

CLASS – 10

ENGLISH

First Flight

**Poem : How to Tell Wild
Animals**

Part – 3

COMPREHENSION

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THINKING ABOUT THE POEM

Q.1 Does 'dyin' really rhyme with
lion? Can you say it in such a
way that it does ?

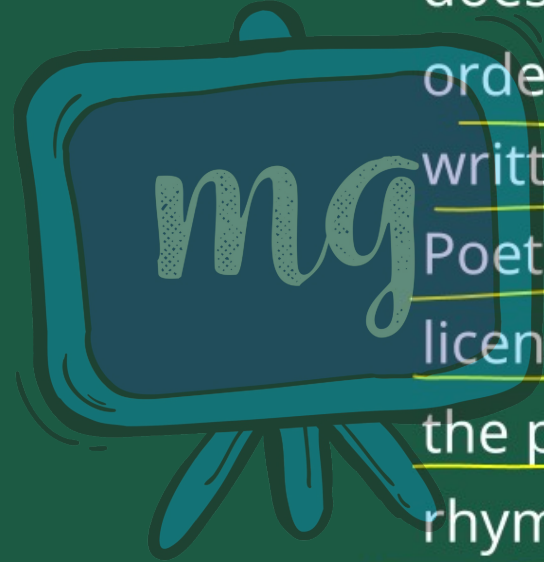
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dyin - lion

→ Poetic license

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Ans. The Actual word is dying which does not rhyme with lion. In order to create rhyme, it is written as 'dyin' in the poem. Poet has employed poetic license to give artistic edge to the poem and also to set a rhyme scheme.

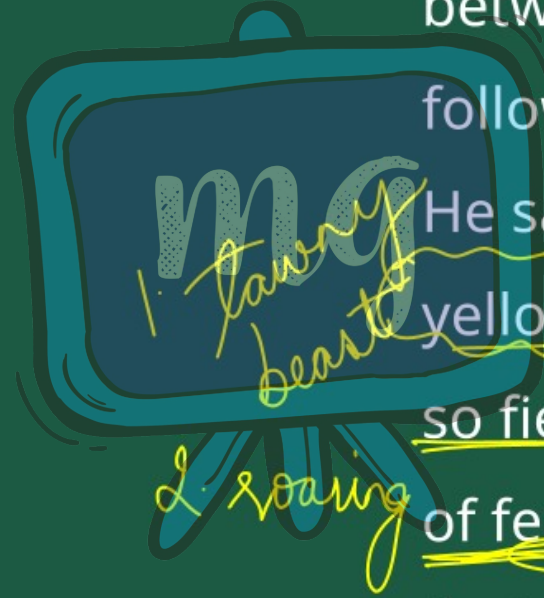


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Q.2 How does the poet suggest that you identify the lion and the tiger? When can you do so, according to him?



Ans. The poet differentiates between the two in the following manner:



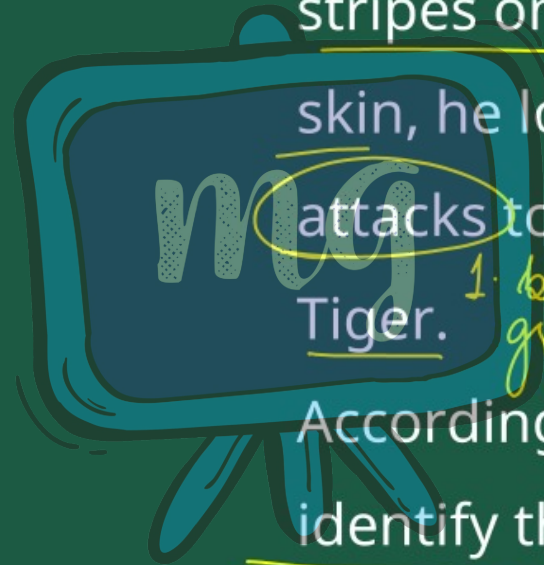
He says that if the beast of yellow brown color roars out so fiercely that you may die out of fear and heart failure then that animal is an Asian Lion.

Whereas, if the animal has black stripes on yellow background of the

skin, he looks noble to you but attacks to kill you then it is a Bengal

Tiger. 1. black stripes on yellow ground 2. Attack

According to the poet, we can identify them when we get the chance to go to the jungle and are on the verge of losing our lives.



