

CLASS – 10

ENGLISH

First Flight

Poem : The Trees

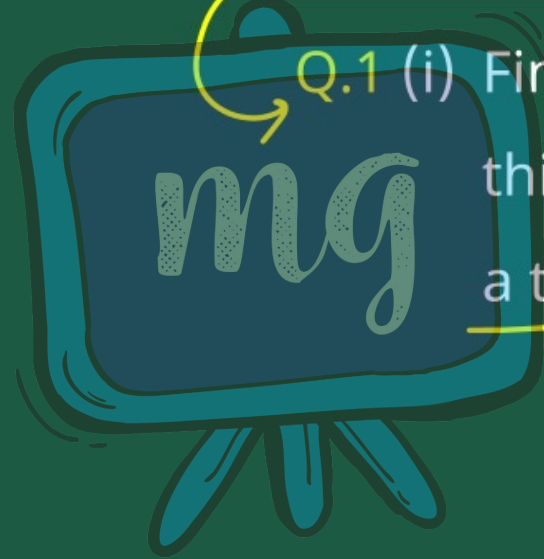
Part – 3

COMPREHENSION

KOMAL JETWANI



THINKING ABOUT THE POEM



Q.1 (i) Find, in the first stanza, three things that cannot happen in a treeless forest

Answer:

- Paragraph (I) The three things that can not happen in a treeless forest are
- perch
homeless
- (i) 1 The sitting of a bird on tree.
 - (ii) The hiding of the insects.
 - (iii) The sun burying its feet in the shadow of the forest.

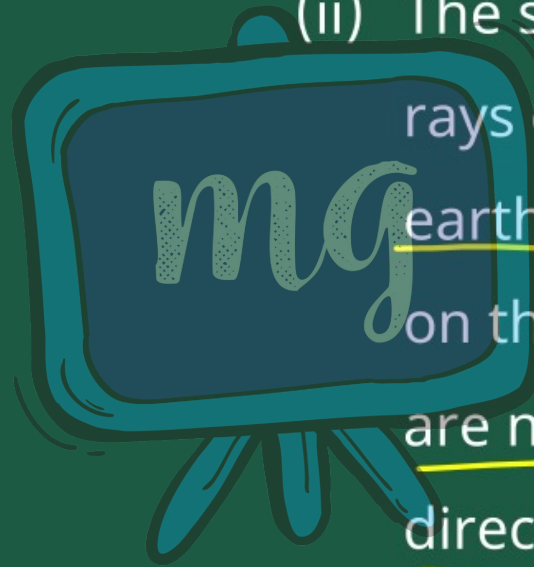
Q.1 (ii) What picture do these words
create in your mind: "... sun
bury its feet in shadow..."?
What could the poet mean
by the sun's 'feet'?



Answer:

sun rays

(ii) The sun's 'feet' refers to the rays of the sun that fall on the earth. When there is no shadow on the ground, because there are no trees, the rays fall directly on the ground. In a forest with trees, the shadow hides the sun rays.

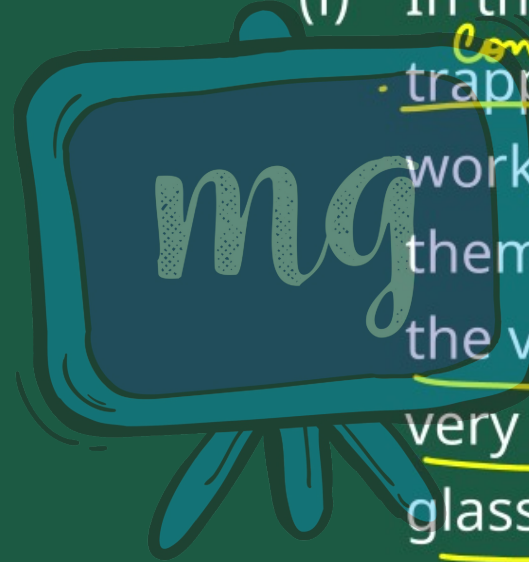


Q.2 (i) Where are the trees in the
poem? What do their roots,
their leaves, and their twigs
do?



Answer:

- (i) In the poem, the trees are ^{Confined} trapped in the house. The roots work all night to disengage themselves from the cracks in the veranda floor. The leaves try very hard to move towards the glass and put a lot of pressure on it, so that it breaks. While the small twigs get stiff with exertion.



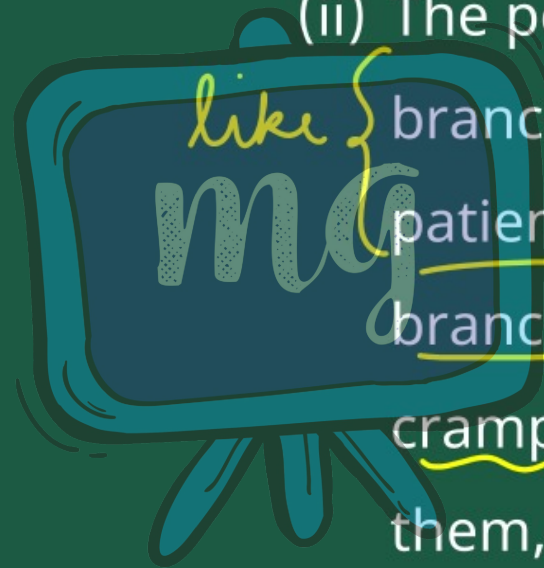
Q.2 (ii) What does the poet compare
their branches to?



