



Class 10th playlists

The central idea of the poem: -

(Teenager: age between 13 to 19)

Teenage or adolescence is a very important age in everyone's life because it decides the fate or the future of that person. If they go on the right path, it makes their life, as well as others, live better. But, if they go on the wrong path, it is very difficult to bring them back on the right path. Teenagers are always having, learning and a creative mind and a view with a lot of vigour and strength. They are always eager to do the things which may be new for them and in that eagerness sometimes they might go on the wrong path.

The poet tells that God can show him the proper way to the teenager.

(the God in the poem is the symbol of the person's inner mind or maybe his family or society, where he learns to differentiate the right or just things against the wrong things.

*Each day brings new beginnings,
Decisions I must make.
I am the only one to choose
The road that I will take.*

Here the poet speaks as if he is a teenager and wanted to tell the condition of the mind of a teenager. At the very delicate time of his life by saying...

I (the teenager) have new beginnings each and every day and new things to do,

He tells us that we have to make new decisions about whether they are easy or difficult ones, we ourselves to choose them firmly and we have to decide what way we are going to walk further.

I can choose to take the road of life,

That leads to great success

Or travel down the darkened road,

That leads to great distress.

Poet is just trying to tell us the dilemma of the teenager's mind, he(the teenager)has many things in front of him, he has to choose between the two- One path can lead him to the great success if he goes on the positive and right way with great thoughts.

And the other road can lead him to the great distress and gloominess in life.

Please open up my eyes dear Lord,

That I might clearly see

Help me stand for what is right,

Bring out the best in me.

Here the poet or the teenager requests God to make him the wise to see the things clearly without any partial thought or view to listen to his inner voice.

He just wants to get the help from God to walk on the right path or way *to be right* and *to do right*, as he wants to bring out the best from within.

Help Lord just say "no"

When Temptation comes my way,

That I might keep my body clean

And fit for life each day.

The teenager wants some strength and power to avoid the Temptation he doesn't want to become weaker in tempting situations. The temptation of the things which might take him to distress.

He wants help to be clean and strong physically as well as clean from within i.e. his body and soul by remaining away from tempting things or the bad things which are always there in a teenager's life

When my teenage years are over,

I know that I will see

That life is lived its very best

With you walking next to me.

When I will grow young leaving away from my teenage

I will be happy to know the life I lived in whatever age it is, it is the best with great things and great deeds of success. and I know it's only because of you(the God). Because you showed me the right way, path or road, to do the right and just things.

-J Morse



1.1 A Teenager's Prayer

Warming up!

Chit-Chat

1. Form groups of 5 to 6 and discuss. Give a rating of 1 to 5, to each of the following.

When you have to take important decisions what do you generally do?

- (a) Consult parents/elders
- (b) Contact friends for advice
- (c) Pray to God for guidance
- (d) Think deeply in silence
- (e) Ask your teacher for help
- (f) Toss a coin to decide

Ans: a) Consult parents/elders [2]

b) Contact friends for advice [4]

c) Pray to god for guidance [5]

d) Think deeply in silence [1]

e) Ask your teacher for help [3]

f) Toss a coin to decide [6]

2. In poetry, very often, there are lines in which the poet seems to talk directly to an absent person, an abstract idea or thing/object.

Such a tactic/device used by the poet is the Figure of Speech ‘Apostrophe’.

For example,

Twinkle, twinkle little star

Death! Where is thy sting?

O Cave man! I wish I could live with you.

Now, complete the following, creating examples of Apostrophe of your own.

(a) O, Life! How

(b) Dear God, Please

(c) Books! You are

(d) Exams! I wish

(e) O, You beautiful sky

Ans:1) O, Life! How **Strange are your ways?**

2) Dear God, please **keep me calm in my difficult days.**

3) Books! You are **my dear companions.**

4) Exams! I wish **you were never there, never!**

5) O, you beautiful sky **send all your beauty to the earth.**

Margin Questions:

◆ What is the age -
group of the speaker
in the poem?

Ans: The age group of the speaker in the poem is 13 to 19.

✦ What decisions does the speaker have to take?

Ans: 1) Choosing the right path of life lying before him,
2) Deciding if to choose the road that leads to success or to great distress.

✦ What does each new day fetch?

Ans: Each day fetches new beginning.

✦ How should one react to temptation?

Ans: The person should strictly say '**no to any temptation**' that comes in his way.

✦ What effect does the speaker wish to see in himself at the end of his teens?

Ans: The poet wishes the company of the God because, by the time his teenage years are over, he will know that the life he lived under the guidance and the help of the Almighty (God), was the best.

✦ In what condition does the poet wish to maintain his body?

Ans: The poet wishes to maintain his body and keep it clean fit each day, when temptation attracts him to do anything bad or wrong.

