

INDIAN WEAVERS

LESSON OVERVIEW

L.No.	Title of the Lesson	Skills		Grammar/Figures of speech	Activity	Life Skills
		Listening/speaking	Reading			
12	Indian Weavers	Reading the poem aloud	Silent reading of the poem with understanding	Simile, Imagery	Collecting information about the colours of clothes	Appreciation of labour and regard for artisans especially weavers in this case

SUMMARY

'Indian Weavers' is a short but beautiful poem, consisting of three stanzas. The flow of language is full of rhythm and word images. The weavers are busy weaving clothes in different colours throughout the day. Each colour as well as timing of the day symbolises different occasions in one's life.

In the morning, they weave a bright blue coloured cloth for a new born baby symbolising birth and happiness. During the day, they weave a bright coloured purple and green cloth for the marriage veil of a queen signifying life's celebrations. Finally, at night, they weave a white coloured cloth for the shroud of a dead body signifying death.

PRINCIPAL POINTS

- People of different communities usually wear or gift different colours of clothes at different occasions.
- Colours symbolise different feelings, moods and ideas, e.g. red colour symbolizes romantic mood or love and danger.
- Different times of the day represent different stages of life – morning represents childhood, evening youth and night death, or end of life.

LET'S LEARN NEW EXPRESSIONS

Study the meaning of different expressions used in the poem.

- **'break of day'**: early morning
- **'fall of night'**: evening
- **'garment so gay'**: cloth of bright colour
- **'chill'**: icy cold which is unpleasant

ENHANCE YOUR PERFORMANCE

In poetry different literary devices like Simile, Metaphor, Personification, Alliteration, etc. are used to make the expression more effective.

In this poem '**Simile, Imagery and symbolism**' have been used.

Simile: In a simile, comparison is made between two different objects which have some common points.

Simile is generally introduced by the words 'like' or 'as'.

Examples:

1. Blue as the wings of halcyon wild.
2. Bright like the plumes of a peacock.

Imagery: The suggestion of a clear mental picture or image by the use of words is called imagery. It is a suggestive word picture.

A poet can create or suggest beautiful sight-effects and sound-effects by means of words.

Example:

'Weavers weaving at break of day'

The above expression suggests two images-early morning and weavers weaving cloth.

Symbolism: Poets and writers often use objects or colours or different words to denote an idea. In this poem the different times of the day and colours of fabric are conveying the idea of a life cycle such as :

Morning : Birth, happiness and hope

Evening: Celebration of life during the youth and middle age

Night: Represents death

TEST TYPES**1. MCQ/Objective type question (understanding)**

Which of the following moods is not referred to in the poem? (Choose the most appropriate option from the choices given)

- A. Happy
- B. Sad
- C. Angry
- D. Solemn

2. VSA (understanding)

Colours reflect the mood of a person. Which colour/colours of clothes would you wear when you are

- (i) happy
- (ii) sad

3. SA (extrapolatory)

How does the poet bring in the musical effect in the poem?

4. LA (inference)

The weavers are not just weaving a cloth; they are telling the whole story of one's life. Explain giving examples from the poem.