My Mother (Poem)

Words | Meanings |
--- | --- |
Watched | خوش رنگی |
Taught | کتابیا |
Tears | آب تا | Cease |
Affectionate | اشعیا کر | Gay |
Soothe | آرام کرنا | Feeble |
Pains | دمکرنا |

Infant | شیروار |
Pretty | نازیبود |
Affection | حبیب |
Kind | مبارین |
Stay | سیاحا |

Stanza No. 1
Who sat and watched my infant head,
When sleeping on my cradle bed
And tears of sweet affection shed?
My Mother

Reference:
These lines have been taken from the poem "My Mother" composed by Ann Taylor.

Context:
In this poem, the poetess has paid a rich tribute to the sweet affection of her mother. She recalls the memories of her childhood. She describes the different ways of her mother's love. She provided her with every possible help in her childhood.

Paraphrase:
The poetess asks who sat along her cradle and watched her little head, who shed tears of love on seeing her in trouble. It was certainly her mother who showed so much kindness to her.

Stanza No. 2
Who dressed me in clothes nice and gay
And fondly taught me how to play
and minded all I had to say?
My Mother,

Reference:
These lines have been taken from the poem "My Mother" composed by Ann Taylor.

Context:
In this poem, the poetess has paid a rich tribute to the sweet affection of her mother. She recalls the
memories of her childhood and describes the different ways of her mother’s love. She provided her with every possible help in her childhood.

Paraphrase:
In these lines, the poetess says that her mother dressed her up nicely. She taught her how to play and minded all the necessary things she had to say. She understood everything which she wanted to convey. The poetess says that her mother did all of these things for her.

Stanza No. 3
Who ran to help me when I fell,
And would some pretty story tell,
Or kiss my head to make me well
My Mother,

Reference:
These lines have been taken from the poem "My Mother" composed by Ann Taylor.

Context:
In this poem the poetess has paid a rich tribute to the sweet affection of her mother. She recalls the memories of her childhood and describes the different ways of her mother’s love. She provided her with every possible help in her childhood.

Paraphrase:
The poetess asks who helped her when she fell while walking in her childhood, told her beautiful stories and kissed her forehead to make her feel well. It was certainly her mother.

Stanza No. 4
And can I ever cease to be
Affectionate and kind to thee,
Who was so very kind to me,
My Mother

Reference:
These lines have been taken from the poem "My Mother" composed by Ann Taylor.

Context:
In this poem the poetess has paid a rich tribute to the sweet affection of her mother. She recalls the memories of her childhood and describes the different ways of her mother’s love. She provided her with every possible help in her childhood.

Paraphrase:
The poetess says that she can never think of being less affectionate and kind to her mother because she was very kind to her.

Stanza No. 5
When thou art feeble, old and grey
My healthy arm shall be thy stay
And I will soothe thy pains away,
My Mother
Reference:
These lines have been taken from the poem "My Mother" composed by Ann Taylor.

Context:
In this poem, the poetess has paid a rich tribute to the sweet affection of her mother. She recalls the memories of her childhood and describes the different ways of her mother's love. She provided her with every possible help in her childhood.

Paraphrase:
The poetess affirms that she would show the same love and kindness to her mother when she would become weak, old and grey-haired. She would console her mother in her old age. It is her moral duty to serve her sincerely.

SUMMARY
(Ann Taylor)

This touching (ناصر) and appealing (شجاع) poem describes the universal (عالمی) reality (واقعی) of mother-child affection. In infancy (لاطینی)، it is the mother who takes care of her child. The poetess pays rich tribute to the sweet love of her mother. Mother is a great blessing of God, a friend in solitude (زیستہ)، a shelter (تغییر) in the sun and a cool breeze in the hot desert (رحیم).

The poetess recalls the memories of her childhood and describes the different ways of her mother’s love. In her infancy, her mother provided her with every possible help and now when her mother has grown old and feeble, the poetess would look after her and provide her solace (کوئی) and comfort. This universal nature of theme (عالمی) makes the whole appeal (شجاعت) of the poem.

Ann Taylor enumerates (یومن) one by one the ways her mother loved her during her childhood. It was her mother who would sit beside her cradle (آدھیا) when she slept. She looked after her with utmost love and care. She dressed her in the best possible manner. She even played with her and taught her how to play. She would suddenly pick her up when she fell forgetting every other thing. She would narrate (تختی) her loving stories and try to soothe and comfort her. She kissed her forehead (بالا).

The poetess says that she will not be forgetful (مرحوم) of her affection. When her mother will grow old and weak, she will also be kind and affectionate to her mother as she used to be in her childhood. She will support her mother with her healthy arms whenever she is in distress (سخت).

