



Apperciation

1. The significance of reading an autobiography lies in drawing lessons from another life. What is the significance of Kumudini's account for us as readers?

Answer: We as readers can understand many core issues of life by going through the account of Kumudini. Her training in dance in her initial years teach us the lesson that learning any art form requires dedication and hard work. It needs rigour to acquire the skills. Her account of going to the dance teacher's house show her sheer dedication to the art.

We can know about the value of discipline when Kumudini talks of her teachers in Queen Mary's college, Lahore. According to Kumudini, discipline in one's daily routine does bring discipline in thinking. This is really inspiring for the readers. Kumudini's account of her days with guru Ram Gopal is inspiring. We can learn the lesson that one needs to perfect the technique with which one begins to experiment. Her account teaches us that one should learn to adjust with a group of different personalities as in a family and a performance on the stage.

2. "I can see clear bridges between my life experiences and my work in dance." How does Kumudini Lakhia weave episodes from the two realms in her account?

Answer: Kumudini Lakhia in her account shows that her life experiences form the basis of her work in dance. Though she was focussed on dance, yet she tells us that she lived her life. She has taken cues from her life experiences to present these in her dance. She recounts how in Duvidha or conflict she has examined the plight of a middle class woman who is chained to the traditions of Indian life. In Atah Kim, we can see how Kumudini bases the theme on the desire for power which she experienced after her schooling was over. Her work Panch Paras is on the spiritual realm of life. Kumudini tells us about her experience on spiritualism, the arguments she used to have with her grandmother regarding the existence of God etc. She has used this bit of experience as theme in Panch Paras.

Language Work

1. Distinguish between the following pairs of words

1. Incredulous - Incredible
2. Suspicious - Susceptible
3. Sensitivity - Sentimentality
4. essive - SuccessfulSucc

Answer:

1. Incredulous: not disposed or willing to believe, unbelieving
Incredible: beyond belief or understanding
2. Suspicious: openly distrustful and unwilling to confide
Susceptible: yielding readily to or capable of
3. Sensitivity: the ability to respond to physical stimuli or register small physical amounts or differences.
Sentimentality: falsely emotional in a maudlin way.

4. Successive: having or giving the right of succeeding to an inheritance, following in order or in uninterrupted course
Successful: having succeeded or being marked by a favourable outcome

2. Interpret these phrases in the context of the essay

Mist of protection

At a crossroads

Answer:

Mist of protection: The phrase has been used by the author to signify that her childhood was very protective. Her parents always cared for her and kept watch over her. They tried to influence her in all her activities. She found this protection as something like a mist which covers our vision.

At a crossroads: At a cross roads refers to a situation when some one is not able to decide as to which path to chose. In the text the phrase is used by the author to describe her situation after completing the agriculture course when she was left with few job prospects.

3. 'Kummi', 'ghumar' and 'dandia' are some dance forms mentioned in the text. Make an inventory of folk dance forms in the different regions of the country.

Answer:

Arunachal Pradesh: Bardo Cham

Assam: Bihu dance, Jhumur

Chattisgarh: Raut nach, Panthi

Gujarat: Garba, Padhar, Raas,

Himachal Pradesh: Kinnauri Natti

Karnataka: Yakshagana

Kashmir: Dumhal

Lakshwadeep: Lava

Madhya Pradesh: Tertali, Charkula, Jawara, Grida dance

Maharastra: Pavri Naach

Manipur: Thang ta, Dol chalam

Mizoram: Cheraw Dance

Nagaland: Chang lo or sua lua

Orissa: Goti Pua

Pondicherry: Garadi

Punjab: Bhangra, Giddha, Jhumar, Ludi

Rajasthan: Ghoomor, Kalbelia, Bhavai

Sikkim: Singhi Chamm

Tamil Nadu: Kummi, Kolattam

Tripura: Hojagiri

West Bengal: Gambhira, Domni

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