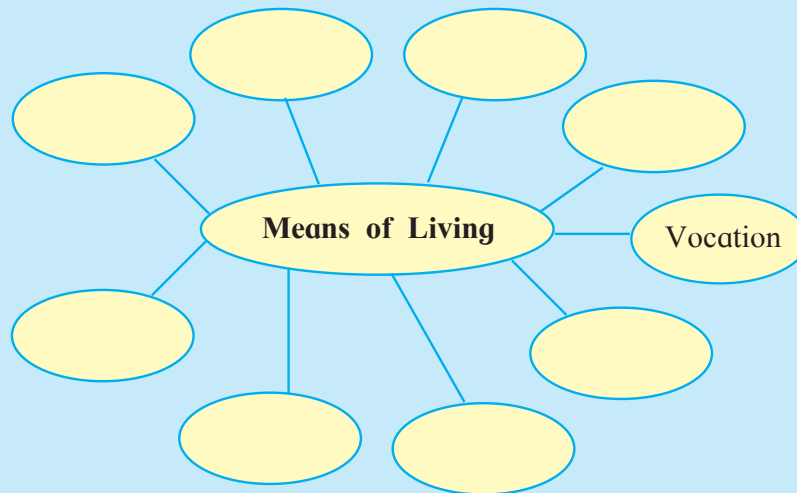


(1) Pick out words that refer to ‘means of living’ and fill them in the Web.

(profession / recreation / occupation / job / pastime / employment / hobby / career / entertainment / mission / trade / business / sports / retirement / placement)



(2) Using a good dictionary, find the shades of difference in the following :

‘Profession’ refers to .....

‘Vocation’ refers to .....

‘Business’ refers to .....

‘Occupation’ refers to .....

(3) When a word is formed from a sound associated with it, it is called an **Onomatopoeic Word**.

For example : bang, tap, tinkle, crash, whistle etc.

If an Onomatopoeic word occurs in the lines of a poem, the Figure of Speech in that line is **Onomatopoeia**.

Write down eight to ten Onomatopoeic words on your own.

## Vocation

When the **gong** sounds ten in the morning and  
I walk to school by our lane,  
Every day I meet the hawker crying, “Bangles,  
crystal bangles!”

There is nothing to hurry him on, there is no  
road he must take, no place he must go to, no  
time when he must come home.

I wish I were a hawker, spending my day in  
the road, crying, “Bangles, crystal bangles!”

When at four in the afternoon I come back from  
the school,

I can see through the gate that house the  
gardener digging the ground.

He does what he likes with his spade, he soils  
his clothes with dust, nobody **takes him to**  
**task**, if he gets baked in the sun or gets wet.

I wish I were a gardener digging away at the  
garden with nobody to stop me from digging.

Just as it gets dark in the evening and my  
mother sends me to bed,



I can see through my open window the  
watchman walking up and down

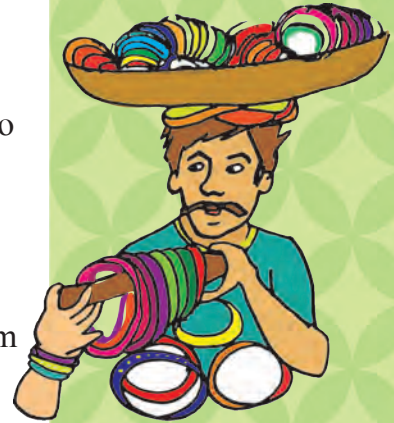
The lane is dark and lonely, and the street  
lamp stands like a **giant with one red eye**  
in its head.

The watchman swings his lantern and walks  
with his shadow at his side, and never once  
goes to bed in his life.

I wish I were a watchman walking the street all night,  
**chasing the shadows** with my lantern.

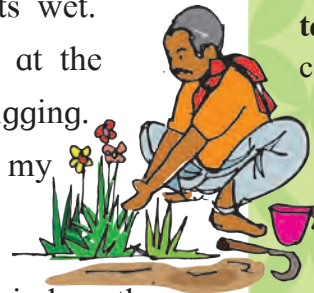
– Rabindranath Tagore

- **gong** : a flat metal bell rung to draw people's attention



- ◆ **What does the hawker advertise aloud?**

- **takes someone to task** : scolds and corrects



- **one-eyed-giant** : reference to a character from Greek Mythology (Homer's Odyssey)

- ◆ **Who is scolded if he gets dirty?**

- ◆ **What accompanies the watchman?**

- **chasing the shadows**: following an imaginary goal/target

1. Which of the following words / phrases match in meaning to the underlined ones?

- (a) deserted (b) exposed to heat  
 (c) dirties the clothings (d) no particular route  
 (e) following imaginary goals (f) scolds and corrects
- (i) nobody takes him to task .....  
 (ii) ..... if he gets baked in the sun .....  
 (iii) ..... chasing the shadows with my lantern .....  
 (iv) The lane is dark and lonely .....  
 (v) ..... he soils his clothes with dust .....  
 (vi) ..... There is no road he must take .....

2. Read the poem and fill in the table.

Time of the day	Location	Poet's Activity	Hawker's Activities	Gardener's Activities	Watchman's Activities
Morning	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Afternoon	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Night	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

3. Think and answer in your own words.

- (a) What could be the age group of the speaker in the poem?  
 (b) What is the difference between a hawker and a shopkeeper?  
 (c) How do parents react when they see children soil their clothes in dust and heat?  
 (d) Why is the street light compared to a one-red-eyed-giant?  
 (e) What exactly does the speaker in the poem crave for?  
 (f) Does the poet really wish to become a hawker/gardener/watchman? Justify your response.

4. Say why the speaker of the poem wishes to be a –

- (a) hawker (b) gardener (c) watchman.

5. Pick out lines that contain Alliteration, Simile, Repetition, Onomatopoeia.

6. Some poets do not use uniformity in rhyming words, nor a steady rhythm. Such poems with no uniformity in rhyme, rhythm, length of lines or stanzas are called Free Verse. Walt Whitman, Ezra Pound, T.S. Eliot, Rabindranath Tagore are some famous poets who have composed poems in Free Verse.

A quick glance at the poem 'Vocation' reveals that the style used by Tagore is Free Verse.

Now turn the pages of your textbook and see if you can find other poems in Free Verse.

**7. What vocation / profession / business would you like to take up in future? Prepare a fact file for the same using the following points.**

- (i) Name of the vocation / profession / business .....
- (ii) Educational qualifications required .....
- (iii) Work profile / description .....
- (iv) Opportunities for advancement .....
- (v) Your personal skills / talents for the choice .....

**8. Read and understand the following poem 'Paper Boats' and write its paraphrase in your own simple language. (You may take the help of dictionary or internet.) The first line is done for you.**

(Day after day, one after another, I sail paper boats on the stream of flowing water.)

**Paper Boats**

Day by day I float my paper boats, one by one on the running stream.

In big black letters I write my name on them and the name of the village where I live.

I hope that someone in some strange land will find them and know who I am.

I load my little boats with shiuli flower from our garden, and hope that these blooms of the dawn will be carried safely to land in the night.

I launch my paper boats and look up into the sky and see the little clouds setting their white bulging sails.

I know not what playmate of mine in the sky sends them down the air to race with my boats !

When night comes I bury my face in my arms and dream that my paper boats float on and on under the midnight stars.

The fairies of sleep are sailing in them, and the lading is their baskets full of dreams.

(Note : 'lading' means cargo loaded in a ship.)

