

## POEM-6 | Mother Tongue

## QUIZ-01

1. What does the "quill" symbolise in the poem?

- A. A bird's feather
- B. A tool for account keeping
- C. A symbol of literary expression
- D. A gift from nature (C)

**Explanation:** The quill represents the power of writing, especially in one's mother tongue.

2. Who is the "Shahni" in the poem?

- A. A wealthy landlord's wife
- B. The poet's employer
- C. A metaphor for the poet's mother
- D. A personification of the Dogri language (D)

**Explanation:** The Shahni refers to Dogri, the poet's mother tongue, depicted as a respected mistress.

3. What tone does the reed initially take when the poet asks for a quill?

- A. Excited
- B. Curious
- C. Irritated
- D. Sympathetic (C)

**Explanation:** The reed shows irritation, questioning why the poet needs another quill so soon.

4. Why does the poet feel a sense of urgency to get the quill?

- A. She is late for work
- B. The Shah is calling her
- C. Her mother tongue is waiting
- D. She is in a competition (C)

**Explanation:** The poet feels urgency because she imagines her mother tongue, Dogri, is calling for her.

5. What act of sacrifice does the reed perform in the poem?

- A. It writes the poem
- B. It bends to form a flute
- C. It cuts off its hand to make the quill
- D. It turns into paper (C)

**Explanation:** The reed cuts off its hand and gives it as a quill, showing devotion to Dogri.

6. What language is the poem originally written in?

- A. Hindi
- B. Dogri
- C. Urdu
- D. Persian (B)

**Explanation:** The poem was originally written in Dogri and later translated.

7. What script was originally used for Dogri?

- A. Devanagari
- B. Persian
- C. Sharade
- D. Brahmi (C)

**Explanation:** Sharade was the original script used for Dogri, later replaced by Persian and Devanagari.

8. How does the poet describe her relation to Dogri?

- A. As a learner
- B. As a translator
- C. As a servant
- D. As a historian (C)

**Explanation:** The poet likens herself to a servant of her mother tongue, Dogri.

9. What literary device is central in this poem?

- A. Simile
- B. Alliteration
- C. Irony
- D. Personification (D)

**Explanation:** Personification is used to give human qualities to the reed and to Dogri.

10. What is the underlying theme of the poem?

- A. Cultural confusion
- B. Criticism of modern tools
- C. Deep emotional connection to one's mother tongue
- D. Praise of technological advancement (C)

**Explanation:** The poem expresses the poet's emotional bond with her native language and its cultural significance.