

CLASS – 10

ENGLISH

First Flight

Poem : A Tiger in the Zoo

Part – 3

Comprehension

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THINKING ABOUT THE POEM

Q.1 Notice the use of a word repeated in lines such as these:

(i) On pads of velvet quiet,
In his quiet rage.

(ii) And stares with his brilliant eyes
At the brilliant stars.

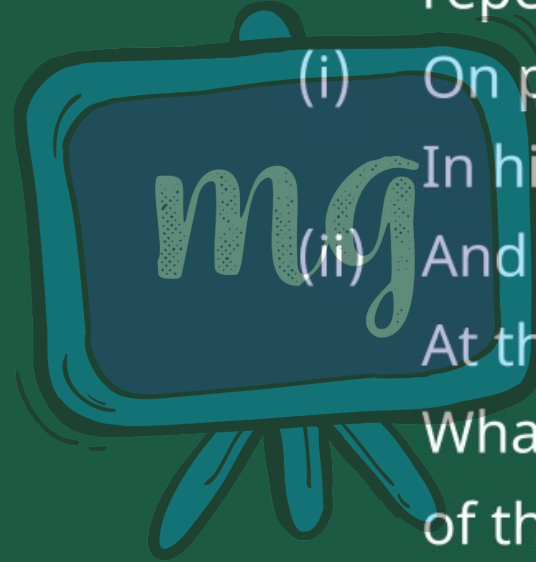
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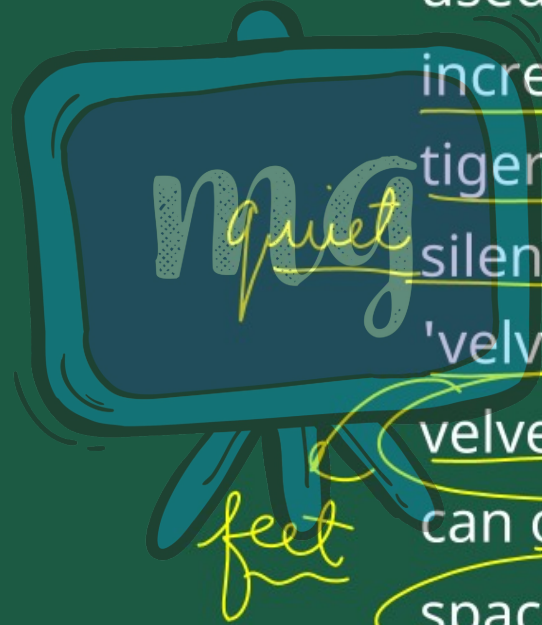
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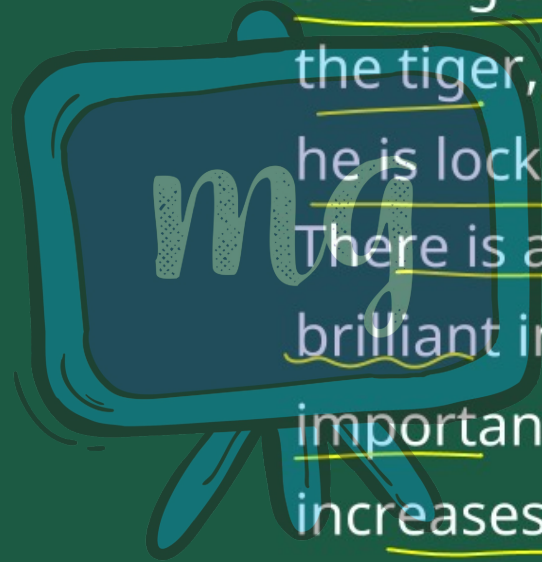
Ans. This repetition is a poetic device
used by the poet in order to
increase the intensity of the
tiger's rage and his helpless
silence.

'velvet quiet' refers to the quiet
velvet pads of the tiger. They
can only walk around the limited
space in the cage.



The use of 'quiet rage' symbolises the anger that is building up inside the tiger, his anger is quite because he is locked in the cage.

There is a repetition of the word brilliant in the poem. It stresses the importance of 'brilliant'. It also increases the images of the eyes of the tiger. It does so of the shining stars also. The tiger's eyes look like the shining stars.



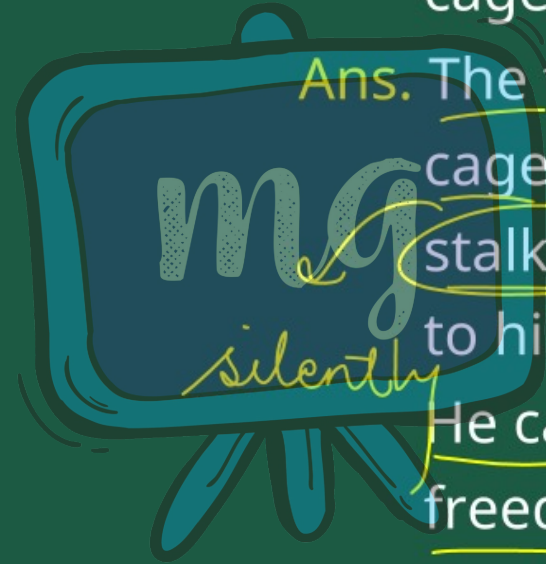
This repetition creates a wonderful effect in the poem and make it more beautiful and of artistic use.



