

1. Read the given stanza and answer the questions :

[5]

The shoemakers affirming the quality of their work, for the feet that walk, dance, run, jump, return home. The delicious singing of the cook, or the rhythm of designer, mason, each celebrating what belongs to them and to none else,

I. The poet says that the shoemakers 'affirm' the quality of their work. What does 'affirm' refer to here?

- to make adjustments in
- to declare with confidence
- to label the goods
- to justify the efforts

II. What do quality shoes help with, according to the poet?

III. What does 'return home' symbolise besides the literal act of returning?

IV. Identify the phrase that tells us that every worker's contribution is distinct.

V. Complete the following with suitable words.

...for the feet that walk, dance, run, jump, return home refers to _____.

Ans. : 1. (b) to declare with confidence

"Affirm" means the shoemakers proudly state or show the quality of their work.

2. Quality shoes help people **walk, dance, run, jump, and travel comfortably.**

3. It symbolises **safety, comfort, and the end of a day's journey or hard work.**

4. each celebrating what belongs to them and to none else.

5. the many activities and journeys people undertake in life.

2. Answer the following six questions in about 40- 50 words each :

[30]

I. Who appears to be the speaker and what is her/his role here?

Ans. : The speaker appears to be an **observer or admirer of artisans**, possibly a poet or narrator, who **recognizes and appreciates the skill, dedication, and cultural importance** of the craftsmen and women. The role is largely **reverential**, aiming to honor their labor and creativity.

II. Why might the poet have begun and ended with the same line- 'I hear Bharat celebrating, the varied vocations I hear!'?

Ans. : The poet repeats the line **"I hear Bharat celebrating, the varied vocations I hear!"** at the beginning and the end to **emphasise the importance of all professions in the country.**

This repetition highlights that **every vocation contributes to the progress and celebration of Bharat (India).** It also creates a **rhythmic effect and reinforces the central idea** that the poet proudly hears and recognises the work of people from different occupations.



III. Identify two examples of alliteration from the poem "Gifts of Grace : Honouring Our Vocations".

Ans. : Two examples of **alliteration** from the poem are :

1. **"musical maestros"** – repetition of the 'm' sound.
2. **"boatmen bringing"** – repetition of the 'b' sound.

IV. Each vocation in the poem symbolises something more than just a job. What does it symbolise?

Ans. : In the poem **"Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations"**, each vocation symbolises **the dignity of labour and the unique contribution of every person to society.**

The different professions—such as carpenters, musicians, electricians, cooks, and boatmen—represent **creativity, skill, dedication, and service to the nation.** Together, they symbolise **the diversity, harmony, and collective progress of Bharat (India).**

V. Why does the poet say, 'I hear Bharat celebrating, the varied vocations I hear'? In the poem "Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations".

Ans. : The poet says this to show that people from many different professions are working happily and proudly. Their work and dedication make the country vibrant and progressive, which feels like a celebration of Bharat's diversity of vocations.

VI. What does the electrician 'humming' while getting ready for work suggest? In the poem "Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations".

Ans. : It suggests that the electrician enjoys his work and feels cheerful and satisfied. The humming shows enthusiasm and pride in his vocation.

VII. Explain the significance of the line, "The voice of their vocation is the voice of their identity." In the poem "Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations".

Ans. : This line means that a person's work reflects who they are. Their vocation shows their skills, dedication, and role in society, making it an important part of their identity.

VIII. Do you think the role of all people belonging to different vocations is important in our daily lives? Support your answer with a reason.

Ans. : **Yes**, every vocation is important because **each profession contributes to society in a unique way.** For example, **teachers educate, electricians provide power, carpenters build things, and cooks prepare food,** helping daily life run smoothly.

IX. Why is the poet celebrating all the vocations in the poem "Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations"? Explain by giving examples from your context.

Ans. : The poet celebrates all vocations to show that every type of work is valuable and deserves respect. Each profession contributes to the smooth functioning and progress of society.

For example, in our daily life teachers educate students, electricians repair power



lines, carpenters make furniture, and cooks prepare food. Without these people, our daily life would become difficult. Therefore, the poet celebrates all vocations to highlight the dignity of labour and the importance of every worker.

X. How does the poet use sensory imagery to bring out the beauty of everyday work? In the poem "Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations".

Ans. : The poet uses sensory imagery by describing sounds and actions related to different professions. For example, the poet mentions the electrician humming, the cook's delicious singing, and the rhythm of the designer and mason. These descriptions appeal mainly to our sense of hearing and help readers imagine the lively sounds and movements of people doing their work, showing the beauty in ordinary daily activities.

3. Answer the following six questions in about 100- 120 words each : [6]

I. Rhyme Scheme and Lineation

- i. Does the poem strictly adhere to a rhyme scheme, or is it in free verse?
- ii. What is the impact of the varying length of lines in the poem?
- iii. What is the pattern in the structure of most lines of the poem?

Ans. : 1. The poem is written in **free verse**, meaning it does not strictly follow a fixed rhyme scheme. The poet focuses more on the flow of ideas and imagery rather than patterned rhymes.

2. The varying length of lines creates a **rhythmic and dynamic flow**, reflecting the diversity of crafts and the lively movement of skilled artisans. Short lines emphasize certain actions or qualities, while longer lines allow for detailed description. This gives the poem a natural, flowing feel, much like a conversation or narration.

3. Most lines in the poem **begin with a description of the craftsman or their action**, followed by an effect or impact of their work. This pattern helps highlight both the skill and significance of the work being celebrated.

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