Q.3 Do you think the words 'lept'
and 'lep' in the third stanza
are spelt correctly? Why does
the poet spell them like this?

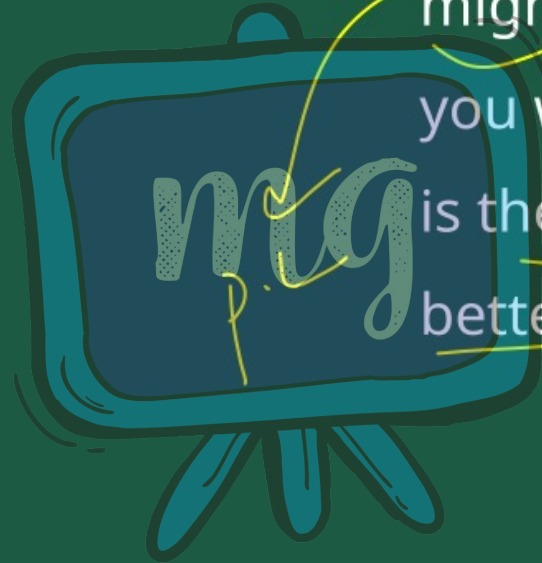


poetic license

Ans. The words 'lept' and 'lep' have
not been spelt correctly. It is a
poetic device known as poetic
license which is used by the
poet to lay emphasis on the
action of the leopard and to
show its dominance in the
stanza.

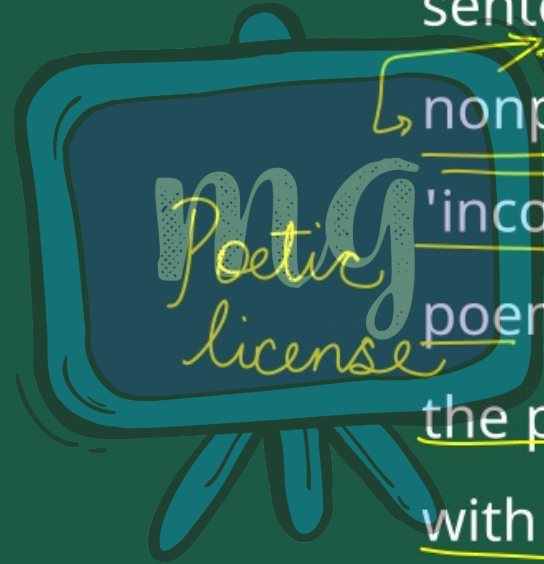


Q.4 Look at the line 'A novice
might nonplus'. How would
you write this 'correctly'? Why
is the poet's incorrect line
better in the poem?



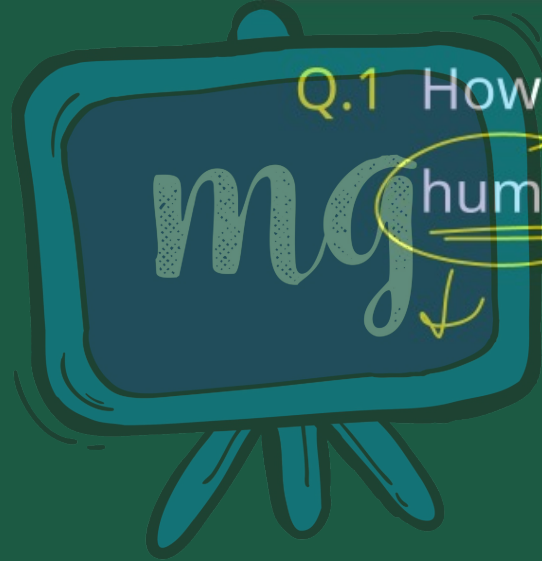
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Ans. The correct structure of the sentence is a novice might be nonplus~~ed~~. The poet's 'incorrect' line is better in the poem as it creates rhyme in the poem. Nonplus rhymes with thus creating an artistic effect in the poem.

