

# Chapter 1: The Pilgrim

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## **WARMING UP [PAGE 12]**

### **Warming up | Q 1 (a) | Page 12**

#### **Make groups and discuss the following:**

What fatal dangers/problems did mankind face centuries ago, but are no longer a threat today?

## **SOLUTION**

wild animals - lack of food - certain diseases - climate, etc.

### **Warming up | Q 1. (b) | Page 12**

#### **Make groups and discuss the following:**

Name a few scientists/explorers/social reformers/inventors/discoverers, who spent most of their lives to find solutions to some major problems/setbacks, that mankind faced.

## **SOLUTION**

Alexander Fleming, Edison, Ronald Ross, Christopher Columbus, Wright brothers, Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Galileo, Marie Curie, Savitribai Phule, Babasaheb Ambedkar, etc.

### **Warming up | Q 1. (c) | Page 12**

#### **Make groups and discuss the following:**

Did they themselves suffer from those problems/setbacks?

## **SOLUTION**

most did not

### **Warming up | Q 1. (d) | Page 12**

#### **Make groups and discuss the following:**

What inspired them to spend the best part of their lives to research and share their findings?

## **SOLUTION**

A passion for the well-being of mankind - personal goals and aims - interest in the subject - curiosity - the urge to improve society and help others – etc.

### **Warming up | Q 2. (A) | Page 12**

#### **Explain the figure of speech tautology with example.**

## **SOLUTION**

If two or more words in the same line convey the same meaning, the Figure of Speech in that line is called **Tautology**.

For example, It brought joy and cheer.  
They groaned with aches and pains.

**Warming up | Q 2. (B) | Page 12**

Explain the figure of speech inversion and anastrophe with example.

**SOLUTION**

Poets often change the proper grammatical order of words in the line of a poem, in order to make the lines rhyme or to emphasize upon something.

The Figure of Speech in such lines is called 'Inversion' or 'Anastrophe.'

For example, Up came the sun. Down the hill, it flowed.

**Warming up | Q 2. (C) | Page 12**

Explain the figure of speech Interrogation/Rhetorical with example.

**SOLUTION**

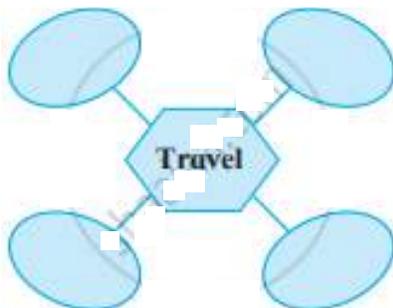
When a question is asked in order to create a dramatic effect and not to get an answer, in a line of the poem, the Figure of Speech used is called Interrogation/Rhetorical.

For example: What is this life, if full of care? When can their glory fade?

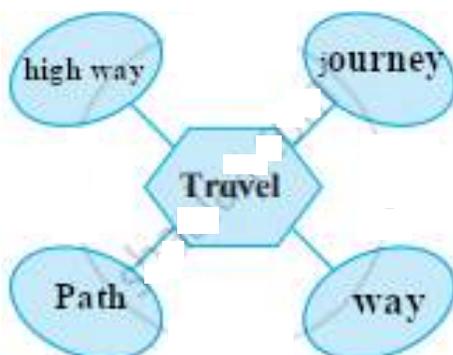
**ENGLISH WORKSHOP [PAGES 14 - 15]**

**English workshop | Q 1.1 | Page 14**

Pick out words from the poem to fill in the web diagram. They should be related to the theme in the web.

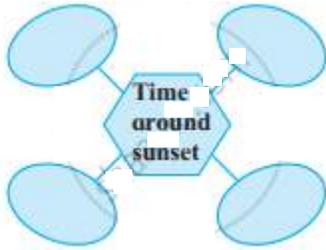


**SOLUTION**

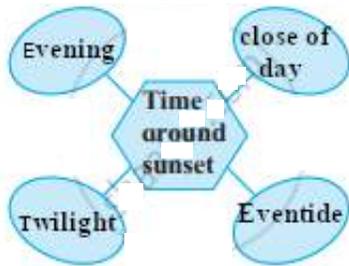


**English workshop | Q 1.2 | Page 14**

Pick out words from the poem to fill in the web diagram. They should be related to the theme in the web.



**SOLUTION**



**English workshop | Q 2 | Page 14**

Match the words in Column A with what they imply in Column B

Column A	Column B
pilgrim	threat to life
journey	trap
evening or close of day	life
chasm, deep and wide	death
building a bridge	old age
pitfall	a dutiful man
close of day	solving the problem/getting rid of the threat to life

**SOLUTION**

Column A	Column B
pilgrim	a dutiful man
journey	life
evening or close of day	old age

chasm, deep and wide	a threat to life
building a bridge	solving a problem I getting rid of a threat to life
pitfall	trap
close of day	death

### English workshop | Q 3. (A) | Page 15

Read the poem and write 3 qualities of each of the following.

1. The old pilgrim
2. The fellow - pilgrim
3. The young pilgrim

#### **SOLUTION**

##### **1. The old pilgrim**

- i. Old
- ii. Experienced
- iii. Helpful

##### **2. The fellow - pilgrim**

- i. Curious
- ii. Puzzled
- iii. Thoughtless

##### **3. The young pilgrim**

- i. Young
- ii. Frightened
- iii. Inexperienced

### English workshop | Q 3. (B)(a) | Page 15

Answer in your own words.

