

## PENCIL

## Poem 2

*My daughter  
Little dear daughter  
Lights a pencil  
With a sharpener.  
The sky of the white paper  
Begins to be filled with light.  
The black bird flying away with the tree;  
Glasses on the eyes of the peacock;  
The fire chariot flying in the air;  
The airplane walking on the road;  
The lion having a conversation with the cow;  
A one-eyed sun on the black tree  
With a patch of cloud over it;  
A blue fish flying on the forehead of the cloud;  
The yellow butterfly swimming in the waterfall.*

*My darling daughter,  
In her ecstasy  
Is busy drawing  
Strange pictures.  
But when the schoolmaster  
Gives her homework,  
My darling doll  
Breaks the tip of the pencil  
In anger,  
And the candle of the pencil  
Is extinguished.  
Only the smoke remains  
On the sky of the white paper.*

**-Jayant Parmar**  
Translated by Baidar Bakht

## Glossary

**glasses** spectacles **patch** a piece of cloth used as decoration or to mend or cover a hole, धब्बा  
**forehead** the part of the face above the eyes **extinguished** put out, as of fires, flames, or lights

## Comprehension

**C.1 (a)** The little girl draws nine imaginary pictures. Which one do you like most? Draw any three pictures in the space beside the printed poem.

**(b)** What is meant by 'only the smoke remains on the white paper.'?

**C.2** Find out the antonyms of these from the poem.

Black: \_\_\_\_\_ Darkness: \_\_\_\_\_ Emptied: \_\_\_\_\_

Kindled: \_\_\_\_\_ Drowning: \_\_\_\_\_ Takes: \_\_\_\_\_

**C.3 Answer these questions in brief.**

1. When does the sky of the white paper begin to be filled?
2. Do you think that the peacock drawn by the girl is strange? Why?
3. Where is the fish flying?
4. Why does the little girl get angry?
5. How does the angry girl react?

**C.4 Tick mark True(T) or False(F). If False, correct the false part.**

1. The fish travels through the forehead of the cloud. \_\_\_\_\_ 

T	F
---	---
2. The girl is busy sharpening her pencil. \_\_\_\_\_ 

T	F
---	---
3. The girl hates doing the home work given by the teacher. \_\_\_\_\_ 

T	F
---	---
4. The aeroplane is flying through the clouds. \_\_\_\_\_ 

T	F
---	---
5. The poet loves his daughter very much. \_\_\_\_\_ 

T	F
---	---
6. The lion is talking to the girl. \_\_\_\_\_ 

T	F
---	---
7. The girl enjoys drawing the pictures. \_\_\_\_\_ 

T	F
---	---
8. The girl smashes the point of the pencil. \_\_\_\_\_ 

T	F
---	---
9. The sun doesn't have any patch of clouds over it. \_\_\_\_\_ 

T	F
---	---
10. The girl feels happy in making the picture of the animals only. \_\_\_\_\_ 

T	F
---	---

**C.5 Imagine that you have again become very young (5 to 8 years). What type of pictures would you draw on the 'sky of white paper'? Describe any three imaginary pictures. Then draw and colour them.**

\*