



The Delight Song

(N. Scott Momaday)

Words and Expressions

plain	–	a large area of flat land	میدان
luster	–	polish; shine; gleam	چمک
cluster	–	bunch; collection; mass	گٹھوں کا ڈھیر
bead	–	a small gemstone, or sphere of glass	شیشے یا پتھر کا چھدا ہوا دانہ، منکا
meadow	–	grassland	سبزہ زار
glitter	–	shine, luster	چمک
crust	–	surface; outer layer	اوپر کی تہ

Multiple Choice Questions

Choose the correct synonym.

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| <p>1. I am a feather on the bright sky.
A) brilliant B) broad
C) misty D) starry</p> <p>2. I am the fish that rolls, shining, in the water.
A) wraps B) rests
C) slumbers D) moves</p> <p>3. I am the evening light, the luster of meadows.
A) glow B) greenery
C) view D) depth</p> <p>4. I am the evening light, the luster of meadows.
(Board 2010)
A) dales B) crops
C) peaks D) grasslands</p> <p>5. I am a cluster of bright beads.
A) lover B) bunch
C) glow D) crest</p> | <p>6. I am the cold of the dawn.
A) evening B) winter
C) morning D) autumn</p> <p>7. I am the roaring of the rain.
A) shower B) cold
C) rustling D) thunder</p> <p>8. I am the glitter on the crust of the snow.
A) peak B) luster
C) layer D) particle</p> <p>9. I am the glitter on the crust of the snow.
A) bottom B) shine
C) surface D) depth</p> <p>10. I am the long track of the moon in a lake.
A) glow B) course
C) light D) goal</p> |
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Answers

1. A	3. A	5. B	7. D	9. C
2. D	4. D	6. C	8. B	10. B

Questions and Answers

Q.1 What do you understand when the poet says, "I am the shadow that follows a child"?

Ans. Innocence and simplicity are inherent in the phase of childhood. The poet wants to revert to the divine joys and charms of the childhood, which he lost long ago. It also shows deep love of the poet for the children.

Q.2 How can the crust of snow glitter?

Ans. The crust of snow glitters when the bright sun throws its rays on it. The sunlight reflects and moves in all directions illuminating the surroundings and creating a wonderful sight. It seems as if the earth itself is shining and we are fairy creatures moving on the beams of light.

Q.3 What is the dream of the poet?

Ans. The poet is enamoured by the beauties of nature. He wants to feel the lightness of a feather, enjoy the play and pranks of the blue horse and soar like an eagle in the sky. The farthest star attracts him a lot. Everything that is beautiful and fruitful is the dream and passion of the poet.

Q.4 What is the effect of man's good relations with the earth and the lords?

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Ans. Having good relations with the earth and the lords keeps him sane, active and alive. It is necessary for his spiritual growth and mental nourishment. It edifies his moral being and fills him with the love of humanity and creates a condition of peaceful co-existence.

Q.5 What are the things that keep a person alive?

Ans. Peaceful and beautiful things of nature keep a man sane and spiritually alive. The fascinating world of nature and our spiritual harmony with it, enable us to live in this world which is otherwise full of disappointments. Nature soothes our grieved hearts.

Q.6 Of pessimism and optimism which goes well with the poem "The Delight Song"?

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Ans. Optimism goes well with the poem because the poet looks at the bright side of things and is in complete harmony with the whole universe. This harmony keeps him delighted and contented.

Q.7 Write down your opinion in a few sentences on the theme of the poem "The Delight Song".

OR

What is the theme of the poem "The Delight Song"?

Ans. The poem gives a message of hope and happiness. Natural objects and their bewitching splendor possess the true vitality of life and man's good relations with the earth and the lords are necessary for his spiritual growth and mental nourishment. This harmony keeps man alive and delighted.

Q.8 Who is the author of the poem "The Delight Song"?

Ans. N. Scott Momaday is the author of "The Delight Song".

Explanation with Reference to the Context

Stanza 1:

I am a feather on the bright sky
 I am the blue horse that runs in the plain
 I am the fish that rolls, shining, in the water
 I am the shadow that follows a child
 I am the evening light, the luster of meadows
 I am the eagle playing with the wind
 I am a cluster of bright beads
 I am the farthest star
 I am the cold of the dawn
 I am the roaring of the rain.

Reference:

This stanza has been taken from the poem, "The Delight Song", written by N. Scott Momaday.

Context:

Natural objects and their bewitching splendor possess the true vitality of life and man's good relations with the earth and the lords are necessary for his spiritual growth and mental nourishment. The feelings of peace and serenity are latent in the heart that is in harmony with the whole of the universe. This harmony keeps man alive and delighted.

Explanation:

The poet identifies himself with a bird flying high in the bright sky, a horse running in the plain and a fish rolling in the water. He wants to feel the lightness of a feather, the brightness of a nascent day, the freedom of the blue horse in the open plains, the rolling of the fish in the boundless oceans, the soul-exhilarating colours of the twilight, the beauty of the lush green

meadows. All these things are a source of a spiritual joy which cannot be found in the worldly wealth and riches. He finds it in the twinkling of the farthest star in the depths of the cosmos, in the cold breeze at dawn, in the thunder and lightning of the rain. He loves children for their innocent acts. He wants to revert to the innocence and divine bliss of the childhood which is dampened by the worldly affairs in the grown-up years.

Stanza2:

I am the glitter on the crust of the snow
I am the long track of the moon in a lake
I am the flame of four colors
I am the whole dream of these things.

Reference:

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Context:

Natural objects and their bewitching splendor possess the true vitality of life and man's good relations with the earth and the lords are necessary for his spiritual growth and mental nourishment. The feelings of peace and serenity are latent in the heart that is in harmony with the whole of the universe. This harmony keeps man alive and delighted.

Explanation:

The poet identifies himself with all the beautiful and fruitful objects in the universe. He is delighted and alive. He wants to say that happiness is our harmony with nature and the beautiful elements of the universe. The shadow of the moon in a lake, the colours of the flame, the glitter of the snow – all are pleasant and benign to him. The snow, when compacts and hardens, creates a lustrous and smooth surface. The sunlight reflects and moves in all directions illuminating the surroundings and thus creates a wonderful sight. These elements possess the true vitality and vivacity of life. He gets into the spirit of life and is at one with the idea behind the creation of every beautiful and fruitful thing.

Stanza 3:

You see, I am alive, I am alive
I stand in good relation to the earth
I stand in good relation to the lords
I stand in good relation to all that is beautiful
I stand in good relation to all that is fruitful
You see, I am alive, I am alive.

Reference:

This stanza has been taken from the poem, "The Delight Song", written by N. Scott Momaday.

Context:

Natural objects and their bewitching splendor possess the true vitality of life and man's good relations with the earth and the lords are necessary for his spiritual growth and mental nourishment. The feelings of peace and serenity are latent in the heart that is in harmony with the whole of the universe. This harmony keeps man alive and delighted.

Explanation:

The poet is enamoured by the beauties of nature which spread far and wide over the landscape and in the sky. Everywhere in nature, is a welcoming sight. In this stanza, the poet says that he is cheerful and leading an active and happy life because he feels elated at setting up good relations with the lords, the earth, and all the beautiful things of nature and all that is fruitful and delightful. He is in complete harmony with them and finds true zeal and zest for life. These things keep him alive, physically as well as spiritually. In the fleeting moments of life, it is nature and her beauty which bring some kind of joy to our grieved hearts, remove gloom and despondency that hang heavy on our mind and give us courage to endure and accept life in spite of its woes and worries.