

7/7/2021

CH-6



A Q Let us find the answers from the poem.

1 Where was the scorpion hiding? why?

Ans ~~The~~ The scorpion was hiding beneath a sack of rice to save itself ~~from~~ from the rain.

2 why did the peasants come to the speaker's house?

Ans The peasants came to the narrator's house when they found out that the ~~the~~ narrator's mother had been stung by a scorpion.

3 Who clicked their tongues?

Ans → The ~~peasants~~ peasants clicked their tongues to express their condolences and sympathy as they watched the narrator's mother writhing in pain.

4 Give an example of a superstition from the poem?

Ans → Superstitions are irrational beliefs held by a community based on some natural or supernatural occurrence. They usually believed to bring good or bad luck. An instance found in the poem

is the neighbours' belief that with every movement the scorpion makes, its poison spreads in the blood affected.

(5) How will the world be benefited from the mother's suffering?

Ans → The mother's suffering will diminish all evil in this world as per the superstitions belief of the peasants

(B) Let us read between the lines

1 In what kind of a setting do you think the poem takes place? Give evidence from the poem

Ans → It is quite evident that the poem is set in a poverty-stricken household in an underdeveloped area, most probably in a remote village. The people are illiterate and are steeped in superstitions. There is no mention of any healthcare facility.

Even the father, who is a rationalist, had to depend on powders, mixtures and herbs instead of taking his wife to a

doctor. Moreover, the details such as mud-baked walls, lanterns and candles also portray the image of rural

Setting.

2 Why do you think the scorpion stung the mother just before escaping into the rain again?

Ans → The scorpion probably stung the mother as an act of self-defence.

3 Explain the phrase 'giant ~~scorpion~~ scorpion shadows'.

Ans → The peasants were standing in a huddle and against the light of the candles and lantern, their shadows appeared in the shape of scorpions.

Q Why do you think the peasants started praying for the mother?

Ans: According to the peasants, a scorpion's

sting was fatal as it had no cure. They

were completely unaware of the available

medical facilities and praying was the

only way of helping the mother. Their

only hope was that their prayers

would help to cure the mother of her pain.

One of the ancient methods of treatment

was to eliminate the affected body part

so as to stop the infection or poison

from spreading to the rest of the body.

(c) Let us go beyond the poem.

1 The villagers, instead of calling in a doctor, started praying. What does it tell us about them?

Ans The peasants were ignorant and unfamiliar

with the wonders of modern medicine.

They were the only ways they could express their care and support.

2 What would you have done if you were one of the peasants?

Ans If I were one of the peasants, I would

have called the ~~village~~ village
doctor or any paramedical staff
present in the village to give immediate
treatment to the woman