

## Class– xii English Core [ 301 ]

### 1. Poetry

#### 1. Poem- MY MOTHER AT SIXTY-SIX

Kamala Das

Once, the poetess Kamala Das was driving to a city Cochin from her parent's house. Her sixty-six years old mother was sitting beside her. She looked at her dozing mother. Her mouth was open. Her face was pale and colourless like a corpse. She felt pain and thought that her mother's end was near. She could not bear it so she began to look outside.

The scene outside was pleasant and cheerful for her. She felt the young trees full of energy and sprinting away on the land. She saw some children coming out of their homes happily. They were running and skipping.

When the poetess Kamala Das reached the airport, the security check was done. After security check, she again looked at her mother. The mother was seeming sick and wan. The poetess once again felt the fear of separation. She felt it her duty to give moral support to her mother. So, she smiled and assured her mother to see her soon again.

## Comprehensive questions.

1. From where was the poetess Kamala Das going?

Ans. Kamala was going to Cochin from her parent's home with her sixty-six years old mother.

2. Describe about the condition of Kamala Das's mother?

Ans. Kamala Das's mother was sitting beside her in the car. She was dozing. Her mouth was open. Her face was ashen like that of a corpse.

3. Why did the poetess look outside? What did she see outside?

Ans. The poetess was very sad. She realized pain seeing old condition of her mother. So she began to look outside to avoid her sorrow. She saw young sprinting trees and the merry children spilling out of their homes.

4. Which familiar ache did the poetess feel?

Ans. The poetess felt an ache of death of her mother. She would have thought of her mother's separation from her. So, she said it familiar ache.

5. How did Kamala Das address her mother at last?

Ans. The poetess Kamala Das addressed her mother by saying 'Amma'. She said that she would see her soon. Then she smiled to show her sympathy.

### **Home work**

1. Name the poem and poet of this stanza?
2. Which figures of speech {devices} have been used in the poem? Write them taking verses from the poem?
3. What does the poet want to tell us in her poem?
4. What was her childhood's fear?
5. What moral education have you received from the poem 'My Mother At Sixty Six'?

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[ PGT in English]

