



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of submission: December 2021
Worksheet No: 23	Topic: CAGED BIRD (POEM)	Note: to be done in the notebook

Q1. Unscramble these words using the meaning hints (This will be part of your word bank):

rttil- a repeated short high sound

smdorwenat- in the direction in which a stream or river flows.

Hisggin-emit a long, deep audible breath expressing sadness, relief, tiredness, or similar.

mgnihaert-a frightening or unpleasant dream

meeofrd-the power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants.

Q 2. Answer the following questions

1. What does the phrase 'his bars of rage' imply?

The phrase 'his bars of rage' implies that the bars instill anger in the caged bird.

2. How has the poetess brought out the theme by juxtaposing the free and the caged birds?

The free bird is free to do anything, on the other hand, the caged bird's aspirations are as trapped as himself.

3. Explain the expression 'a fearful trill'?

'A fearful trill' refers to the soft, sweet, high-pitched sound a bird makes when it is nervous.

4. What does the caged bird sing of and why?

The caged bird sings of freedom because he longs for it.

5. Who do you think the 'free bird' and the 'caged bird' represent?

The 'caged bird' represents the African Americans who were oppressed mindlessly by the white people who are the 'free birds'.

Q3. Reference to Context

1. *The free bird thinks of another breeze*

and the trade winds soft through the sighing trees

and the fat worms waiting on a dawn bright lawn

and he names the sky his own.

a. *What is the 'free bird' free to think?*

Ans: The free bird is free to think about anything. Nobody and nothing dictate its thoughts.

b. *What does he feed on?*

The free bird feasts on fat worms.

c. *What does the poetess imply by 'he names the sky his own'?*

By saying 'he names the sky his own' Maya Angelou means that the bird owns the sky, he is that free.

2. *But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams*

his shadow shouts on a nightmare scream

his wings are clipped and his feet are tied

so, he opens his throat to sing.

a. What does the phrase 'the grave of dreams' imply?

The phrase 'the grave of dreams' implies that the caged bird's dreams have died within the cage.

b. What do you think a caged bird can't do with his wings clipped?

With his wings clipped a caged bird can no longer fly.

c. Why does he start singing?

He sings because he cannot fly and needs to give vent to his frustrations.

TASK: Practice your MCQ's on the topic through the following Quiz:

<https://quizizz.com/admin/quiz/5ee653f5b77fa6001cd6249b/caged-bird>

2. 'Just living is not enough.... One must have sunshine, freedom and a little flower.'- Hans Christian Andersen

Comment on the importance of freedom in light of the above statement.