



## Home and Love

### A. Lead-in :

We love our home because we live here and rise up in life. The home attracts us. Our parents and family members love us and nurture us. We grow in the warmth, comfort and care of the family.

Read the poem given below and discuss with your partner about your home.

Now, listen to the teacher reading the poem aloud. As you listen, try to remember a few words / expressions from the poem.

### B. The Text :

Just Home and Love ! the words are small  
 Four little letters unto each;  
 And yet you will not find in all  
 The wide and gracious range of speech  
 Two more so tenderly complete :  
 When angels talk in Heaven above,  
 I'm sure they have no words more sweet  
     Than Home and Love.

Just Home and Love! It's hard to guess  
 Which of the two were best to gain;  
 Home without Love is bitterness;  
 Love without Home is often pain.

No! each alone will seldom do;  
Somehow they travel hand and glove :  
If you win one you must have two,  
    Both Home and Love.  
And if you've both, well then I'm sure  
You ought to sing the whole day long;  
It doesn't matter if you're poor  
With these to make divine your song.  
And so I praisefully repeat,  
When angels talk in Heaven above,  
There are no words more simply sweet  
    Than Home and Love.

ROBERT WILLIAM SERVICE

**C. About the poet :**

Robert William Service (1874-1958) was born in Preston, England. During his life-time he published four collections of poetry.

**D. Notes and glossary :**

gracious	: pleasant and sweet.
tenderly	: gentle and caring feeling.
bitterness	: feels angry and resentful.
seldom	: hardly / rarely.
hand and glove	: close to each other.
divine	: result from the action of God or goddess.
angels	: one of the spiritual beings that some people believe, live with God in heaven and act as God's messengers.

**E. Let's understand the Poem :**

- (i) Which words are important in the first line of the poem ?
- (ii) Which two words are the sweetest, according to the poet ?
- (iii) Do you think that meanings of 'Home' and 'Love' are very wide and gracious ? Discuss.
- (iv) How many times does the poet repeat 'Home and Love' ?
- (v) How does the sweetness of home link up with love ?
- (vi) Love without home is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (a) agony
  - (b) suffering
  - (c) pain.
- (vii) Can we separate Home and Love ?
- (viii) When do you sing the whole day long ?
- (ix) When angels talk in Heaven above.... What do they lack ?

**F. Let's appreciate the Poem :**

- (i) The poet compares home with love. Does he find one better than the other ? Why / not ?
- (ii) What does the line 'The wide and gracious range of speech' convey ?
- (iii) Which ideas do the angels discuss in Heaven ?
- (iv) Why does bitterness arise ?
- (v) When does one have a winning position ?
- (vi) What are the three important words in the last two lines which convey the poet's ideas ?
- (vii) What message does the poet have for those who have both home and love ?

**G. Let's do some activities :**

**Activity - 1**

- (a) Read the poem aloud. Then read it silently over and over again and remember the lines.
- (b) Given below are a few lines from the second stanza of the poem. But some words are missing there. Supply the missing words without looking at the stanza.

Home without love is \_\_\_\_\_.

Love without Home is often \_\_\_\_\_.

Some how they travel \_\_\_\_\_.

**Activity - 2**

Fill in the blanks with suitable words or phrases given below.

- (a) \_\_\_\_\_ is a place where angels talk ?
- (b) Love can seldom exist without \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (c) Home and Love are sweet because they contain \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(home, the wide and gracious range of speech)

**Activity - 3**

Home is more important than love. Do you agree or disagree with the statement ? Form two groups. Select your leader for each group. The first group will give arguments to show that the statement is true. The second group will argue that the statement is false. Cooperate with each other and note down all the useful points that can be made to support your point of view.

**H. Let's do some activities :**

"A short description "

Use the following words and expressions to describe a happy home :

Sweetness, Parents and relations, happy memories, friends, childhood games and sports, love and affection.

