



THE VILLAGE
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
"We Nurture Dreams"

Childhood

A. *When did my childhood go?*

*Was it the day I ceased to be eleven.
Was it the time I realised that Hell and Heaven,
Could not be found in Geography,
And therefore could not be,
Was that the day!*

Q1. When does a poet realise that his childhood has gone?

Ans. Poet becomes aware at the age of eleven.

Q2. Why is the age of eleven so important for the poet?

Ans. He can distinguish between fact and fiction around the age of eleven.

Q3. What is the quality acquired by the poet at this stage of his life?

Ans. At this point, the poet is starting to make sense.

Q4. When did the poet know that 'hell' and 'heaven' are imaginary concepts?

Ans. When he was unable to find these locations in his geography books.

Q5. Why is the poet worried?

Ans. The poet is concerned because he has lost his innocence.

Q6. Where has the poet's childhood gone?

Ans. His formative years have vanished into obscurity.

Q7. What is a child's perception of an adult?

Ans. The child can tell the difference between fact and fiction as they grow older.

B. *When did my childhood go?*

*Was it the time I realised that adults were not
All they seemed to be,
They talked of love and preached of love,
But did not act so lovingly,
Was that the day!*

Q1. Why does the poet not talk great of grown up people?

Ans. The poet believes that adults do not practise what they preach.

Q2. Why is the poet confused?

Ans. Poet is unable to distinguish between being a child and an adult.

Q3. What is the poet's opinion about the people in the world?

Ans. Poet finds the people to be hypocrites.

Q4. Choose word from the passage which means 'sermonized'.

Ans. Preached

C. When did my childhood go?

*Was it when I found my mind was really mine,
To use whichever way I choose,
Producing thoughts that were not those of other people
But my own and mine alone
Was that the day!*

Q1. Explain 'My mind was really mine'?

Ans. That indicates that the poet had total self-control.

Q2. 'Producing thoughts that were not these of other people's means:

Ans. The poet now feels comfortable expressing his ideas on his own.

Q3. Which stage of life has been under consideration above?

Ans. The poet is transitioning into adulthood.

Q4. What thoughts of the poet are revealed in these lines?

Ans. His uniqueness is demonstrated here.

D. Where did my childhood go?

*It went to some forgotten place,
That is hidden in an infant's face,
That's all I know.*

Q1. Why is the poet eager to know the lost place of his childhood?

Ans. (i) The poet values childhood beyond everything else.

(ii) The poet wants to live a childlike, innocent life once more.

(iii) The poet is curious to discover the location of his early years.

Q2. Where is the poet able to find his lost childhood?

Ans. On the baby's innocent face.

Q3. Choose a word from the passage which is synonymous to 'concealed.'

Ans. Hidden

Q4. What is the rhyming scheme of the above lines?

Ans. a b b a.

Q1. What is the meaning of the word 'ceased'?

- A. starting of something
- B. come to an end
- C. in the midst
- D. to chase something

Ans- B. come to an end

Q2. Who is the poet of the poem 'Childhood'?

- A. Shirley Toulson
- B. Walt Whitman
- C. Marcus Natten
- D. Naipaul

Ans. C. Marcus Natten

Q3. What did the poet realise about adults?

- A. That they are responsible
- B. That they need to work for a living
- C. They are not what they seem to be
- D. They are clever

Ans. C. They are not what they seem to be

Q4. What refrain literary device is used in the poem 'Childhood'?

- A. When did my childhood go?
- B. Hell and Heaven
- C. Could not be found in Geography
- D. That's all I know

Ans. A. When did my childhood go?

Q5. What is the opposite of the word 'hidden'?

- A. open
- B. closed
- C. partially closed
- D. out

Ans. D. out

Q6. What did the poet find out about Hell and Heaven?

- A. They could not be found in Geography [books](#)
- B. They were imaginary places
- C. They were in America

D. They were in India

Ans. B. They were imaginary places

Q7. According to the poet, adults are _

A. Hypocrites

B. Smart

C. Likeable

D. Intelligent and Clever

Ans. A. Hypocrites

Q8. What did the poet sense about himself when he realised he could use his own mind the way he wants?

