



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: Grade 8	Department: ENGLISH	Date of submission: May 2021
Worksheet No: 7	Topic: Harvest Hymn By- Sarojini Naidu	Note: English Notebook/Reference Material

I. Fill in the blanks with information from the poem.

1. The lord of the harvest is _____.
2. Surya is worshipped with golden things because _____.
3. Varuna is responsible for _____.
4. The women praise Prithvi because _____.
5. The singers honour the three Gods who give them the harvest by _____.
6. The queen of the harvest is _____.
7. Farmers praise Lord Surya with _____ and _____.
8. The sender of rain and dewfall is _____.
9. The giver of mellowing radiance is _____.
10. The lord of the morn is _____.



Answers:

1. Lord Surya
2. Its rays are golden
3. rainfall and dew
4. she symbolizes fertility and fruitfulness
5. the means of sunlight, rain and soil
6. Goddess Prithvi
7. cymbal and flute
8. Lord Varuna
9. Lord Surya
10. Lord Surya

II. Match these words with their opposites.

<u>WORD</u>	<u>OPPOSITE</u>
1. nurture	a. curse
2. bounty	b. dull
3. prosper	c. blame
4. bright	d. languish
5. beneficent	e. debt
6. riches	f. neglect
7. praise	g. malicious
8. foster	h. few
9. garner	i. neglect
10. manifold	j. disperse

Answer:

<u>WORD</u>	<u>OPPOSITE</u>
1 nurture	neglect
2 bounty	curse
3 prosper	languish
4 bright	dull
5 beneficent	malicious
6 riches	debt
7 praise	Blame
8 foster	neglect
9 garner	disperse
10 manifold	few

III. Find two synonyms for each word

1. opulent
2. cherished
3. manifold
4. munificent
5. tribute
6. beneficent
7. hail
8. harvest
9. worship
10. praise

Answer:

1	opulent	affluent	sumptuous
2	cherished	adore	appreciate
3	manifold	myriad	abundant
4	munificent	generous	lavish

5	tribute	accolade	homage
6	beneficent	bountiful	humane
7	hail	acclaim	honour
8	harvest	reap	garner
9	worship	reverence	laud
10	praise	commend	applaud

IV. Answer the following questions (in one or two sentences)

1. Why do the farmers thank the various gods?

Answer: The farmers thank the various gods for blessing them with a rich harvest.

2. Which God prospered the sowing of the farmers and how?

Answer: Lord Surya prospered the sowing of the farmers with his warm sunlight which helped the crops to ripe.

3. Which God’s mercy do the farmers seek and why?

Answer: The farmers seek for Lord Varuna’s mercy because he is the sender of rainfall and the crops wouldn’t ripe until it gets enough water.

V. Answer the following questions in not more than one paragraph.

1. Comment on the theme of the poem, “Harvest Hymn”.

Answer: The poem ‘Harvest Hymn’ is a hymn of adoration and thanks giving to three great deities responsible for a rich harvest. The poem shows a group of men and women who praise various Gods with a beautiful hymn. They offer their harvest to the Gods because they are obliged by the God’s help. They realise and appreciate the help provided by various Gods and Goddesses. Thus, they sing hymn for them and offer them their produce.

2. “We owe a debt to nature”, give reasons for your answer.

Answer: We owe a debt to nature because everything that humans use is directly or indirectly provided by nature.

3. How does Lord Surya help the farmers?

Answer: Lord Surya is the giver of sunshine which helps the crops to ripe. He is the one who helps the crops to grow with his warmth and bright sunrays.

4. Lord Varuna fostered and cherished the sowings of the farmers, briefly explain how?

Answer: Lord Varuna fostered and cherished the sowings of the farmers by providing them rainfall and dewfall. He is the God of rain and water, it is his help which provides water to the crops sown by the farmers. Without his help and mercy, the crops would dry and die. Therefore, it is Lord Varuna who fostered and cherished the farmers’ sowings.

5. How important do you think are farmers for us?

Answer: Individual Answer/ Answer in your own words.

VI. Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow

1. *“Lord of the rainbow, lord of the harvest,
Great and beneficent lord of the main!
Thine is the mercy that cherished our furrows,
Thine is the mercy that fostered our grain.”*

(a) Which God is addressed in the above extract?

Answer: Lord Varuna is addressed in the above extract.

(b) What do you mean by main in the above extract?

Answer: With reference to the poem, main means water or sea.

(c) How does the God show his mercy?

Answer: God shows his mercy by providing rainfall to the farmers at the right time and in the right amount for the crops to grow.

(d) How do the farmers praise the God addressed in the extract?

Answer: The farmers praise Lord Varuna by addressing him as a kind lord who provides them water for their crops. They offer tribute to Lord Varuna with garlands and the produce of their fields which are fresh and ripe. They praise him with cymbal and pipe which are musical instruments.

2. *“Lord of the Lotus, lord of the harvest,
Bright and munificent lord of the morn!
Thine is the bounty that prospered our sowing,
Thine is the bounty that nurtured our corn.”*

(a) Which God is addressed in the above extract?

Answer: Lord Surya is addressed in the above extract.

(b) What do you mean by the word morn in the above extract?

Answer: According to the poem, morn means morning.

(c) What do the farmers offer the God as tribute?

Answer: The farmers offer Lord Surya the best of their crops and the best of their fruits along with their beautiful songs and garlands.

(d) How the God prospered the farmer’s sowing?

Answer: Lord Surya has prospered the farmer's sowing by providing them sunlight which is very important for the crops to grow healthy and it is important for the crops to ripe.

**3. "Queen of the gourd flower, queen of the harvest,
Sweet and omnipotent mother, O Earth!
Thine is the plentiful bosom that feeds us,
Thine is the womb where our riches have birth."**

(a) Why Mother Earth is called the queen of the harvest?

Answer: Mother Earth is a Goddess and a very important means to grow crops. Therefore, the farmers address her as the queen of the harvest.

(b) What is offered to the Goddess as tribute by the farmers?

Answer: The farmers offer Goddess Prithvi the rich and varied crops which they had produced with her help and blessings. They also offer her their love along with garlands.

(c) What are the various gifts provided by Goddess Earth?

Answer: The various gifts are plethora of riches, resources and crops that are produced by the farmers with the help of Goddess Earth on her surface.

(d) Why is she called the source of manifold gladness?

Answer: Goddess Prithvi is called the source of manifold gladness because she provides land to the farmers and other natural resources which the farmers use to produce different kinds of food grains, vegetables and fruits. Therefore, the farmers address her as the giver of all the different types of agricultural products.

VII. Answer the following questions by choosing the correct options.

1. Who is the author of the poem?

- A. R K Narayan
- B. Ruskin Bond
- C. Sarojini Naidu
- D. Leo Tolstoy

2. 'O giver of mellowing radiance, we hail thee'

Who is the giver of mellowing radiance?

- A. Prithvi
- B. Surya
- C. Varuna
- D. None of the above

