

MOMENTS

STD-IX

SUBJECT- LITERATURE

CHAPTER - 1

TOPIC- THE LOST CHILD

PERIOD-2

CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW

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THE LOST CHILD



**MULK RAJ
ANAND**

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- Understanding the concept
- Being acquainted with prose and poet's biography
- Understanding the idea
- Appreciate the language of the prose
- Developing LSRW Skills

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES/ EXTENDED OBJECTIVES

- Understanding the concept
- Being acquainted with prose and poet's biography
- Understanding the idea
- Appreciate the language of the prose
- Developing LSRW Skills

MULK RAJ ANAND

- Mulk Raj Anand was a distinguished writer, critic, editor, journalist and political activist. Born into the Kshatriya (warrior) caste in the Punjabi city of Peshawar, he was educated at cantonment schools before completing a degree at the University of Punjab, Amritsar, where his involvement in the 1921 Civil Disobedience campaign against the British resulted in a short period of imprisonment. He was just nineteen years old when he left India for England on a scholarship to mark the silver wedding of George V and Queen Mary. On his arrival he registered at University College London to study for a doctorate in philosophy which he was awarded in 1929.



THEME

- The underlying theme of the story “The Lost Child” is the universality of a child’s desire for everything that he claps his eyes on. All that the child witnesses—from the toys lining the street, to the dragon flies in the mustard field, to the snake swaying to the tunes of a snake charmer’s pungi—obsesses the child. It is a visual assault on his senses. He looks at everything in wonder, his senses almost rejoicing at being alive.
- His parents on the other hand are like a parental control filter, making him abstain him from the lures of the illusionary world as if secretly knowing that what he needs most is something else entirely. They offer a quiet reminder that the child must learn to prioritise what is important and what is not in life.
- In the end when the child loses his parents he understands what his parents’ silent gestures and reprimands were trying to teach him. He realises now that what he wanted most was his parents. He continuously refuses everything that the kind stranger offers to console him with—the very same things he was goading his parents for moments ago. Within minutes his life changes and offers him an entirely new perspective of looking at life and understanding what is truly important.



THE CHILD IS LOST

- The child then saw a snake-charmer. He was playing a flute to a snake. He went near the snake-charmer.
- But he knew that his [parents had asked him not to hear such music. So he went ahead. Then he saw a merry-go-round.
- Men, women, children etc, were enjoying a ride on it. The child called, “I want to go on the roundabout, please, Father, Mother”. But there was no reply. The child had been lost.



THE CHILD PANICS

- A full deep cry rose within the child's deep throat. He cried, "Mother, Father".
- Tears " rolled down his eyes. He cried and cried and ran to and fro.
- But he couldn't see his parents. People laughed and talked. Then he ran to a shrine.
- There was a big crowd there. The child went a bit ahead between the people's feet.
- But he was pushed back. A man heard his cry. He lifted him up in his arms.



A MAN TRIES TO LOCATE HIS PARENTS

- The man asked the child how he got there. He also asked him the names of his parents.
- But the child only said, “I want my father”. The man took the child to the merry-go-round.
- He asked him if he wanted to ride on the horse. But the child said only that he wanted his mother.
- Then the man asked him if he would take a balloon. But the child sobbed and sobbed. He wanted his father and mother only.



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THE CHILD WANTS HIS PARENTS

- The man then took the child to the flower- seller. He asked him if he would like to put a flower garland round his neck.
- The child turned his nose. He only said, “I want my mother. I want my father”.
- Then the man asked him which sweet he would like. The child turned his face. He only said, “I want my mother. I want my father.



VOCABULARY

- diverged: separated and took a different direction
- Melted: became tender and loving
- Pale: dull, colourless
- Gaudy: extremely bright and showy
- Abreast: side by side and facing the same way
- Teeming out: to pour or empty out
- Grove: a small wood or group of trees
- Capers: a playful skipping movement
- Throngs: huge crowds
- Converging: gathering
- Heeded: paid attention to
- Overwhelming: a very strong emotion
- Forbidden: not allowed
- Coarse: unpleasant
- Hither and thither: here and there
- Congested: full of
- Hefty: large and heavy
- Thrust: push
- Knocked: hit
- Brutal: harsh, rough
- Trampled: crushed
- Surging: powerful

THANK YOU
ODM EDUCATIONAL GROUP