A. He thought he was just as smart as his friends.

B. he sensed his own individuality and a separate personality

C. He thought he was incredibly intelligent

D. He thought he could use his thoughts for creative work

Ans. B. he sensed his own individuality and a separate personality

Q9. What the poet could not find in the Geography [book](#)?

A. Hell and Heaven

B. End to sky

C. Island

D. Nation

Ans. A. Hell and Heaven

Q10. What is the difference between an adult and a child?

A. they can tell the difference between reality and fantasy

B. There is a difference in the perception of intellect

C. there is no difference

D. None of the Above

Ans. A. they can tell the difference between reality and fantasy

Q11. Why do adults talk and preach of love but do not act lovingly?

A. because they are hypocrites

B. because they are double-faced

C. because they do not want to

D. because they are deceitful

Ans. A. because they are hypocrites

Q12. After what age did the poet realise that he had lost his childhood?

A. Thirteen

B. Eleven

C. Nine

D. Sixteen

Ans. B. Eleven

Q13. What is the most important thing about being an adult?

- A. they have their own thoughts
- B. they can earn money
- C. they can talk to anyone they want
- D. they preach hate

Ans. A. they have their own thoughts

Q14. Where could he see his childhood now?

- A. in an infant's face
- B. only in his memories
- C. Nowhere
- D. in elders

Ans. A. in an infant's face

Q15. Why are the adults not what they seem to be?

- A. They talk and preach of love but do not act so
- B. They are also incredibly cunning, greedy, and lazy.
- C. They are selfish
- D. They are not active

Ans. A. They talk and preach of love but do not act so

Q16. What is the Rhyme Scheme of the poem 'Childhood'?

- A. ABAB
- B. ABBA
- C. ABABCB
- D. ABBCCD

Ans. D. ABBCCD

Q17. What did the poet realise about his mind when he lost his childhood?

- A. that he can use it whatever way he wants
- B. that he is very intellectual
- C. that he is ignorant
- D. None of the Above

Ans. A. that he can use it whatever way he wants

Q18. What did the poet conclude about his lost childhood at the end of the poem?

- A. It travelled to another dimension
- B. It went to some forgotten place
- C. faded away
- D. It shifted to his younger sibling

Ans. B. It went to some forgotten place

Q19. Why are the adults not what they seem to be?

- A. they talk and preach of love but do not act so
- B. they are very cunning

- C. they are manipulative
- D. they are devious

Ans. A. they talk and preach of love but do not act so

Q20. What did the poet realise about adults?

- A. that they are not very responsible
- B. they have to earn money
- C. they are not what they seem to be
- D. they are sly

Ans. C. they are not what they seem to be

Q1 What according to the poem is involved in the process of growing up ?

Ans. The poem suggests that part of growing up involves losing one's childhood. Several advantages associated with adolescence offset this loss. They include a greater capacity for comprehension, the ability to reason and discriminate, as well as a sense of uniqueness and self-assurance.

Q2 What are the poet's feelings towards childhood?

Ans. The poet sees infancy as a crucial time in the maturation process. Childhood is a time for fantasy. Whatever the adults tell them, children readily accept. The loss of the poet's childhood does not cause him to feel any regret or sadness.

Q3 Bring out the hypocrisy that the adults exhibit with regard to love.

Ans. The poet became more aware of the elders' double standards as he grew older. Although grownups talked and preached about love, he realised that their actions were quite different and rife with deception. They were all hypocrites who did not act in accordance with their words.

Q4 What did the poet notice about independent thinking? How important was this discovery?

Ans. The poet realised he was unique and had his own unique way of thinking. He was free to form his own opinions without being influenced by others. This finding was crucial to him since it demonstrated his ability to exercise independent thought and judgement.

Q5 According to Markus Natten, when does the child become an adult ?

