

29/4/2023

Poem - Photograph

About the poem

The poetess describes her feelings about the photographs of her mother taken when she was twelve years or so. She feels that human life is short live. A human being grows older and older. The memories of the past make us sad. The poetess feels how her mother ~~to~~ twenty or thirty years later would comment on it but in the event of her death, there is silence only.

Extracts:-

1.) The cardboard - - - - - years so

Q- What does the word cardboard suggest?

Ans The cardboard suggests a photograph.

Ques? Why were the two cousins holding on ~~to~~ poet's mother's hand?

Ans? The two cousins were holding on ^{to} poetess mother's hand because she was the eldest among them.



Ques 3 - what feelings are aroused in these lines?

Ans 3 - Feelings of fun and happiness are aroused in these lines.

2.) A sweet face - - - - - transient feet.

Ques 1 - When was the photograph clicked?

Ans 1 - ~~When she~~ The photograph was clicked when the poetess was not born.

Ques 2 - What does the word transient indicate?

Ans 2 - The word ⁿtransient shows the temporary nature of human life.

Ques 3 - Where were the three girls standing?

Ans 3 - The three girls were standing at the beach.

3.) The sea holiday - - - - - ease of loss.

Ques 1 - Which sea holiday is referred here?

Ans 1 - It refers to the holiday when the poet's mother enjoyed with her two cousins.

Ques 2 - What was poetess' past?

Ans 2 - The poetess' mother's daughter was her past.

Ques 3 - Why is the poetess nostalgic? about her mother's daughter?

Ans 3 - Nostalgic about her mother's daughter.

Ans 3 - She is not collecting her past memories and missing them.

4.) Now she's dead - - - - -

Ques 1 - Explain "Its silence silences".

Ans 1 - It means that the photograph is still and silent and poetess' mother is gone in this world. The memory of her mother's with death silences her as well.

Ques 2 - What is the mental state of the poet here?

Ans 2 - The poet is very sad here as she is missing her mother who is no more in the world.

Ques 3 - What was the age of that girl in the photograph?

Ans 3 - The age of that girl in the photograph was

twelve years.

→ Poetic devices:-

1. Alliteration:- Repetition of consonant letters

① Stood, Still, Smile

② terribly transient

③ silence silences

2. Transferred Epithet:- It is a description that refers to a character or event but it is used to describe a different situation or character.

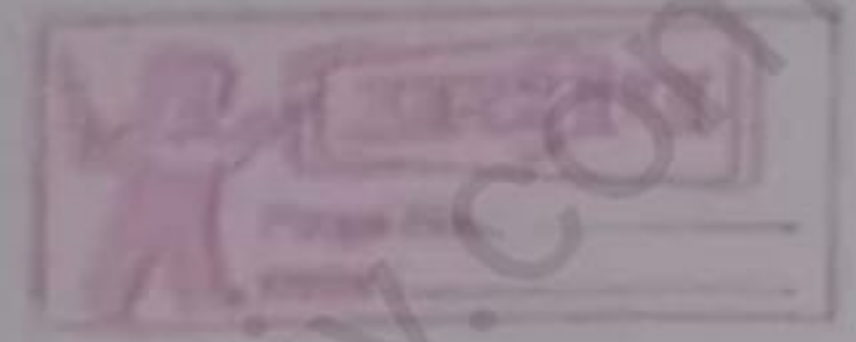
1. Transient feet → It refers to feet but it is used to describe the lack of permanence of human life.

3. Oxymoron:- It refers to opposite ideas

1. Laboured case
 ↓ complaint
 handwork

4. Personification:- The situation has been given human quality

1. Silence silences



Question/Answer

Ques1- What does the word 'cardboard' denote in the poem? Why has this word been used?

Ans1- The word 'cardboard' denotes the ^{photoframe of the} photograph of the poetess mother with her two cousins. It has been used to denote that it was very old.

Ques2- What ^{has} the camera captured?

Ans2- The camera has captured the natural smile and the sweet face of the poetess mother with her two cousins each one holding her hand.

Ques3- What has not changed over the years? Does this suggest something to you?

Ans3- The sea has not changed over the years it suggests that nature and its object do not undergo a change. It also suggests that with the passing of time man dies, but nature remains unchanged.

Ques4- The poet's mother laughed at the snapshot. What did this laugh indicate?

Ans4- The poetess mother laugh at her snapshot when



she was a child. This laugh indicates her joy and youthfulness. It also indicated her innocent youthful spirit.

Ques 5 - What is the meaning of line "Both wry with the laboured ease of loss"?

Ans 5 - The sea holiday became the past of the poetess mother and her laughter became the poetess past. Both are sad but the pain has been accepted with a lot of effort as life has to go on.

Ques 6 - What does "this circumstance" refer to?

Ans 6 - The circumstance refers to the situation of the poetess and the lapse of time since the poetess mother died.

Ques 7 - The three stanzas depict three different phases. What are they?

Ans 7 - The first stanza depicts the childhood of her poetess ^{mother} when she was enjoying a holiday on the sea beach.

The second stanza depicts when the poetess mother has grown old and laugh at her own photographs.



The third stanza depicts the time when she has died and the poetess misses her.