the poem "The Blessings of God" composed by Cecil Alexander.

Context:

This beautiful hymn makes us realize the God's grandeur. The poetess says that all the small and the great objects of this universe have been created by God. All the things, which God has blessed us, show His presence.

Paraphrase:

The tall trees which grow in the fertile woods and the meadows where animals graze and the children play are the creation of God. Likewise, the water plants floating on the surface of water and gathered by children daily are also His creation.

Stanza 6:

(Lahore Board 2010 G-I)

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell,
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well?

اُس نے ہمیں آنکھیں دیں، اور ہونٹ تاکہ ہم بیان کر سکیں کہ خدا پاک کتنا عظیم ہے۔ جس نے سب چیزیں خوب بنائی ہیں۔

Reference:

These lines have been taken from the poem "The Blessings of God" composed by Cecil Alexander.

Context:

This beautiful hymn makes us realize the God's grandeur. The poetess says that all the small and the great objects of this universe have been created by God. All the things, which God has blessed us, show His presence.

Paraphrase:

God has blessed us with eyes so that we may see His wonderful creations. He has given us tongue and lips to speak His greatness. We should be thankful to our God, Who has made this universe and everything in it in an orderly manner.

SUMMARY

(Cecil Alexander)

In this thought provoking (خیال افروز) poem, Cecil Alexander enumerates us (گنواتا ہے) the blessings of Allah Almighty (خداوند قدوس). She has described His grandeur (عظمت) by mentioning His beautiful creations like the beautiful flowers, singing birds, high mountains, sunrise, sunset and different seasons. She, in fact, wants to make us realize (احساس دلانا) that we should always attend to Him and sing His hymn.

In this masterpiece (شاہکار), the poetess enumerates (گنوتا) beautiful objects of Nature (فطرت) in a convincing (مقرب) manner. Allah has shaped and given existence (وجود) to everything great and small. He has moulded (ڈھالا) and modelled (بنایا) high mountains, the bright sunrise, the sunset, the morning, the flowing rivers and tall trees. He has also produced (بیدا کیا) delicious (میرا) ripe fruit. Not only these, He

has also given us eyes to see (مشاہدہ کرتا) the bewitching (دلکش) scenes of this beautiful world. He has blessed us with tongue and lips to sing His praise. The poetess has tried to prove that Allah is present in every object of Nature as He is Omnipresent (حاضر و ناظر). So, we should always be thankful to Him and feel obliged (احسان مند).

EXERCISES

Comprehension

i. What are the objects of nature which remind us of the glory and greatness of God?

Ans. The poetess says that God has given us so many objects of nature which remind us of the glory of God. The objects of nature like beautiful flowers, singing birds, purple-headed mountains, flowing rivers, the sunset, the sunrise, cool wind, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits, tall trees, meadows and grassy fields are the signs of the glory and greatness of God.

ii. Prepare a list of the rhyming words in the poem (Example: small, all).

Beautiful	Wonderful
Small	All
Sings	Wings
By	Sky
Sun	One
Play	Day
Tell	Well

ii. Vowels and consonants:

English has 26 letters of alphabet. These letters are divided, according to sound, into:

(a) Vowels: a, e, i, o, u.

(b) Consonants: All letters from b to z excluding the vowels above.

When we produce a vowel sound, our breath flows out of our mouth freely, without any stop, friction or obstruction.

But when we produce a consonant sound, say 'b', 'p', 'm', our lips meet to stop out breath.

In the case of the vowel sound 'u', you will note that it sounds more like 'y' in the word 'you' which is a consonant sound. It will sound a vowel if we say 'oo' like to 'fool', 'put', 'book'. This is very important. You must remember this point.

iii. Syllables:

When we say a word by just one sound of the voice, such a word is said to be of 'one-syllable'.

Thus words like 'fish', 'hand', 'friend', 'school' 'show', are one-syllabic words. It is the sound and not spelling that is important. All the following are one-syllabic words:

book, each, night, rule, plough, loud, bright

Words that need two sounds from the voice are called two-syllabic words. Here are some:

but-ter (butter) kind-ness (kindness)

dra-ma (drama) stu-dent (student)

If there are three voice sounds in a word, we say it is a three-syllabic word, e.g.

but-ter-cup beau-ti-ful lib-ra-ry

ma-na-ger

This division of a word into syllables is very important in learning the correct pronunciation of a word. Take, for example, the word 'present'. It is a two-syllabic word: pre-sent.

Now if we say the first part louder than the second: PREsent, the word will mean 'gift' (noun) or the opposite of absent (adjective). If we say the second part louder as present, it means to offer (verb). In English, this is known as 'stress'.

There are many two-syllabic words which have a different meaning if their first syllable is stressed and quite different if the second syllable carries the stress, e.g.

- CONtract (noun) : an agreement
- conTRACT (verb) : opposite of expand
- OBject (noun) : thing that can be seen or touched
- obJECT (verb) : to say that one does not agree to something

Stress is important for the correct pronunciation of words also. The word 'library' is a three syllable word. We stress the first syllable for correct pronunciation. The word is LIBrary. So is the word MANager.

All good dictionaries indicate the headwords in bold letters divided into syllables. They also show the primary and other stress for the correct pronunciation of words. Try to understand them.

iv. Write the following words in columns showing how many syllables they have:

Example:

One syllable	Two syllables	Three syllables
Free	English	Following
School	Blackboard	Bicycle
Chalk	Teacher	Policeman
Plough	Tuckshop	Election
Rough	Transport	Difficult
Thought	Doctor	Important
	Urdu	Primary
	Cricket	Understand
	Leader	Medicine
	Sofa	Injection
	Patient	

Missing letters.

- i. Pl__asant
- ii. W__od
- iii. Wi__g
- iv. Won__erful
- v. Creat__res
- vi. Glo__ing
- vii. Ti__y
- viii. S__y
- ix. Meado__s
- x. Rus__es

Match the words similar in meaning in List 'A' with 'B' and write the answer in 'C'.

	List 'A'	List 'B'	List 'C'
(i)	Glowing	Small	
(ii)	Meadows	All powerful	
(iii)	Rushes	Shining	

(iv)	Almighty	Pastures	
(v)	Tiny	Grassy plants	

Use the following words in your own sentences.

Words	Meanings	Sentences
Glowing	چمکتے ہوئے	Glowing stars look beautiful in the sky.
Meadows	چراگاہیں	Meadows are also part of natural beauty.
Rushes	سرسبز پودے/آبی پودے	Rushes along the river look beautiful.
Almighty	طاقتور	Allah Almighty rules everything.
Wonderful	شامدار	Huge buildings are wonderful.
Pleasant	خوشگوار	Spring is a pleasant season.
Tiny	چھوٹے چھوٹے	Tiny plants look beautiful on the bank of the river.
Brighten up	روشن کر دینا	The sun can brighten up the whole world.

Answers

Missing Letters.

- i. e ii. o iii. n iv. d v. u vi. w vii. n viii. k
ix. w x. h

Match List 'C'.

- i. Shining ii. Pastures iii. Grassy plants iv. All powerful v. Small