Ans. Growing up is a complicated process that involves the development of one's body, mind, and social life. When a youngster can live on his own and take care of his own duties, he is considered to be an adult. In order to build his own beliefs and perspectives, he also develops his own thought process.

Q6 The poet has discussed two stages of life — childhood and adulthood. How do we differentiate one from another?

Ans. According to the poet, childhood is a happy time of life when a person can trust everyone. The ability to notice, distinguish, and learn new things are characteristics of adulthood. So are rational and creative thoughts. One learns to be deceitful and devious at this period of life as well.

Q1. The poem 'Childhood' exposes man and presents him in his true colours. All adjectives displaying negative qualities are not enough for such a man. This poem very innocently goads him to his real self. Explain.

Ans. Childhood represents purity, tenderness, innocence, and love. These characteristics start to wane as a youngster gets older. Man develops impurity, deceit, sleight of hand, and hypocrisy. Adults start telling outright lies. They profess love while acting in hatred. They advocate for humanity and fraternity while promoting violence and hatred. As soon as a guy leaves his naive infancy, simplicity and honesty vanish into thin air. Every effort should be made to rekindle that youthful naivety. Every effort should be made to fill the void left by man's selfishness and greed with the warmth of a child's innocence and laughter.

If a man begins to practise what he teaches, there would be less hostility and more peace worldwide. If a man brings his actual noble characteristics to the forefront, it may happen. The innocence and purity of man are now veiled in layers of enmity. The world would be a nicer place to live in if a man were to take off this mask.

Q2. 'Childhood is an essential stage in the process of growing up, but it can't go on forever.' Discuss.

Ans. For every person, childhood is a crucial stage in the process of maturing. Human infants are completely reliant on others, but as they get older, they develop greater physical, emotional, and mental fortitude. As the tiny baby grows bigger in size, other faculties also develop. Although this stage is an important milestone for man, it cannot last forever. Childhood being a stage, must give way to another stage. Adolescence or early youth come after it. The abilities have now reached their full potential.

The individual gains capacity for reason. His rationalism aids him in determining what is true or incorrect, fact or fiction. He develops excellent analysis and discrimination skills. He is now able to see through people and objects. He begins to understand the hypocrisy of adults. He gains confidence and becomes an independent thinker.

Q3. Write an article in about 150 words about childhood and the process of growing up with reference to the poem "Childhood".

Ans.

Childhood

Childhood is the most fun & pleasant period of one's life. It is the second phase of life. It is a crucial time when we face the outside world in an effort to learn new things and travel the globe. At this point, the kids are totally reliant on their parents. This time frame is a time for learning. We begin attending school as children and progressively learn more about the world of education. Children have no worries & lead a free independent life, learning new things.

When did my childhood go?
Was it when I found my mind was really mine,
To use whichever way I choose,
Producing thoughts that were not those of other
people, But my own, and mine alone

The poem describes the first step to maturity or loss of childhood when one is able to think logically and rationally. Forming one's own opinion and not getting influenced by others is also a sign of maturity or loss of childhood.

Childhood memories always make a person nostalgic. During childhood, we develop a stronger bond with our parents. In this stage, moral character and behaviour are developed. The mind is creative and open to learning many new things. During this time, children should be taught good habits and manners that last a lifetime. The youngsters are free of any bad habits and guilt throughout this time, which is comparable to a person's golden years.

Q4. What is the central idea of the poem "Childhood"?

Ans. "Childhood" by Markus Natten is a poem wherein the poet considers his lost youth in great detail in this poem. Childhood is a period of innocence during which a child has an unconditional love for everyone. The poet has made an effort to pinpoint the times in his life when his ideas and perspectives on the world altered. The poem talks about the loss of childhood or the first step towards maturity when one can think reasonably and sensibly. A further indication of maturity or the loss of youth is the ability to form one's own opinions without being swayed by others.

The poem also makes reference to the widespread hypocrisy in our culture, when individuals seem to get along but actually don't.