

## **My Mother At Sixty Six**

### **MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS**

**(I) The poem does not talk about:**

- (a) loss of a loved one**
- (b) natural process of aging**
- (c) human relationship**
- (d) separation from a loved one**

**(II) By the phrase, familiar ache, Kamala Das refers to:**

- (a) pain of separation**
- (b) pain of ageing**
- (c) pain of illness**
- (d) pain of travelling**

**(III) The sight of young trees and merry children, on the way to Cochin, is ....  
... the poet's aging  
mother.**

- (a) like a divine assurance for**
- (b) in sharp contrast to**
- (c) a distraction from pain for**
- (d) the bridge between the poet and**

**(IV) The phrase 'old familiar ache' has been used to refer to a fear, in this extract. This phrase can also be used to:**

- (a) compare physical pain with mental agony.**
- (b) elicit someone's unanswered queries.**
- (c) substantiate reasons for aches and pains.**
- (d) describe a longing one has been aware of.**

**(V) The tone of the poet in the poem is primarily a combination of ..  
..... and**

- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>(1) dauntlessness</b> | <b>2) apprehension</b>   |
| <b>(3) dejection.</b>    | <b>4) disappointment</b> |
- (a) 1, 2**
  - (b) 3,4**
  - (c) 2, 3**
  - (d) 1, 4**

**(VI) Choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.**

**Statement 1: The poet accepts with resignation that she may not be able to meet her mother again.**

**statement 2 : The poets mother sees through the poet's smile.**

- (a) statement 1 is true but Statement 2 is false**
- (b) statement 1 is false and Statement 2 is true.**
- (c) Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 cannot be inferred from the poem.**
- (d) Both Statement I and Statement 2 can be inferred from the poem.**

**(VII) Choose the option that best describes the sequence of the poets' emotions in the poem:**

- (a) joy-realisation-pain-acceptance**
- (b) realisation-pain-negation--acceptance**
- (c) realisation-pain-\_-acceptance**
- (d) sorrow-realisation-acceptance**

**(VIII) The narrator has used her smile to**

- (a) cover up her pain**
- (b) make herself happy**
- (c) to make her mother happy**
- (d) to show her emotions**

**(IX) Pick the quote that best describes the theme of the poem:**

- (a) "There is love in holding and there is love in letting go" -Elizabeth Berg.**
- (b) "Ageing is just another word for living" -Cindy Joseph.**
- (c) "When one person is missing the whole world seems empty" -Pat Schwerbert.**
- (d) "And sometimes, against all odds, against all logic, we still hope.'**

**(X) The poem in its essential theme presents a universal truth. It is.....**

- (a) The ultimate truth is death.**
- (b) The reality of life is despairing.**
- (c) Happiness is just a mask covering the struggles**
- (d) The fear of old age.**

**(XI) The fact that the poem's narrative style is single sentence, punctuated by commas shows that:**

- (a) there is only one topic which made the poet fearful**
- (b) there is only one thought which runs through the poem.**

**(c) the lines are all being intermingled in the poet's mind.**

**(d) many sub ideas are connected to the main idea of the poem.**

**(XII) The sprinting trees is a depiction of movement.**

**This movement is .....**

**(a) of the car in contrast to the trees.**

**(b) of the winds that blows the trees.**

**(c) of the car as opposite to that of the wind.**

**(d) of the poet's thoughts moving from her mother's age to the energetic young trees.**

**(XIII) What question arises from the complexity of the situation presented in the poem?**

**(a) What to do in old age?**

**(b) How to make sure your parents are healthy?**

**(c) How to accept the loss of a loved one?**

**(d) How to strike a balance between duties and responsibilities?**

**(XIV) Which of the following is NOT an example of the 'ache' that the poet was felling?**

**(a) Ritika was sitting in front of her laptop all day and now her head is aching.**

**(b) Prachi and her family went to the hill station where the cloud had burst. Now she is unable to find her brother and she feels an unknown ache.**

**(c) Reyansh was playing with his ball when it bounced into the sewer.**

**(d) Samiksha and her friend were aching to see the pop-star Justin Bieber.**