1. Metaphor
 2. Simile (like/as)
- strong Comp.

Answer:

(ii) The poet compares the branches to newly discharged patients of a hospital. The large branches of the trees become cramped due to the roof above them, and when they get free they rush stumbling to the outside world.



While doing so, they look half dazed
like the patient, who wait for a long
time to get out of the hospital.



Q.3 (i) How does the poet describe
the moon: (a) at the
beginning of the third
stanza, and (b) at its end?
What causes this change?



Answer:

(i) Poet says that the full moon is

shining in the clear sky in the

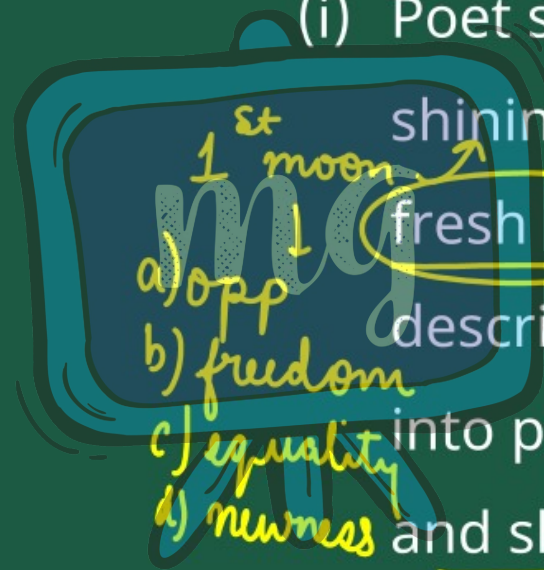
fresh night. At the end, she

describes that the moon breaks

into pieces like a broken mirror

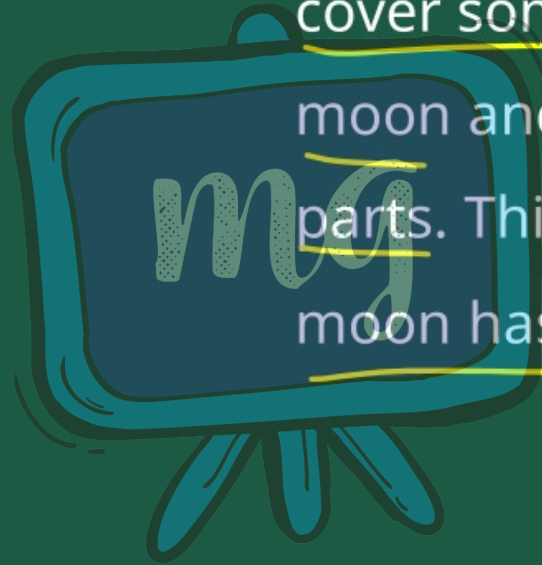
and shines on the heads of the

tallest oak trees.



restriction

As the trees move outside, they
cover some of the shine of the
moon and it can be seen only in
parts. This is why, it seems that the
moon has broken into pieces.

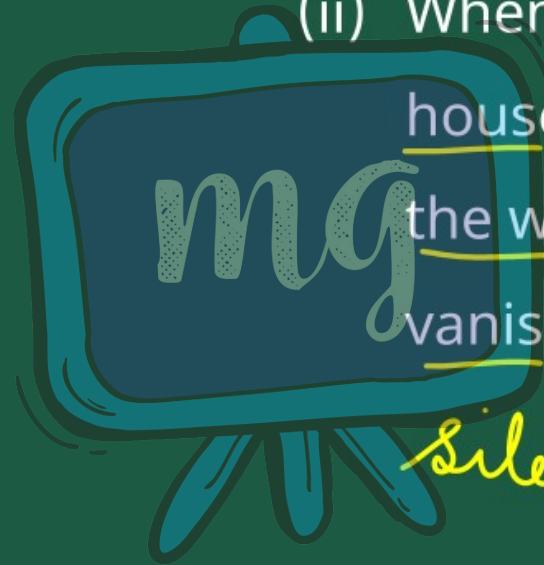


Q.3 (ii) What happens to the house
when the trees move out of
it?



Answer:

(ii) When the trees move out of the house, the glasses break and the whispers of the trees vanish, leaving the house silent.



Silent !!

Q.3 (iii) Why do you think the poet
does not mention “the
departure of the forest
from the house” in her
letters?



Answer:

(iii) The poet does not mention about 'the departure of the forest from the house' in her letters probably because she is both puzzled at the sudden happening. She did not expect the forest to move out of the house one day.

