

FIRST FLIGHT

STD-X

SUBJECT : ENGLISH
CHAPTER NUMBER: 3
CHAPTER NAME : A TIGER IN THE ZOO
BY LESLIE NORRIS

CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW

RECAPITULATION

He stalks in his vivid stripes,
The few steps of his cage,
On pads of velvet quiet,
In his quiet rage.

- (a) Why the tiger could walk only a few steps?
- (b) How does the tiger move in the cage?
- (c) What are the two qualities of the animal under reference?
- (d) Why is he in quiet rage?

He should be lurking in shadow,
Sliding through long grass,
Near the water hole,
Where plump deer pass.

- (a) Who is 'He' here?
- (b) Where should he be lurking?
- (c) Where should he be sliding?
- (d) Who would pass through the water hole?

STANZA 4

But his locked.....visitors

- Unfortunately the tiger is locked in a cage made of cement and concrete in a zoo. He takes no note of visitors. He completely ignores them.



STANZA 5

- He hears.....brilliant stars
- At night the caged tiger hears the voices of the patrolling cars. He stares at the brilliant stars shining brightly in the sky. It seems that he is looking for some comfort and hope in these stars. His brilliant eyes show that he still hopes for the day when he would be able to run free in the forest and live in the natural surroundings.

POETIC DEVICES USED IN THE POEM

- PERSONIFICATION
- The poet uses the poetic device personification with respect to the tiger. He refers to the tiger not as 'it' but as 'he'.
- METAPHOR
- The poet compares the parts of the tiger's feet with velvet since both are soft and smooth.

RHYMING SCHEME

Each of the five stanzas of the poem 'A Tiger in the Zoo' follows the same simple rhyming scheme abcb.

Video- https://youtu.be/M3cmOnevZ_0

MESSAGE OF THE POEM

- Confinement brings bondage and bondage is cruelty.
- Humans have encroached on the free life of the animals and are confining them in the zoo which is truly inhuman.
- Humans must learn to respect nature because they exist only due to nature

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