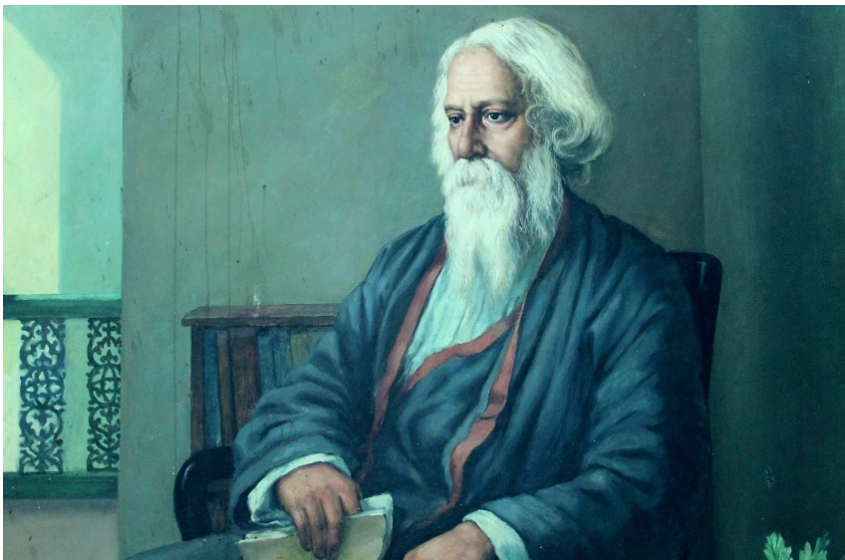


A Little Grain of Gold



Q-1. Fill in the blanks.

- a) The beggar was begging from door to door in the **village** path.
- b) The golden chariot appeared like a **gorgeous** dream.

- c) The beggar thought that his **evil** days were at an end.
- d) The beggar gave the King a grain of **corn**.
- e) At the end of the day, the beggar found a grain of **gold** in his bag.

Q-2 Read the given extract and answer the following questions.

a)

**Thy palm to a beggar to beg! I was
Confused and stood undecided, and then
From my wallet I slowly took out the least**

i) Who is the speaker? Where was he standing?

Ans: The speaker is a beggar who was standing in the village path where he had gone begging from door to door.

ii) Why was the speaker confused?

Ans: The speaker was confused because the king held out his right hand and asked the beggar to give him something.

iii) What did the speaker take out from his wallet?

Ans: The speaker took out a smallest grain of gold from his wallet and gave it to the king.

iv) Give the synonym of 'undecided'.

Ans: doubtful/hesitant

3. Answer the following questions.

a) Who is the speaker in the poem? Whom is the poem addressed to?

Ans: The speaker is a beggar in the poem. The poem is addressed to God.

b) What did the beggar see while begging?

Ans: While the beggar was begging one day, he saw a golden chariot at a distance.

c) What did the beggar hope to get?

Ans: The beggar hoped to get alms from the King.

d) Why did the beggar feel that the King's request was in jest?

Ans: The beggar thought that the King was joking when he asked the beggar to give him something. He felt that since the King was wealthy, he should give alms to the poor instead of asking for alms.

e) How did the beggar respond to the King's request?

Ans: The beggar responded very reluctantly to the King's request. At first, he thought that the King was joking but later he very slowly pulled out the smallest grain of corn from his bag and handed it over to the King

f) Why did the beggar regret his action at the end of the day?

Ans: At the end of the day, when the beggar returned home and emptied his bag, to his amazement there was a very small grain of gold among his alms. He realised that the grain of gold was of the same size as that of the grain of corn which he had given to the King. He realised that if he had been generous enough to give the King all that he had, the King would have rewarded him tenfold. He also realised that it was none other than God himself in the disguise of the King. The beggar wept bitterly in dismay.

4. Find the homophones of the following words from the poem.

a) write - right

b) grate - great

c) heart - hart

Workbook work

1. Q-1: Match the columns:

A

B

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| a) The beggar went a-begging from | 1. a least little grain of gold. |
| b) The beggar emptied his bag on the floor to find | 2. gave it to the king of kings. |
| | 3. wished he had the heart to |
| c) The beggar thought that his evil days where at an end and | give the king his all. |
| d) The beggar took a little grain of corn and | 4. he stood waiting for alms. |
| e) The beggar bitterly wept and | 5. door to door. |

Ans:

- | | |
|--|---|
| A | Ans |
| a) The beggar went a-begging from | |
| b) The beggar emptied his bag on the floor to find | 5. door to door. |
| | 1. a least little grain of gold. |
| c) The beggar thought that his evil days where at an end and | 4. he stood waiting for alms. |
| d) The beggar took a little grain of corn and | 2. gave it to the king of kings. |
| e) The beggar bitterly wept and | 3. wished he had the heart to give the king his all. |

Ans: a) v b) i c) iv d) ii e) iii

2. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words

a) How did the beggar feel when he saw the King of Kings? (2 lines)

Ans: When the beggar saw the King of Kings, his hopes rose high and he thought that his bad days had come to an end.

b) Why did the beggar weep bitterly? (2 lines)

Ans: The beggar wept bitterly for he wished that he had had the heart to give more because then he would have got more gold too.

3. Sequence the events as they take place in the poem.

- The king asked the beggar what he had that he could give him.
- The beggar had gone begging door to door.

- c) At the day's end, the beggar emptied the bag on the floor.
- d) 9 The beggar wished that he had had the heart to give the king all.
- e) A golden chariot appeared.
- f) The beggar found a little grain of gold.
- g) The beggar gave a little grain of corn.
- h) The beggar wept bitterly.
- i) The beggar stood waiting for alms.

Ans:

- 1 The beggar had gone begging door to door.
- 2 A golden chariot appeared.
- 3 The beggar stood waiting for alms.
- 4 The king asked the beggar what he had that he could give him.
- 5 The beggar gave a little grain of corn.
- 6 At the day's end, the beggar emptied the bag on the floor.
- 7 The beggar found a little grain of gold.
- 8 The beggar wept bitterly.
- 9 The beggar wished that he had had the heart to give the king all.

4. The beggar regretted his action at the end of the day. Why?

Ans: At the end of the day, when the beggar returned home and emptied his bag, to his amazement there was a very small grain of gold among his alms. He realised that the grain of gold was of the same size as that of the grain of corn that he had handed over to the King.

He regretted, thinking that, if he had been generous enough to hand over to the King all that he had, the King would have rewarded him tenfold. He also realised that it was none other than God himself in the disguise of the King. He had missed a golden opportunity to get away from his poverty only due to his selfishness. Hence, the beggar wept bitterly in dismay.