Q.2 How does the tiger walk in the
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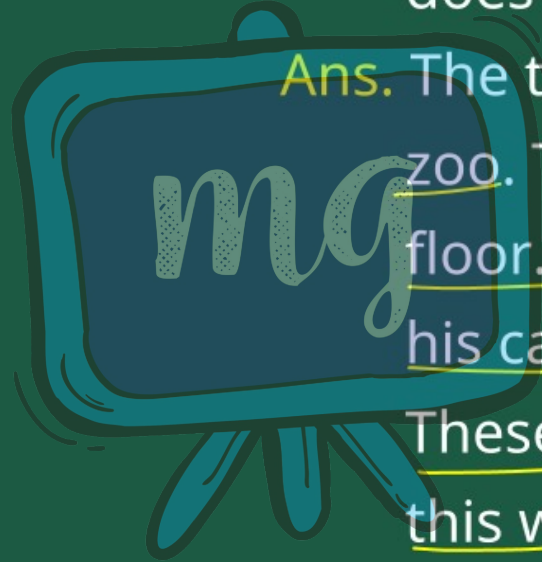
Ans. The tiger, at present, is in the cage. He walks in the cage stalking. He is quite angry due to his imprisonment in the cage. He can't do anything for his freedom. He is helpless due to the iron bars of the cage and can't break it. So he walks in quiet.

Q.3 How is the tiger in the cell? How does he react to the visitors ?



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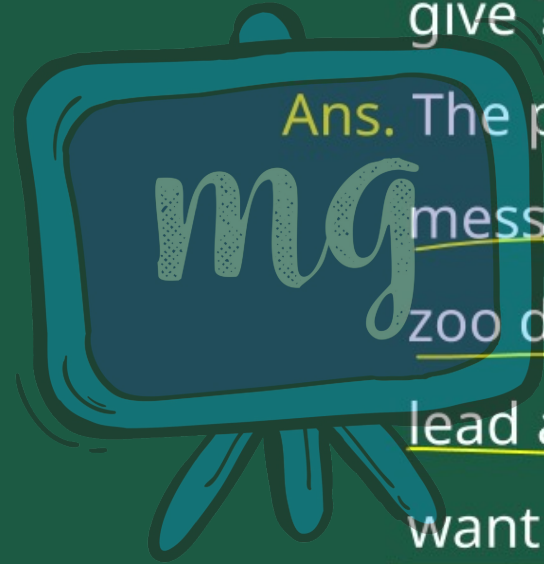
Ans. The tiger is now in the cell of the zoo. The cell has a concrete floor. His strength now is behind his cage bars. These are of iron. These can't be broken. He walks this way or that in rage in his cage due to helplessness. He ignores the visitors.



Q.4 What message does the poem
give ?



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Ans. The poem gives out the message that the animals in the zoo do not live happily. They lead a miserable life there. They want to be in their natural habitat.

We should not lock these
animals behind the bars for our
enjoyment and should have an
inclusive approach.

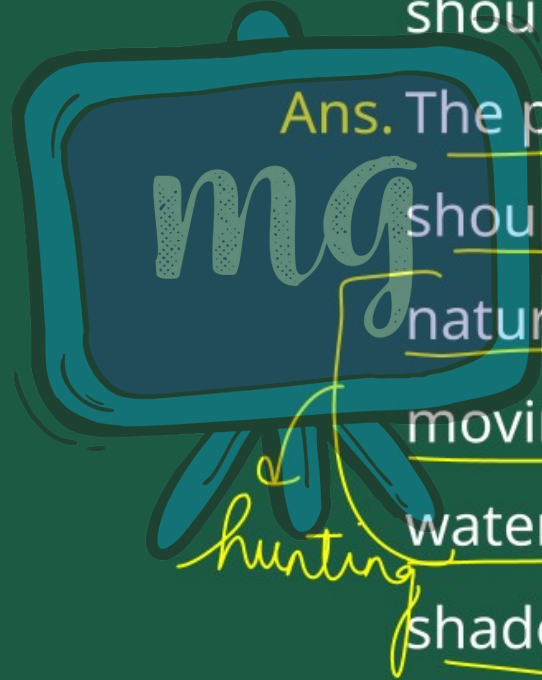


Q.5 What does the poet think where
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Ans. The poet thinks that the tiger should be in the jungle. It is his natural habitat. He should be moving in the long grass near a water hole. He should lurk in shadow to hunt the plump deer for his food.

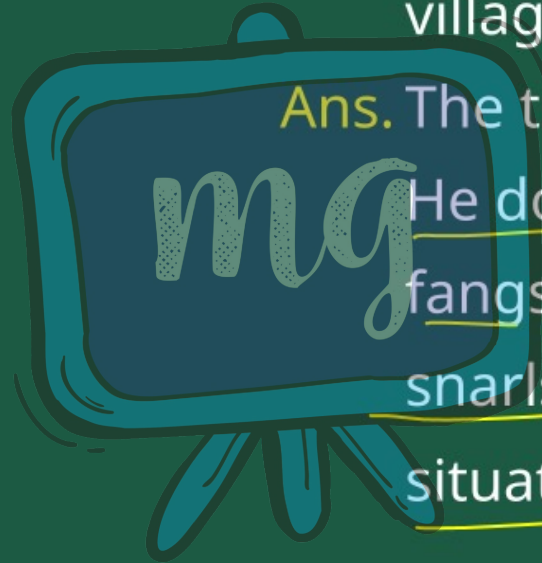


Q.6 How does the tiger terrify the
villagers ?



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Ans. The tiger terrifies the villagers. He does so by showing his white fangs and long claws, he also snarls around the houses situated near the jungle.



Q.7 How does the tiger behave at
night ?



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Ans. The tiger is helpless inside the cage he is too helpless to escape from it and simply walks in it. So, he looks intently at the shining stars with his shining eyes with a hope that one day he would get freedom.

