

Childhood

Case Study Based Questions

1. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

When did my childhood go? Was it the time I realised that adults were not all they seemed to be, They talked of love and preached of love, But did not act so lovingly, Was that the day!

(A) The significance of the given extract is that it highlights:

- (a) the true nature of adults.
- (b) the innocence inherent in children.
- (c) the contrast between adulthood and innocence.
- (d) how adulthood changes people.

(B) State whether the following is TRUE or FALSE.

The poet is appreciative of the adults.

(C) The poet is continuously asking questions and answering them himself. What does this show?

Ans. (A) (c) The contrast between adulthood and innocence.

Explanation: The poet becomes nostalgic about his childhood. He feels that the phase of childhood is full of innocence. A child is neither a hypocrite nor manipulative. Adults, on the other hand, are deceptive in nature. They claim to have all the good qualities, but in reality, they are selfish and heartless. Hence, (c) is correct.

(B) False

Explanation: The poet is not appreciative of the adults, as he finds them to be hypocrites and also finds his trust in them to be broken.

(C) The poet's act of continuously asking questions and answering them himself shows that the poet feels that the journey from childhood to adulthood is set in stages. He doesn't believe in adults around him anymore neither does he trust their words. That's why he has decided to answer his own questions.

2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

When did my childhood go? Was it when I found my mind was really mine, To use whichever way I choose, Producing thoughts that were not those of other people, But my own, and mine alone Was that the day!

(A) What does the phrase 'my mind was really mine' really mean?

- (a) The poet produce his own thoughts.
- (b) The poet could use his own mind.
- (c) The poet does not need anyone's influence.
- (d) Both (a) and (b)

(B) Fill in the blanks with an appropriate answer.

The literary devices used in the given extract

(C) How in the poet's opinion, do childhood and adulthood vary?

Ans. (A) (d) Both (a) and (b)

Explanation: The poet had realised that his mind was of his own and he could use it the way he wanted. Nobody can control his mind and he was capable of forming own thoughts. He could also take mature decisions. Hence, (d) is correct.

(B) alliteration

Explanation: The poetic device is alliteration. An example of alliteration is 'my mind. Here, the first consonant of the word is being repeated.

(C) Childhood has been considered by the poet as a blissful period in one's life, where a child trusts everyone. Whereas, adulthood is marked by rational and creative thoughts, the ability to perceive a situation well, differentiate between right and wrong, and learn new things. In this stage of life, one also learns to be double-faced and crafty.