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Poem - Night of the scorpion

1. Where had the scorpion crawled to and why?

Ans. The scorpion had crawled beneath a sack of rice to seek protection and shelter from the rain.

2. Why does the poet say 'risked' the rain?

Ans. The scorpion braving the rain had entered her room and stung the mother , and again he went out in the rain risking his life .

3. Why are the peasants omoared to a swarm of flies?

Ans. The comparison is the poet' s expression of discontent with the peasants. He hated them because they made the night a hell for him, his father and most importantly, for his mother.

4. What did they say when the scorpion was not fiund?

Ans. When scorpion was not found they said that with the movement of the scorpion the poison moved in mother's blood

5. The poet says that his father was a sceptic and rationalist. Did he act like one?

Give reasons.

Ans. Although the poet's father was a sceptic and rationalist, he was too grieved with the mother's situation. So , he tried whatever anyone around suggested to him which would help to relieve the mother's pain and suffering.

B. Reference to context.

1. Parting..... room

a. Whose tail is diabolic?

Ans. The scorpion's tail is diabolic .

b. What does the word ' flash' indicate?

Ans. The word ' flash' indicats a quick and sudden action.

c. Who are the people who came after the incident?

Ans. The peasants who are the poet's neighbours came after the incident.

2. With.....him

a. Who does 'giant scorpion shasows' mean?

Ans. The giant scorpion shasows is an expression of extreme contempt.

b. Who or what were they looking for? Why?

Ans. They were looking for the scorpion. The neighbours were of the belief that they could stop the poison that flowed to the victim's brain.

c. What did they think would happen if they did not find it? What is your opinion?

Ans. They thought that if they did not find the scorpion, mother would die

3. May.....pain

a. About whom was this desire being expressed?

Ans. This desire is being expressed about mother.

b. What had happened?

Ans. A scorpion had stung mother.

c. What else had been said ?

Ans. The peasants said that the suffering would cleanse some of her sins of the past birth or the next birth .

4. My..... children.

a. How do you know that the mother had been in pain?

Ans. The line 'my mother twisted through and through, groaning on a mat' shows that the mother had been in pain

b. What do you think had made the father act irritationally?

Ans. The suffering of the mother tell us about the selfless love of a mother for her children.

c. What do the words of the mother tell you about her?

Ans. The words of the mother tell us about the selfless love of a mother for her children.