

Test Paper on 1.3 Basketful of Moonlight

1.3 Basketful of Moonlight

O moon, give me moonlight, basketful or two baskets full, with seeds of moonlight. From the city to my village, on the sides of the path I want to sow many, small, small moons of light. The whole village goes to the city daily to work. It becomes dark on its way back as my village is guite far. The route is tough and full of snakes and scorpions. Neither bus nor cart plies. When my father returns home I am asleep. And he goes back early in the morning while I am sleeping. O moon give me a basketful of moonlight on loan. I want to light the dark route so that my father returns early. I too want to hear fairy tales and stories from him. O moon, give me a basketful of moonlight. I want to sow seeds of moon on the sides of the path. - Sunil Sharma (Translated from Dogri)

Q. 1. Read the extract and do the activities:

A1. Simple Factual Activity:

Complete the following lines with the help of the poem:

(Answers are directly given and underlined.)

1. The child wants to sow moons of light from

Ans: The child wants to sow moons of light from the city to his village on the sides of the path.

1. According to the child, the route of his village is tough and full

Ans: According to the child, the route of his village is tough and full of snakes and scorpions.

1. The poet wants to sow many

Ans: The poet wants to sow many small, small moons of light.

1. The whole village goes to the city daily

Ans: The whole village goes to the city daily to work.

1. It becomes dark on its way back as

Ans: It becomes dark on its way back as his village is quite far.

1. When the poet's father returns home

Ans: When the poet's father returns home, he is asleep.

1. The child wants a basketful of moonlight

Ans: The child wants a basketful of moonlight on loan.

1. The child wants to light the dark route so that

Ans: The child wants to light the dark route so that his father returns early.

A2. Complex Factual Activities:

1. What does the poet wish to get from the moon and why?

Ans. The poet wishes to get a basketful or two baskets of moonlight from the moon so that he can sow the seeds of moonlight to light the dark path from the city to his village.

1. Why is the road from the city to the village dangerous?

Ans. The road from the city to the village is dangerous because it is dark, tough, and full of snakes and scorpions.

1. Pick out and write the lines from the poem that prove the following:

(a) Father reaches home late, after dark.

Ans. When my father returns home, I am asleep.

(b) The path from the city to the village is having many difficulties.

Ans. The route is tough and full of snakes and scorpions.

1. What does deliberate repetition of lines 'O moon, give me moonlight, basketful of moonlight' signify?

Ans. The repeated lines show the child's strong wish to light the dark path from the city to his village with moonlight. They show that the child is nervously asking the moon again and again for a basket of moonlight. This highlights his eagerness to help his villagers by lighting up the dark paths.

1. Tell what is implied in the following lines:

``I want to light the dark route so that my father returns early."

OR

Complete the web:

The poet wants to light the

dark route because.....

Ans:

- $\circ\,$ (i) He wants his father to return home early.
- $\circ\,$ (ii) His father goes early in the morning while he is sleeping.
- $\circ\,$ (iii) The poet wants him to be with his father at night.
- $\circ\,$ (iv) He wants to hear fairy tales and stories from his father before he sleeps.

1. Pick out and write the lines from the poem that prove the following:

• (a) Eager to hear fairy tales from his father.

Ans. I too want to hear fairy tales and stories from him.

• (b) Remove darkness and bring light among the darker paths.

Ans. I want to light the dark route so that my father returns early.

A3. Activities based on Poetic Devices:

- 1. Pick out the examples of alliteration and repetition:
 - Alliteration: "O moon, give me moonlight, basketful or two baskets full,"
 - *Repetition:* "I want to sow many, small small moons of light,"
- 2. Write rhyming words for the following from the extract:
 - $\circ\,$ (i) Pack Back
 - $\circ\,$ (ii) Deeds Seeds
 - (iii) Any Many
 - (iv) Pity City

3. Pick out the examples of alliteration and repetition:

Ans.

- Alliteration:
 - $\circ\,$ (i) O moon, give me a basketful of moonlight on loan.
 - $\circ\,$ (ii) I want to sow seeds of moon on the sides of the path.
- **Repetition:** No repetition in these stanzas.
- 1. Give your own rhyming words for the following:
 - (i) dark park
 - (ii) sow bow

Appreciation of Poem

- 1. Title: The title of the poem is 'Basketful of Moonlight.'
- 2. The name of the Poet: The name of the poet is Sunil Sharma.
- 3. Rhyme Scheme: There is no rhyme scheme in this poem. This poem is in 'free verse.'
- 4. Figure of Speech: Repetition, alliteration, apostrophe.
- 5. **Theme/Central Idea:** The main idea of the poem is about a lonely child in a remote village without modern comforts. The child is so far from city life that his way of helping his villagers seems very simple and innocent..