

Assignment-4

Ques-1

Amrita Pritam's poem 'striya' portrays the condition of women and society's perception of them. This poem can be analyzed through Abhidha, Lakshana, and Vyanjana.

1. Abhidha- literal meaning

- a. Abhidha is the power that conveys the **direct or literal meaning** of the words.
- b. "Padha gaya humko jaise padha jaata ho kaagaz" — Literally, it means women are treated as if they are mere objects like a piece of paper, like something trivial.
- c. "dekha gaya humko" — This simply means women are seen superficially, without depth or genuine understanding.
- d. "Thasathas bhari hui bus"— literally means a packed bus but depicts overwhelming conditions faced by women in this society.

2. Lakshana- indicative meaning

- a. Lakshana is when the words take on a figurative or symbolic meaning to convey deeper meanings.
- b. "Padha gaya humko jaise padha jaata ho kaagaz" — The paper here symbolizes the way **society objectifies women**. They are treated as something **temporary, disposable, and unimportant**, indicating the lack of value placed on their existence.
- c. "Suna gaya humko jaise sunte hai filmy gaane" — Film songs are often listened to casually, without paying much attention to their meaning. Similarly, women's voices are heard **without truly understanding or valuing** what they have to say.

3. Vyanjana - Suggestive meaning

- a. Vyanjana refers to the implied or suggested meanings below the words written.
- b. "Bahut dur ke rishtedaaro ki tarah" — The hidden meaning here is that women's suffering is treated as **distant and irrelevant**, much like the grief of a distant relative, implying that their pain is neglected or ignored.
- c. "Dushcharitra mahilaye" — This line expresses the harsh judgment women face from society. They are labeled as **"immoral"** simply because they assert their rights and voice their opinions.

Through abhidha, lakshana, vyanjana, the poet expresses the societal neglect and objectification of women. The poem depicts how women are viewed as objects, their voices unheard, and their characters unjustly questioned, all while subtly critiquing these deeply entrenched attitudes.

Ques-2

- **Vishay- vastu (subject)**

The story is about **Kurbaan Bhai**- a kind and honest man who runs a small grocery shop. He is known for selling good quality products with fair weights. Many respected people, like professors and journalists, visit his shop for discussions. Even though Kurbaan Bhai is simple but he adds valuable points to their conversations. However, he has a tragic past. Before the partition of India, his family was wealthy and lived in Ajmer, but they lost everything during the violent events of partition. His two brothers were killed, and his father died from the shock of these tragedies. After these hardships, Kurbaan Bhai started a small shop and worked hard to rebuild his life instead of fleeing to Pakistan.

The story takes a turn when a minor argument with a cart driver happens. A passerby, noticing the argument, calls him "Miyan," (a term that highlights his Muslim identity in a disrespectful way). In that moment, all his respect and reputation for what he had worked hard for so long are overshadowed by his religion. The incident shows how easily a person's entire identity and worth can be reduced to a single label due to bias, revealing the fragility of respect and communal harmony.

- **Language and style**

The language is a mix of **simple and deep words** like kurbaan bhai's character. The dialogues and description offers a rich portrayal of the inner world of the character. We can say that the narrative of this story by swayam prakash is emotionally charged because it explores the disillusionment that comes with partition and the sudden shift in communal relationships. The **metaphor** of a collapsing mountain illustrates how years of hard work, respect, and social standing can be destroyed in an instant by the poison of communal hatred. The author also uses **excellent flashbacks** to show kurbaan bhai's past when he belonged to a wealthy family and now a struggling shopkeeper. He also uses **vivid imagery** to express the trauma of partition and also loss of identity and status. The main **irony** of the story is that no matter how much a man is honest, respectable etc but he could still be reduced to a mere label like miyan based on his religion. Swayam Prakash's style in "Partition" is a combination of realism and humanism, with a clear focus on character-driven storytelling. The story clearly shows how people still have communal bias ingrained in their minds and hence end up stereotyping good individuals as well unnecessarily.