

Class - VII

Subject → English literature



Chapter - 4

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A Sea of Foliage

by - Toru Dutt

About poet :-

Toru Dutt (4th March 1856 - 30th August 1877) was a Bengali translator and poet from the Indian subcontinent, who wrote in English and French, in what was then British India. Her poetry is characterized by sensitive descriptions and lyricism. Her poems revolve around themes of loneliness, longing, patriotism and nostalgia. Dutt died young, at age 21, which has influenced some comparison of her to the poet John Keats.

Summary :-

In this poem Toru Dutt compares the greenery surrounding her family's garden with the sea. She goes on to say that while the sea has an unchanging green colour, her garden is filled with different and exciting shades of green. The light green of the tamarind trees, the deep green of the mango grove, the grey green of the stately palms. A contrast is found in the brilliant red of the flowers of the Seemul tree which takes one by surprise like Sweden's shrill sound of the trumpet.

She says that the loveliest however are the lines of bamboo trees, growing towards the eastern side of the garden when the moon shines through the bamboo trees and when

The white lotus looks like a silver cup, the scene is a ~~se~~ enchanting that one might almost faint, intoxicated by its beauty or gaze in wonder at what looks like the Garden of Eden, the first garden created by God for Adam and Eve.

Write word meanings whatever given in your book.

Practise.
Comprehension

A. Answer these questions with reference to the context.

1. A sea of foliage girds our garden round,
But not a sea of dull unvaried green,
Sharp contrasts of all colours here are seen;

a) Why does the poet use the word 'sea'?

Ans) The poet uses the word ~~se~~ 'sea' because he compares the greenery surrounding her family's garden with 'sea'.

b. What does the 'contrasts of all colours' mean here?

Ans) The contrasts of all colours mean here that in her garden one could see sharp contrasts of all colours like red, light-green, dark green etc.

c. What does the poet call 'green'?

Ans) The poet calls 'green' that her garden



is filled with different and exciting shades of green.

~~Start~~ Above all the subject matter write in your notebook.

Student's work:-

Answer these questions with reference to the content.

Q 2 and Q 3.

B. Answer these questions:-

Q 1. Where does the foliage grow in the garden?

Ans → The foliage grows in the garden around her family bungalow. She tells us that her garden appeared like a 'sea of foliage'.

Q 2. Where do the tamarinds grow?

Ans → The tamarinds grow abundantly among the mango clumps of green.

Q 3. Where are the palms to be found? How are they different from fruit trees?

Ans. The palms are to be found in between the tamarind and mango trees. They are different from fruit trees because palms are arise sky high like gray pillars.

Q 4. Which colours are mentioned by the poet? Where are they to be found in the garden?

Ans The poet ~~has~~ mentioned different and

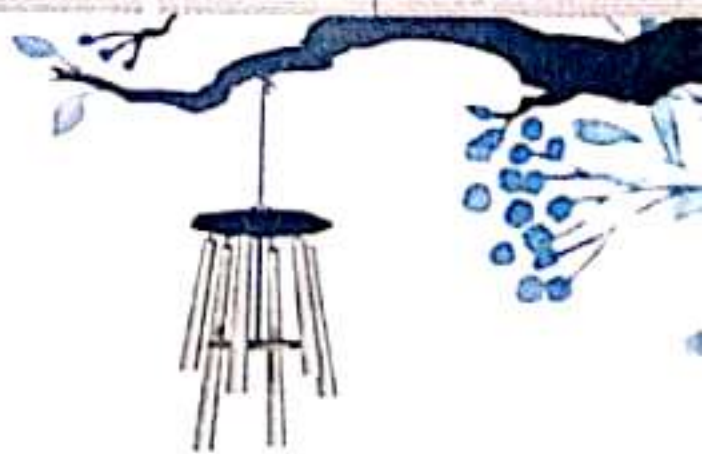
exciting shades of green and brilliant red colour. They are to be found in the eastern side of her garden.

Q5 What fascinates the poet the most and why?

Ans The poet fascinates the most with the bamboos ranges because when the moon peeps through their gaps. In the moon-light, the white lotus transforms itself into a cup of silver. That scene is so enchanting that one might almost faint intoxicated by beauty or say in wonder at what looks like Garden of Eden, the first garden by God for Adam and Eve.

Write Q/A in your notebook and learn.

4 A Sea of Foliage



Vocabulary

rhyming words; word grid

A. Here are some words from the poem 'A Sea of Foliage'. Write words from the poem that rhyme with these words.

1. round:abound, sound.....
2. green:seen, lean.....
3. ranges:changes.....
4. moon:Swoon.....
5. gaze:amaze.....

A. Fill in these blanks with relative, emphatic, reflexive and reciprocal pronouns.

1. My father is known as someone *who* buys a lot of books.
2. Did you make this curry ... *yourself* ?
3. At Karan and Sunaina's wedding, they gave rings to ... *each other*
4. She bought ... *herself* a pair of new heels.
5. The boys completed the project by ... *themselves*
6. Learning the formula is something *that* can help you solve any problem.
7. I will carry the bags ... *myself*, please don't worry!
8. This hot weather is the reason *that* I don't usually visit Delhi in April.
9. Marth and Susan helped ... *each other*
10. If people were kinder to ... *one another* ... this world might be a better place.

B. Rewrite these sentences using the correct pronouns.

1. I herself made this apple pie.
She herself made this apple pie.
2. Rahul, who I had given my book, is absent today.
Rahul, who himself had given my book, is absent today.
3. My mother is the person which helped me to finish my homework.
My mother is the person who helped me to finish my homework.
4. I was angry at I for not doing my best for maths test.
I was angry at myself for not doing my best for maths test.
5. The potatoes, who I bought yesterday, have gone bad.
The potatoes, which I bought yesterday, have gone bad.