✦ Whose company does the poet wish for, in the walk of life?

Ans: The poet wishes the company of God, in the walk of life.

ENGLISH WORKSHOP

1. Choose the correct alternative and complete the given sentences.

- (a) According to the poet, are brought by each new day.
(new beginnings/new endings)

Ans: new beginnings.

- (b) We must decide to take the road which leads to
(great distress/great success)

Ans: great success.

(c) The poet prays to the Lord to help him stand for what is
(might/right)

Ans: right.

(d) The poet wants to see that his teenage years have been the years of
his life. (worst/best)

Ans:best.

2. Find and write the pairs of rhyming words from the poem.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5.

Ans:1) make -take , 2) success- distress,3) see - me, 4) way - day

3. What is the rhyme scheme of the poem? Choose the correct one from the following options.

(i) aabb (ii) abcd (iii) abcb (iv) abba

Ans:iii) abcb

4. Match the lines in Column A with the Figures of Speech in Column B.

Column 'A'	Column 'B'
(i) Decisions, I must make	(a) Apostrophe
(ii) Please open up my eyes, dear Lord	(b) Inversion
(iii) Travel down the darkened road	(c) Metaphor
(iv) I can choose to take the road of life	(d) Alliteration

Ans:

Column A

- 1. Decisions, I must make
- 2. Please open up my eyes, dear Lord
- 3. Travel down the darkened road
- 4. I can choose to take the road of life

Column B

- **Inversion**
- **Apostrophe**
- **Alliteration**
- **Metaphor**

5. Elements of Planning An Interview : (Group Activity)

Form groups and discuss each element of planning an interview and prepare notes on each element.

Format - Structure
Size/Length - How much
Do's and Dont's - Rules and Regulations
Type of Questions - Yes/No questions or Wh Type.

- Ans:**
- i. **Format –**
 - a. **Introductory Questions**
 - b. **Probing Questions**
 - c. **Conclusive Questions – message, future plans, etc.**
 - ii. **Size / Length –**
 - a. **Around eight to ten questions should be planned.**
 - iii. **Do's and Don'ts –**
 - a. **Do not ask personal questions.**
 - b. **Do not ask close ended i.e. yes – no questions.**
 - c. **Research on the topic / the individual to be interviewed, beforehand.**

- d. Ask about the aspects related to the topic or profession and make use of Wh-questions to have a free flowing conversation.
- iv. Type of Questions – Preferably ask questions that will yield qualitative information. Avoid questions that give Yes / No answers unless it is added on to another question that would ask for details.

7. Read the poem. Write an appreciation of the poem in about 12 to 15 sentences with the help of the following points.

Ans:1) Title: The title of the poem is 'A Teenager's Prayer,'

2) Poet: The poet of the poem is J. Morse.

3) Figure of speech: Apostrophe, Inversion, Metaphor.

4) Rhyme scheme: 'abcb.'

5) Theme/ Central Idea: The theme of the poem is a teenager's dilemma about making the right decisions. The responsibility of the choice falls fully on him/her. A wrong decision may ruin the whole life. Hence the teenager in the poem prays to god for His help and guidance.

9. Look around in your vicinity - your family, friends, neighbours, classmates, etc. and write about any four teenagers who have made a name for themselves by doing something extraordinary.

Teenager Group	Name/s	Special/extraordinary tasks/things performed
1. Family		
2. Friends		
3. Neighbours		
4. Classmates		

Ans:

	Teenager Group	Name	Special / extraordinary tasks / things performed / done
(1)	Family	Vishal	Healthy young boy-body-building was his passion-trained-hard work-took part in various competitions-became 'Mumbai Shree' at the age of 20-opened his own Gym-trained many body-builders-they won many titles-became rich and famous.
(2)	Friends	Meera	Disabled-lost a leg in an accident-prosthetic leg at the age of 15-she excelled in studies-after graduation she appeared for Maharashtra Public Service Commission exams-passed at first attempt-ranked 5th among all-became Tehsildar-worked for common man-all people loved and admired her administration.
(3)	Neighbours	Yashraj	Special child-born blind-inclined to music since childhood-distressful life-did not give up-used to listen to songs on transistor and TV.-practised-learnt harmonium, guitar, <i>tabla</i> , etc.-sang classical songs-mastered every type of music-arranged many concerts-today he is a famous music director at the age of 30.

(4)	Classmates	Jacob	Wealthy family-were in big business-father wanted him to get into business-but he wanted to change the face of villages-adopted some backward villages-worked selflessly with the poor and needy people-with great patience, perseverance and sacrifice did his noble work-brought transformation in their life-improved their overall quality of life-he is respected as God by the villagers.
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