Warming Up!

1. (A) Fill in the Acrostic with names of things related to Nature.

B ....
E ....
A ....
U...........................
T ....
Y ....

(B) Make a list of 10 words related to the word 'joy', for example, happiness.

1............................ 6. ....
2. .... 7. ....
3. .... 8. ....
4. .... 9. ....
5. .... 10. ....

2. Recollect a picnic or a trip to a spot of natural beauty (a hill station/ a beach/forest area etc.) when you were younger.

Write four beautiful unforgettable scenes that left a deep impact on you.

(1) ....
(2) ....
(3) ....
(4) ....

3. 'Meter' in poetry is a pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables in lines of a poem. It gives rhythm to the poem.

Read the poem below aloud and with any coloured pen/ pencil put stress-marks (´) on those syllables that are stressed in the words of the poetic lines.

THE steadfast coursing of the stars,
The waves that ripple to the shore,
The vigorous trees which year by year
Spread upwards more and more ;
The jewel forming in the mine,
The snow that falls so soft and light,
The rising and the setting sun,
The growing glooms of night,
All natural things both live and move
In natural peace that is their own ;
Only in our disordered life
Almost is she unknown.

4. Consonance and Assonance

Consonance : Repetition of consonant sounds within a word, phrase or a short sentence.

For example : pitter-patter/ chuckle-fickle/ sick-duck/ Betty bought some bitter butter

Assonance : Repetition of vowel sounds within a word/ phrase/ sentence.

For example : Jack had a bag.

Men sell metal- kettle.

Let the engineer steer without fear.

(**Note :** Here, the focus is on pronunciation and not on the spellings of words.)

From the above poem pick out examples of consonance and of assonance within words/ phrases.

A Thing of Beauty is a Joy For Ever

John Keats (1795-1821) an English poet was one were the most popular of all British Romantic Poet. His poems are characterised by imagery from nature, that appealed to one's senses.

The present poem is the first stanza of a longer poem 'Endymion' based on Greek Mythology' the first line has become proverbial. The poem was first published in 1818.

A thing of beauty is a joy for ever :

Its loveliness increases; it will never

Pass into nothingness; but still will keep

A **bower** quiet for us, and a sleep

Full of sweet dreams, and health and quiet breathing.

Therefore, on every **morrow**, are we **wreathing**

A flowery band to bind us to the earth,

Spite of **despondence**, of the inhuman **dearth**

Of noble natures, of the gloomy days,

Of all the unhealthy and o'er-darkened ways

Made for our searching : yes, in spite of all,

Some shape of beauty moves a way the **pall**

From our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon,

Trees old, and young, sprouting a shady **boon**

For simple sheep ; and such are daffoldils

With the green world they live in ; and clear **rills**

That for themselves a cooling **covert** make

'Gainst the hot season ; the mid forest **brake**,

Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk-rose blooms :

And such too is the grandeur of the **dooms**

We have imagined for the mighty dead;

All lovely tales that we have heard or read :

An endless fountain of immortal drink

Pouring unto us from the heaven's **brink**.

- **bower :** a pleasant shady place under trees or climbing plants
- **morrow :** the following day
- **wreathing :** covering
- **spite :** desire to offend/annoy something
- **despondence :** desire to offend/annoy something
- **dearth :** shortage
- **pall :** a sheet spread over the dead
- **boon :** gift
- **rills :** streams

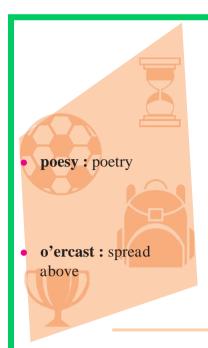◆ *List the things of beauty mentioned in the poem.*
◆ *List the things that cause suffering and pain.*

- **covert :** not openly known or displayed
- **brake (Archaic) :** ferns
- **dooms :** last day of existence known or displayed
- **brink :** edge

Nor do we merely feel these essences
For one short hour ; no, even as the trees
That whisper round a temple become soon
Dear as the temple's self, so does the moon,

The passion **poesy**, glories infinite,
Haunt us till they become a cheering light
Unto our souls, and bound to us so fast,
That, whether there be shine, or gloom **o'ercast**
They always must be with us, or we die.

- John Keats

- **poesy :** poetry

- **o'ercast :** spread above

ENGLISH WORKSHOP

1. Read the poem and fill in the table.

Sr. No.	Expressions of Beauty (joy)	Expressions of sorrow
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

2. Answer in your own words.

(a) What is the impact of a beutiful thing on us?

(b) What does a thing of beauty keep in store, for us?

(c) Who are the mighty dead? Why are they attribute with 'grandeur'?

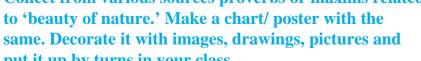(d) How does the memory of a beautiful visual scene become a joy forever?

3. Pick out and rewrite 5 lines that contain imagery.

For example : (a) we are wreathing a flowery band...

(b) ....

(c) ....

(d) ....

(e) ....

4. Choose the correct figures of speech that occurs in the following lines. Justify your choice.

(a) .... but still we keep a bower quiet for us ....

   (i) Simile   (ii) Irony   (iii) Metaphor

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(b) Some shape of beauty moves away the pall ....

    (i) Personification   (ii) Alliteration   (iii) Hyperbole

(c) A thing of beauty is a joy for ever ....

    (i) Epigram   (ii) Antithesis   (iii) Climax

(d) Trees old and young, sprouting a shady boon.

    (i) Exclamation   (ii) Personification   (iii) Antithesis

5. From the poem pick out words that we do not use often in modern times. They should match the meanings given below.

(a) gift ....   (f) edge..................................

(b) the next day ....   (g) depression ....

(c) a protective spot ....   (h) cover for the dead ....

    (for animals)

(d) a cool shady spot ....   (i) streams ....

    under tall under

(e) ferns ....   (j) poetry ....

6. Copy the first 8 lines and mark the stressed syllables using a coloured pen.

7. Read the poem and write –

(a) The rhyme scheme of the following lines.

    Lines 1 to 8 ....

    Last stanza ....

(b) (i) The number of stressed syllables (Rhythm) in the line.

      A thing of beauty is a joy forever. ....

    (ii) Does the poem retain a steady rhythm throughout?

(c) Give four examples of each. Pick the lines from the poem.

    (i) Consonance :

      (1) ....   (2) ....

      (3) ....   (4) ....

    (ii) Assonance :

      (1) ....   (2) ....

      (3) ....   (4) ....

8. Go through the poem again and write in your notebook an appreciation of the poem in the paragraph format. (Refer to page no. 5)

9. Project :

Collect from various sources proverbs or maxims related to 'beauty of nature.' Make a chart/ poster with the same. Decorate it with images, drawings, pictures and put it up by turns in your class.

E7KCTP

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