Why did the old man have no need to build the bridge, across the chasm?

#### **SOLUTION**

The old pilgrim had already crossed the chasm and would never pass that way again. Hence, the old man had no need to build the bridge across the chasm.

### English workshop | Q 3. (B)(b) | Page 15

Answer in your own words.

What explanation did he give to the fellow- pilgrim for his thoughtful deed?

#### **SOLUTION**

The old man said that though he had already crossed the chasm, there was a fair-haired youth who was about to pass that way. The old man was experienced and was

not afraid of the chasm. However, the young man was Inexperienced and the chasm could prove to be a pitfall for him. He too had to cross it at twilight, and the old man was building a bridge to help this youth.

### English workshop | Q 3. (B) (c) | Page 15

**Answer in your own words.**

What message does the poem convey to all of us?

#### **SOLUTION**

The message that the poem conveys to us is that we must be generous and unselfish and think of others. We must try to help others who are not as experienced as we are.

### English workshop | Q 4. (A) | Page 15

**Write the Rhyming word and Scheme of the 1<sup>st</sup> stanza.**

A pilgrim, going a lone high way  
Came at evening, cold and gray  
To a chasm, deep and vast and wide.  
The old man crossed in the twilight dim.  
The chasm held no fear for him.  
But he paused when he reached the other side  
And built a bridge to span the tide.

#### **SOLUTION**

**Rhyming word** = way - gray/wide-side- tide/dim -him.

AABCCBB is called the Rhyme Scheme of the 1<sup>st</sup> stanza of the poem 'The Pilgrim'.

### English workshop | Q 4. (B) | Page 15

**Write the Rhyming word and Scheme of the 2<sup>nd</sup> stanza.**

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,  
"Why waste your time in building here?  
Your journey ends with the close of the day  
You never again will pass this way.  
You have crossed the chasm deep and wide  
Why build ye here at even tide?"

#### **SOLUTION**

**Rhyming word** = near-here/day-way/Wide-Tide.

AABBCC is called the Rhyme Scheme of the 2<sup>nd</sup> stanza of the poem 'The Pilgrim'.

### English workshop | Q 4. (B) | Page 15

**Write the Rhyming word and Scheme of the 3<sup>rd</sup> stanza.**

The pilgrim raised his old gray head,  
"My friend in the path I've come," he said, "There followeth after me today  
A fair haired youth, who must pass this way. The chasm which held no fears for me  
To the fair haired youth, may a pitfall be.  
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim.  
My friend, I am building this bridge for him."

## SOLUTION

**Rhyming words** = head-said/Today-way/me-be/dim-him.

AABBCCDD is called the Rhyme Scheme of the 3<sup>rd</sup> stanza of the poem 'The Pilgrim'.

## English workshop | Q 4. (C) | Page 15

Find two lines that contain Inversion.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

## SOLUTION

1. Came at the evening, cold and gray, To a chasm, deep and vast and wide.  
(The correct prose order is: Came on a cold and gray evening to a deep and wide and vast chasm.)
2. To the fair-haired youth, may a pitfall be (The correct prose order is: To the fair-haired youth, it may be a pitfall.)

## English workshop | Q 4. (C) | Page 15

**Pick out one line each that contains the following Figures of Speech.**

- a. Tautology :
- b. Personification :
- c. Interrogation :

## SOLUTION

1. **Tautology**: To a chasm, deep and vast and wide. The words vast and wide have a similar meaning.
2. **Personification**: A pilgrim, going a lone highway. The highway is given the human quality of being lonely.
3. **Interrogation**: Why waste your time in building here? A question is asked to emphasize an idea.

## English workshop | Q 5 | Page 15

Imagine that you are the fellow - pilgrim and you wish to share your experience of the incident in the poem.

Write a short article about it for a magazine/journal. Also, convey what change it has brought in your life.

## SOLUTION

### THE TURNING POINT

There are certain incidents in one's life which have an impact on a person and prove to be a turning point in their lives. Let me narrate the incident which shook me awake.

I was on a hike in some hilly places when I had to cross a deep ravine which had a gushing river flowing through it. I managed to cross without any difficulty; to my surprise, an old man ahead of me also crossed it nimbly. As I was about to continue on my way, I saw the old man turn back and build a rough bridge across the water. It took a lot of effort and I stood by wondering. Finally, I asked him, "Sir, it is late evening and you are not likely to cross this way again. Why are you building a bridge now?"

The old man's answer floored me. "You confused child," he said with a smile. "I have completed my journey - true. But behind me is a young boy who is inexperienced. He will soon reach this chasm, and he may have difficulty in crossing it. I am building this bridge to help him."

I stood still, amazed at the generosity and unselfishness of the old man, who was putting in the time and effort to help someone he did not even know. He was building a bridge that he would never ever cross. This incident left an indelible mark on my mind. Since that time, I always try to help others even though it may not be beneficial to me in any way. However, it gives me something immeasurable - peace and happiness. Try it out, won't you?