



SEVENTEEN

KING LEAR

New Vocabularies: Literary, Fairy tale, Science fiction, Fable, Impact, Moral lesson, Dramatist, Tragedies, Comedies, Ancient, Curious, Opinion, Genuine, Flatter, Rehearse.

17.1

Look at different types of literary writings given below. In pairs, discuss and name them. You can take help from the given clues in the box.

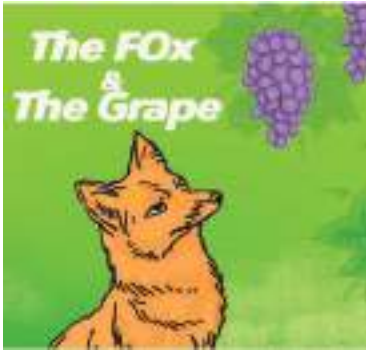
নিচে দেওয়া সাহিত্য বিষয়ক বিভিন্ন লেখাগুলো দেখ। জোড়ায় আলোচনা করো এবং নাম উল্লেখ করো। Box এ দেয়া Clue গুলো থেকে তুমি সাহায্য নিতে পারো।)

Fairy tale, Drama, Poem, Short story, Fable, Science fiction





সুখী মানুষ
মমতাজ উদদীন আহমদ









17.2 | Now discuss in pairs/groups what makes these writing styles different from each other. And then, match the writing styles with their characteristics.

এখন জোড়া/দলে আলোচনা করো একটি লেখার ধরন আরেকটি থেকে কিভাবে আলাদা।
তারপর বৈশিষ্ট্যসহ লেখার ধরনগুলো মিলাও।

Literary Writings	Characteristics
1. Short story	Common themes are time & space travel, tells impacts of science on people
2. Play/Drama	Has stanza, rhyme, and rhythm
3. Poetry	Has the beginning, ending, characters, facts, time, place, and theme
4. Fable	Divided into acts and scenes, has a plot, setting & dialogue, etc.
5. Science fiction	Short and has a moral lesson

17.3

Let's know more about 'Play' and one of the famous Playwrights (the writer of a play) of English literature.

চলো নাটক এবং ইংরেজি সাহিত্যের একজন বিখ্যাত নাট্যকার (যিনি নাটক লিখেন) সম্পর্কে জানি।)

Note-1:

A play is a form of literature written by a playwright. It is performed on a stage. A play is more to be seen than to be read. Usually, a play has dialogues, characters, plot (that is, the sequence of the story like a beginning, climax, ending, etc.), and setting (that is, where the story is set). A play is divided into acts and scenes.

**Note-2: (An image of Shakespeare)**

'William Shakespeare' - Have you ever heard the name? He was an English playwright and a poet. He wrote many plays, both tragedies, and comedies. 'King Lear' is one of his best tragedies.

17.4

Read the following section from the play 'King Lear' and discuss the questions in pairs/groups.

নাটক King Lear থেকে নিচের অংশটুকু পড়ো এবং জোড়া/দলে নিচের প্রশ্নগুলো আলোচনা করো।

King Lear, an ancient British King, is the main character in the play. When he grew old, he decided to divide his kingdom among his three daughters. But before that, he was curious to know which of his daughters loved him most and how.

In act one, scene one, the dialogue between the King and his daughters is as follows:



Act 1 scene 1

King Lear: Goneril, my oldest daughter, you speak first.

Goneril: I love you more than my own eyesight. I love you more than any wealth. I love you as much as my own life. In fact, I have no words that can describe my love for you.

King Lear: And now, what does my second daughter Regan have to say? Tell me.

Regan: My opinion is very close to my sister's. However, my love even goes further. For the sake of your love, I can reject all joys of my life. The only happiness in my life is your happiness.

King Lear: Now, you, my youngest daughter, my joy, what can you tell me that will make me give you a bigger part of my kingdom than I gave your sisters? Speak.

Cordelia: Nothing, my lord.

King Lear: Nothing?

Cordelia: Nothing.

King Lear: What? “Nothing” will get you nothing. Speak again.

Cordelia: Father, you brought me up and loved me, and I’m giving back just as I should: I obey you, love you, and honour you. How can my sisters speak the truth when they say they love only you? Don’t they love their husbands too?

The old King misunderstands Cordelia and her genuine love for him. He gives Cordelia nothing and divides his kingdom between his first and second daughters. However, time proved who loved him genuinely and who told lies to flatter him.

Questions:

- a. Who is the main character in this play?
- b. Why did he decide to divide his kingdom?
- c. What are the names of his three daughters?
- d. What does Regan mean when she says, “My love even goes farther?”
- e. Do you think Lear liked Cordelia’s answer? If you think yes, why? And, if you think no, why?
- f. To you which daughter loves her father, King Lear most? Why do you think so?
- g. Do you love your parents? How would you describe your love to your parents?

17.5

In pairs/groups read the scene of ‘King Lear’ again. And then, find the following characteristics of column A in the play ‘King Lear’, and write an example in column B. One is done for you.

জোড়া/দলে King Lear এর দৃশ্যটি আবার পড়ো। তারপরে Column A এর বৈশিষ্ট্য অনুযায়ী Column B তে একটি করে উদাহরণ লেখ। একটি উদাহরণ তোমার জন্য করে দেয়া হয়েছে।

Column A (Characteristics)	Column B (Examples)
1. Dialogue	Cordelia: Nothing, my lord. King Lear: Nothing?
2. Characters	
3. Plot	
4. Acts & scenes	
5. Setting	

17.6

It is a whole class activity. In a group of 4, rehearse and act out the scene. One will play the character of King Lear, and three other students will play characters of three daughters. Every group will act it out for the class.

এটি সম্পূর্ণ শ্রেণি কার্যক্রম। চার জন মিলে দৃশ্যটি অভিনয় করো। একজন King Lear এর ভূমিকায় এবং বাকী তিনজন তিন কন্যার ভূমিকায়। প্রত্যেক দল এটা শ্রেণিতে অভিনয় করে দেখাবে।

17.7

Collect any three types of literary writings (e.g., short story, poem, fairy tale, science fiction, play). Read them in your own time. And then, compare their characteristics with examples. Finally, present it to the class. You can write it using the following table. Also, you can add or lessen the characteristics.

সাহিত্য সম্পর্কিত তিন ধরনের লেখা সংগ্রহ কর (যেমন ছোট গল্প, কবিতা, রূপকথা, বৈজ্ঞানিক কল্প কাহিনী, নাটক) নিজের সময় অনুযায়ী সেগুলো পড়ো। উদাহরণসহ তাদের বৈশিষ্ট্যগুলো তুলনা করো। সবশেষে শ্রেণিতে উপস্থাপন করো। নিচের সারণিটি ব্যবহার করে তুমি লিখতে পারো। তাছাড়াও তুমি তাদের বৈশিষ্ট্যবলী বাড়াতে বা কমাতে পারো।

Type of the Literary writing	Name of the literary writing	Characteristics	Characteristics you identified
1.	1.	1.	1.
		2.	2.
		3.	3.
2.	2.	1.	1.
		2.	2.
		3.	3.
3.	3.	1.	1.
		2.	2.
		3.	3.