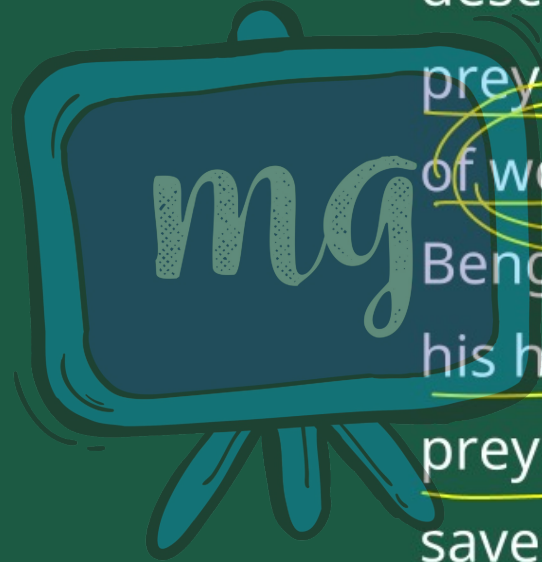


EXTRA QUESTIONS

Q.1 How does the poet create
humour in the poem?



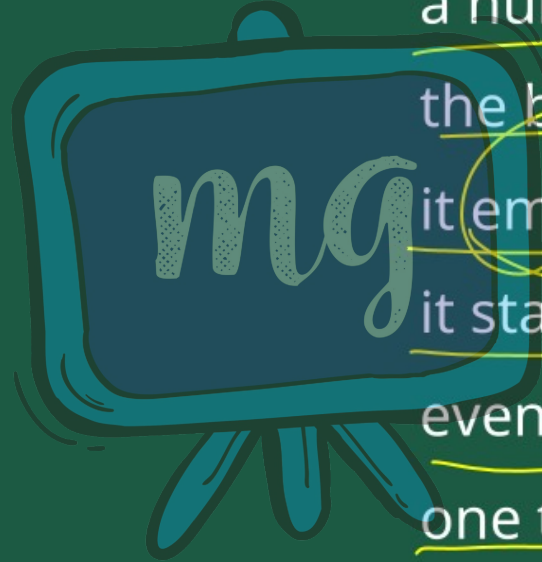
Ans. The poet creates humour by describing various beasts of prey differently. It is by the use of words and emotions. The Bengal tiger is never 'noble' in his heart. The leopard kills his prey in moments. None can be saved by crying. The bear's hug is never loving. The hyena never smiles happily.



Q.2 How does the poet describe
the bear?



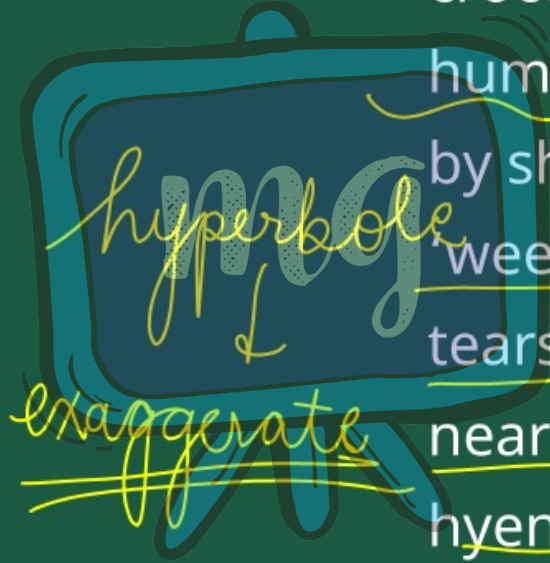
Ans. The poet describes the bear in a humorous way. As soon as the bear comes near a human, it embraces him tightly. Then, it starts to tighten the hug even more. It starts squeezing one to death. One when dying would understand about bear's fatal and menacing hug.



Q.3 How does the poet describe
the crocodile and the hyena?



Ans. The poet describes the crocodile and the hyena humorously. She exaggerates by showing crocodile as 'weeping crocodile' as it has tears in its eyes when it comes near to its victim. And the hyena as 'smiling hyena' as it is having happy smiles on its face. But this is not so.



Q.4 Describe how the chameleon is
described in the poem.



Ans. The chameleon is small. It is like a lizard. It has almost all the features of a lizard.

However, it is different in color.

It has no ears. There is no

single wing on its body. It is

always found on a tree. It can

not be seen because it can

change its color according to

the background.

