

NCERT Solutions for Class 7 English (Poorvi)

Unit 3- Dreams And Discoveries: Chapter 8- Paper Boats

Let us discuss

I Choose the correct words from the brackets to complete the summary of the poem given below.

The poet sends paper boats down a 1. _____(stream/river) each day, writing his name and the name of his 2. _____(school/ village) on them. He hopes that someone in a 3. _____(strange/familiar) land will find them and know who he is. The poet fills his boats with 4. __ (rose/shiuli) flowers from his garden, hoping they will be safely carried to another land at 5. _____(night/morning). As he launches his boats, he imagines that the 6. _____(clouds/birds) in the sky are like friends, racing with his boats. At night, he dreams that his paper boats continue to 7. _____(swim/float) under the midnight stars, with the fairies of sleep sailing in them, their baskets full of 8. _____(dreams/fruits).

Ans. 1. stream 2. village 3. strange 4. shiuli 5. night 6. Clouds
7. float 8. dreams

II Choose the correct option for the following. The theme of the poem is _.

1. innocence 2. imagination 3. ignorance
4. playfulness 5. travel

(i) 1, 2 and 3 (ii) 3, 4 and 5 (iii) 1, 4 and 5 (iv) 1, 2 and 4

Ans. (iv) 1, 2 and 4

III Identify whether the following statement is true or false. The setting of the poem is a natural, outdoor environment. Ans. True

IV Complete the following sentence by choosing the correct word given within the brackets.

The tone is _____(sad and serious/gentle and wishful) and the mood is _
_____(thoughtful/boring).

Ans. gentle and wishful, thoughtful

V Identify the examples of alliteration from the poem. Ans. Examples of alliteration from the poem are:

1. "Day by day"
2. "Big black"
3. "Strange land"
4. "Shiuli flowers"
5. "Baskets full of dreams"

VI Fill in the blanks with suitable words from the poem.

1. The repetition of words ____and _____emphasises the passage of time.
2. The poet uses imagery like ____and _____to create a clear picture in the minds of the readers.

Ans. 1. "day by day", "one by one"

2. "little clouds setting the white bulging sails", "midnight stars"

VII Match the descriptions in Column 1 with what they symbolise in Column 2.

Column 1	Column 2
1. the child's innocence, dreams, hopes, and messages sent out into the world	(i) midnight stars
2. purity, beauty, and the start of a new day	(ii) paper boats
3. the vast universe and the child's dreams continuing through the night	(iii) shiuli flowers

Let us think and reflect

I Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

1. When night comes I bury my face in my arms and dream that my paper boats float on and on under the midnight stars.

The fairies of sleep are sailing in them, and the lading is their baskets full of dreams.

(i) Select the option that is most likely to be the speaker as per the extract. Take image from book

Ans. Option C is the correct answer (Reason – bury my face in my arms)

(ii) What can be inferred about the speaker's feelings when night comes? Ans. The speaker feels dreamy, peaceful, and imaginative.

(iii) What kind of beings are the 'fairies of sleep' imagined as? Select the most appropriate option.

A. mischievous B. gentle C. fearsome D. playful Ans. B. gentle

(iv) Fill in the blank by selecting the correct option from those given in the brackets.

The phrase 'lading is their baskets full of dreams' suggests that the speaker imagines the fairies of sleep carefully _____ (carrying his dreams /collecting his wishes) in their baskets.

Ans. carrying his dreams

II Answer the following questions.

1. Why do you think the poet writes his personal details on the paper boats?

Ans. The poet writes his name and the name of his village to send a piece of himself into the world, hoping that someone far away will find them and feel a connection with him. This act reflects a child's longing for connection, discovery, and a desire to be known beyond their immediate world.

2. The poet talks about the imagination of a child. Support this view with examples from the poem.

Ans. The poet vividly portrays a child's imagination through examples like hoping the boats reach a stranger, imagining clouds as playmates racing with the boats, and dreaming of fairies of sleep sailing in them with baskets of dreams.

Examples:

"I hope that someone in some strange land will find them and know who I am."

"I know not what playmate of mine in the sky sends them down the air to race with my boats."

"The fairies of sleep are sailing in them, and the lading is their baskets full of dreams."

3. How does the poet bring together imagination and reality to make the poem more interesting?

Ans. The poet blends reality of making and floating paper boats with imagination such-as boats reaching strange lands, clouds racing, fairies sailing, creating an enchanting narrative that elevates the poem's charm and depth.