



INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Subject : English Topic : The Seven Ages Date of Worksheet : October 2017

Resource Person: Shobha Krishnan Date : _____

Name of the Student : _____ Class & Division : IX Roll Number: _____

I	Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:-	Marks
1.	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>All the world's a stage And all the men and women merely players; They have their exits and their entrances; ---- His acts being seven ages.</i></p>	
(i)	<p>The poet says ‘All the men and women are merely players because: a. they are good players b. they are not serious c. they play their roles in the drama of life</p>	4
(ii)	<p>Life is like a stage because: a. life is a drama b. life is temporary c. men and women are actors playing their roles.</p>	
(iii)	<p>The meanings of ‘entrance’ and ‘exit’ on the stage of life are: a. beginning of a drama ‘The Seven Stages’ b. man’s development and deterioration c. birth and death.</p>	
(iv)	<p>What parallelism has the poet drawn between the stage and the world?</p>	
2.	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>At first the infant, Mewling and puking in the nurse’s arms.</i></p>	4
(i)	<p>The first stage in the drama of life is _____</p>	
(ii)	<p>‘mewling’ and ‘puking’ means _____</p>	
(iii)	<p>The main characteristic of an infant is –</p>	
(iv)	<p>Name the poem and the poet.</p>	
3.	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Then the whining schoolboy, with his satchel And shining morning face, creeping like snail Unwillingly to the school.</i></p>	4
(i)	<p>The stage mentioned in the first line is –</p>	
(ii)	<p>The words that show the unwillingness of the boy while going to school -</p>	
(iii)	<p>The poetic device used in the second line is -----</p>	
(iv)	<p>What according to Shakespeare are the acts in man’s life?</p>	

<p>4.</p> <p>(i)</p> <p>(ii)</p> <p>(iii)</p> <p>(iv)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>And then the lover, Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad Made to his mistress' eyebrow.</i></p> <p>The stage in man's life referred here is –</p> <p>The meaning of 'woeful ballad' is –</p> <p>The poetic device used in the second line is –</p> <p>How does the lover spend his time?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p>
<p>5.</p> <p>(i)</p> <p>(ii)</p> <p>(iii)</p> <p>(iv)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>"Then a soldier, Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the pard, -----Even in the canon's mouth."</i></p> <p>The pard is a symbol of (a) humility (b) fierceness. (c) jealousy.</p> <p>The poetic device used in the second line is (a) a metaphor. (b) a simile. (c) Alliteration.</p> <p>To which stage of life does the soldier belong ?</p> <p>Who is the soldier compared to ? (a) a lion (b) a brave man (c) a leopard</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p>
<p>6.</p> <p>(i)</p> <p>(ii)</p> <p>(iii)</p> <p>(iv)</p>	<p>Who is the person being described in the above lines?</p> <p>What traits characterise this stage?</p> <p>What does 'bubble reputation' stand here?</p> <p>'Even in cannon's mouth', What does it signify?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p>
<p>7.</p> <p>(i)</p> <p>(ii)</p> <p>(iii)</p> <p>(iv)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>And then the justice, In fair round belly with good capon lined, -----And so he plays his part.</i></p> <p>The person mentioned in the above lines is –</p> <p>He is described as –</p> <p>He shows his wisdom by a. sharing his experience b. criticizing others c. quoting wise sayings and giving examples.</p> <p>What is his attitude towards the people around him?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p>
<p>8.</p> <p>(i)</p> <p>(ii)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>The sixth age shifts Into the lean and slippered pantaloons, ---His youthful hose, well saved, a world too wide -----And whistles in his sound.</i></p> <p>The meaning of 'slippered pantaloons' is</p> <p>His _____ are shrunk.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p>

(iii)	His manly voice is now –	
(iv)	To what do the seven roles that a man plays correspond?	
9.	<i>Last scene of all, That ends this strange eventful history, ---Sans teeth, scans eyes, sans taste, sans everything.</i>	4
(i)	The last scene refers to a. old and helpless stage b. old age c. death .	
(ii)	Why does the poet call this stage ‘second childishness’?	
(iii)	The last stage is marked by a. senility b. fear of death c. loneliness	
(iv)	Why does the poet call life ‘strange eventful history’?	
	SUMMARY Shakespeare considers the world a stage and men and women actors on the stage of life. They play seven roles according to their age. The first stage, as described by the poet, is the infant who is being carried by a nurse. The infant cries and vomits all the time. Later, that infant grows into a schoolboy, not willing to attend school which is the second stage of a man’s life. The third stage is that of a lover who is lost in his thoughts of love. The lover writes poetry to his lady’s beauty. In the fourth stage, as he grows older, he joins the army and becomes a soldier. He is physically fit and is aggressive, short-tempered and ambitious in nature. The fifth stage shows that with maturity and wisdom, the family man becomes a judge. He is a fair, healthy man full of wisdom. His look is authoritative and he advises people. The sixth stage is about the man who has grown old and is seen in a pantaloon and spectacles. His authoritative voice has grown weak and his voice trembles as he talks. The last stage is about the senile man who loses his teeth, his vision and his hearing. After this, the man part in the play ends and he exits from the stages of his life forever.	
	ANALYSIS	
	Shakespeare wants to render a message through his poem, “The Seven Ages of Man” that men and women are ‘merely players’ in the drama of life They are termed as ‘merely players’ because no one lives forever but plays his or her part and departs. At birth, they enter a stage and during death, they leave it. Man passes through seven phases of life in accordance with their age.	
	STRUCTURE The poem is composed in free verse. The style is narrative. The poem describes seven different stages of life in brief but has a powerful impact throughout.	
	METAPHOR Metaphor is that figure of speech where comparison of two different things are implied but not clearly stated. Examples of metaphor in the poem are as follows,-	

	<p>*All the world's a stage *And all men and women are merely players *seeking the bubble reputation (reputation has been termed as short-lived like a bubble)</p>	
	<p>SIMILE A simile is a figure of speech in which two dissimilar objects are compared and the comparison is made clear by the use of terms like 'like', 'such as' and so on. Examples of simile in the poem are, *Sighing like furnace *creeping like a snail</p>	
	<p>ALLITERATION Alliteration is the close repetition of the consonant sounds at the beginning of words to facilitate narration. Example of alliteration in the poem is, *shrunk shank *plays his part</p>	
	<p><u>Stage 1, Infancy:</u> A helpless baby, just crying and throwing up. <u>Stage 2, Schoolboy:</u> This is where his formal education starts but he is not entirely happy with school. His mother is ambitious for him and has washed his face thoroughly before sending him off to school but he goes very slowly and reluctantly. <u>Stage 3, Teenager:</u> He's grown into his late teens and his main interest is girls. He's likely to make a bit of a fool of himself with them. He is sentimental, sighing and writing poems to girls, making himself a bit ridiculous. <u>Stage 4, Young man:</u> He's a bold and fearless soldier – passionate in the causes he's prepared to fight for and quickly springs into action. He works on developing his reputation and takes risks to that end. <u>Stage 5, Middle aged:</u> He regards himself as wise and experienced and doesn't mind sharing his views and ideas with anyone and likes making speeches. He's made a name for himself and is prosperous and respected. As a result of his success he's become vain. He enjoys the finer things of life, like good food. <u>Stage 6, Old man:</u> He is old and nothing like his former self – physically or mentally. He looks and behaves like an old man, dresses like one and he has a thin piping voice now. His influence slips away. <u>Stage 7, Dotage and death:</u> He loses his mind in senility. His hair and teeth fall out and his sight goes. Then he loses everything as he sinks into the oblivion of death.</p>	