EXERCISES

Answer the following questions.

i. What are the poetess feelings about her mother as a small child?
Ans. She says, when she was a small child, her mother looked after her carefully. Her mother sat near her cradle and kissed her forehead.

ii. What does she remember about her mother’s care when she fell?
Ans. When she fell, her mother ran towards her and held her in her kind arms and told her a beautiful story.

iii. How is the poetess planning to treat her mother in her old age?
Ans. The poetess says, now her mother is old and weak. Now it is her duty to look after her and give her comfort.
iv. Express your feelings about your mother or father in a short essay of 200 words.
Ans. Mother is a blessing of God, a friend in sorrow, a shelter in the sun, a cool breeze in the hot desert. She is the only person, who is sincere in her love. I have a great love for my mother. I can't forget how tenderly she brought me up. When I was an infant, she loved me and took pain in bringing me up. She had prepared my milk, before I cried. I still remember, once I got fever, she spent two full days and nights with me in hospital. She did not sleep and rather kept sitting beside my bed. She used to tell me good things. She dressed me nicely. She prepared me for school daily. She helped me in doing my homework. She played different games with me. She told me interesting stories at night. I have great respect for my mother.

Missing letters.

i. Sooth__
ii. F__ndly
iii. Affection__te
iv. Cr__dle
v. Fe__ble

Match the words similar in meaning in List 'A' with 'B' and write the answer in 'C'.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List 'A'</th>
<th>List 'B'</th>
<th>List 'C'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affection</td>
<td>to comfort</td>
<td>(i)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fondly</td>
<td>weak</td>
<td>(ii)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cease</td>
<td>to stop</td>
<td>(iii)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feeble</td>
<td>eagerly</td>
<td>(iv)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soothe</td>
<td>love</td>
<td>(v)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Choose the correct word from the pairs given below to complete each sentence.

1. anything, nothing:
   a) Javed did not tell his father anything about it.
   b) Javed told his father nothing about it.

2. anywhere, nowhere:
   a) We could not find the book anywhere.
   b) The book was nowhere to be found.

3. anything, nothing:
   a) The passenger did not pay the coolie anything for his help.
   b) The passenger paid the coolie nothing for his help.

4. ever, never:
   a) Don't you ever get tired of sewing clothes?
   b) Do you never get tired of sewing clothes?

5. anything, nothing:
   a) There isn't anything wrong with this bicycle.
   b) There is nothing wrong with this bicycle.

6. any, no:
   a) There isn't any food left on the table.
   b) There is no food left on the table.

7. anybody, nobody:
   a) We didn't see anybody in the house.
   b) We saw nobody in the house.

8. none, any:
   a) I asked Rafia for five rupees but she had none.
   b) I asked Rafia for five rupees but she hadn't any.
9. anyone, no one:
   a) We can't trust anyone these days.
   b) We can trust no one these days.

10. any, no:
   a) I looked everywhere but couldn't find any bookstall.
   b) I looked everywhere but could find no bookstall.

Proverbs:
A short familiar saying in general use expressing a supposed truth or moral lesson is called a proverb.
Learn these proverbs and their meanings.
   i) Charity begins at home.
   ii) Be kind to relatives before showing kindness to strangers.
   iii) What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.
   iv) One person should be entitled to the same treatment as another person.
   v) It is never too late to mend.
   vi) However old a person may be, it is not too late for him to reform.
   vii) Every cloud has a silver lining.
   viii) However dark the present may seem, the future holds something brighter.
   ix) A bird in hand is worth two in the bush.
   x) It is wiser to accept an offer now than to depend on a better offer you may have in future.

Use the following words in your own sentences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Meanings</th>
<th>Sentences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Watch</td>
<td>عورستنکتا</td>
<td>Children watch cartoons interestingly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cradle</td>
<td>چندرو</td>
<td>The baby was sleeping in the cradle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tears</td>
<td>ابتسمار</td>
<td>I saw tears of joy in the eyes of my mother.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affection</td>
<td>عروستیت</td>
<td>We must behave our parents with affection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pretty</td>
<td>خوش‌حورت</td>
<td>My sister has a pretty doll.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain</td>
<td>دککرکاچک</td>
<td>I saw a girl crying in pain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kind</td>
<td>جسیم</td>
<td>God is very kind to us.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feeble</td>
<td>کمرو</td>
<td>I heard a feeble voice in the cave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soothe</td>
<td>آرام کردن کبکا</td>
<td>We should pray to God to soothe ourselves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taught</td>
<td>پر می‌لایا</td>
<td>He taught me the principles of a good life.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Answers**

**Missing Letters.**

i. e  ii. o  iii. a  iv. a  v. e

**Match List ‘C’**

i. Love  ii. eagerly  iii. To stop  iv. Weak  v. To comfort