



RAISINA BENGALI SCHOOL, MANDIR MARG, NEW DELHI-110001

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

CLASS: XB

EXPLANATION &ASSIGNMENT

Book: First Flight

POEM: A TIGER IN THE ZOO

A TIGER IN THE ZOO

- To enable the students to understand the importance of freedom.
- To enable the students to understand the dangers of deforestation and blessings of forestation.
- To enable the students to understand that all animals will be happy only in their natural habitat.
- To enable the students to understand the responsibility of present generation in preserving the environment and earth.

• To enable the students to learn to recite poem with proper intonation and rhythm.

new words

Strips: long narrow bands

The tiger has black strips on his body on the yellow

background.

Lurking: lying hidden in order to attack

The cat is lurking in the grass to attack the rabbit

Sliding: moving very slowly

The jackal is sliding through the grass in search of

food.

Plump: fat

Plump body of the deer attracts the tiger very easily.

Fangs: long sharp teeth

The tiger has his terrifying fangs. Tiger's fangs are sharp and big.

Key points

- This poem contrasts a tiger when it is in its natural habitat and when it is imprisoned in a zoo.
- On a starry night, the poet sees a tiger in a zoo.
- The tiger moves slowly up and down in his cage
- The tiger is full of rage but is quiet in his helplessness.
- The poet is moved to pity for the tiger
- The poet says that the tiger should have been in the jungle...
- But sadly the tiger is locked behind bars in a concrete cell

- The tiger does not take any notice of the visitors
- The tiger is no longer free to move in his natural habitat

Explanation of stanza 1

The tiger moves up and down of his cage. The stripes on his body are of strong bright colour. The tiger moves quietly on his velvet pads. He is full of rage but is quiet. (because he knows that he is helpless here.)

Explanation of stanza 2

Looking at the imprisoned tiger, the poet is filled with pity. He says that the poor tiger should have been in his natural habitat. Then at this point of the night ,he would have been lying in the shadows of trees and sliding quietly through the long grass. There, near the water hole, he would be waiting for some fat deer to pass that way. Thus he would be lying there in expectation of a heavy feast.

Explanation of stanza 3

Here the poet imagines what the tiger would be doing in case he failed to find any prey in his natural habitat. He says that the tiger would be growling at the edge of jungle near some village. He would be showing his white fangs and claws while moving here and there. He would thus become a cause of terror for the villagers. The poetess here gives a hint that if we destroy the natural habitat of tigers, they will be forced to turn to our towns and villages to find their food.

Explanation of stanza 4

The poet sees the tiger logged in a concrete cell in the zoo. In spite of all his strength, he now lies imprisoned behind the bars. Very slowly and silently, he moves up and down along the length of the cage. He takes no note of the visitors who come to the zoo to have a look at him.

Explanation of stanza 5

The tiger knows no rest during the day because of the visitors. Even at night he remains disturbed due to the noise of the patrolling cars. He keeps staring at the brilliant stars with his brilliant eyes. Perhaps he is asking heaven why he has been imprisoned there.

Summary

This poem contrasts a tiger when it is in its natural habitat and when it is imprisoned in a zoo. On a starry night, the poet sees a tiger in a zoo. The tiger moves slowly up and down in his cage. He is full of rage but is quiet in his helplessness. The poet is moved to pity for the tiger. He says that the tiger should have been in the jungle.

He should have been moving quietly in the shadows near some water hole, and waiting for a plump deer to pass that way. But sadly he is locked behind bars in a concrete cell. He does not take any notice of the visitors and is looking at the brilliant stars with his brilliant eyes. Now he has to be content with merely looking at the stars .He is no longer free to move in his natural habitat and look at the brilliant stars from there .

Thanks to the source https://youtu.be/WxXnF1JguV0



WRITE THE SUMMARY WITH STANZA WISE EXPLANATION