

WORKSHEET

My Mother at Sixty Six

Q) Where was the poetess going?

Ans) The poetess was going to the airport in a car.

Q) Who was with the poetess?

Ans) The poetess' mother was with her while she was going to the airport.

Q) How did the mother look like?

Ans) While sitting beside the poet, her mother looked like pale and still like a corpse. This brought ^{back} painful memories for the poet.

Q) Why did the poet feel sad seeing her mother's appearance?

Ans) The poet felt sad seeing her mother's appearance because it made her realize that her mother was aging and her time would come to an end soon.

Q) What is a late winter's moon?

Ans) A late winter's moon is clouded with fog and mist. As a result it appears dull. This is what a late winter's moon refers to.

Q) How do 'wan' and 'pale' describe the mother?

Ans) When the poet's mother was lying down in the car she looked

like a corpse. The ~~at~~ clouds of ageing had marked the brightness of her face and it gave her a pale visage. Hence the words 'wan' and 'pale' describe the appearance of the mother.

Q) What does the poet's smile show?

Am) The poet was very sad but did not want to show her fears to her mother so she was smiling. However it was just a facade. In reality she was very sad and had fears of losing her mother soon.

Q) In the last line of the poem, why does the poet use the word smile repeatedly?

Am) In the last line of the poem, the poet has repeatedly used the word smile to mark her painful feelings of parting from her mother. She also wanted to reassure her mother of hope and happiness by smiling in front of her.

Q) How did the mother look like at the airport?

Am) At the airport, the mother looked wan and pale as a late winter's moon.

Q) What did the poet see when she looked outside the car?

Am) When she looked outside the car she saw trees sprouting and children playing.