



### 3.1 Tartary

## UNIT 3



If I were Lord of Tartary,  
Myself and me alone,  
My bed should be of ivory,  
Of beaten gold my throne;  
And in my court should peacocks flaunt  
And in my forests tigers haunt,  
And in my pools great fishes slant  
Their fins athwart the sun.

The poem has a dreamy quality. Does the picture reflect it? Discuss the picture with the students.



If I were Lord of Tartary,  
Trumpeters every day  
To every meal would summon me,  
And in my courtyard bray;  
And in the evening lamps would shine,  
Yellow as honey, red as wine,  
While harp, and flute, and mandoline,  
Made music sweet and gay.

If I were Lord of Tartary,  
I'd wear a robe of beads,  
White, and gold, and green they'd be -  
And clustered thick as seeds;  
And ere should wane the morning-star,  
I'd don my robe and scimitar,  
And zebras seven should draw my car  
Through Tartary's dark glades.

Lord of the fruits of Tartary,  
Her rivers silver-pale!  
Lord of the hills of Tartary,  
Glen, thicket, wood, and dale!  
Her flashing stars, her scented breeze,  
Her trembling lake like foamless seas,  
Her bird-delighting citron-trees  
In every purple vale!

– *Walter de la Mare*

## ENGLISH WORKSHOP

1. Find the words that mean the following from the first stanza.

- Gold hammered into a flat, thin shape : .....
- show off proudly : .....
- tilt, move at an angle : .....
- across, especially in a slanting direction : .....



2. Find the names of the exotic musical instruments and animals mentioned in the poem.
3. In the last stanza, there are three four-letter words that refer to a beautiful valley.  
They are : • ..... • ..... • .....
4. From the poem, find three lines that use comparisons.  
• ..... • ..... • .....
5. Colour, sound and images from nature add to the beauty of a poem : ‘Tartary’ is a perfect example of the above. Pick out lines that contain –
  - Colour
  - Sound
  - Images from nature
6. Complete the following phrases with the help of the poem.
  - ..... music      • ..... rivers      • ..... breeze
  - ..... lake      • ..... citron-trees
7. Write about the daily routine of the ‘Lord of Tartary’ in 8-10 lines.
8. Using your imagination, write about a beautiful region – its land forms, water bodies, flora and fauna, night sky, people, etc.
9. Language Study: **Consonance** : **Consonance** is repetition of one or more consonant sounds especially at the end of words. Consonance is usually pleasant to the ear.  
Examples : • Pitter-patter, pitter-patter
  - Rivers silver-pale
  - The lint was sent with the tent.
  - All’s well that ends well.
  - Find at least two examples of consonance from poems that you study in this book.

