

Grade VI

2. The Kite

Poetry

Summary of the Poem

A new kite looks very bright and beautiful in the clear blue sky. The kite jumps in the air and moves up in the blue sky. It shakes its tail with a noise caused by air. It soars high like a ship in the air with only one sail. It moves upward in the air as a ship rides in the strong wave of the sea.

It moves along with the wind, when the wind falls the kite takes rest. When the string from which it is attached goes loose, the person who is controlling the kite, has to roll back the string. The kite has to come back to the ground. It has to wait for the wind to blow and move high in the sky again. The movement of the kite depends on the wind.

But, the kite flutters when the string of the kite caught with the branches of a tree. The master of the kite could no longer control the kite and its string. The same bright kite looks dirty and torn as it gets trapped and could no longer move upward in the air.

Stanzawise Explanation of The Poem

Stanza 1

How bright on the blue
Is a Kite when it's new!
With a dive and a dip
It snaps its tail

Then soars like a ship
With only a sail.

References : The above lines have been taken from the poem 'The kite'. It has been written by Harry Behn, where the poet says that a new kite looks bright in the sky, but the same kite looks ugly when it is torn out.



Context : The poet talks about a new kite which looks bright in the sky. It moves from one place to another and makes noise in the process. It is being compared with a ship.

Explanation : In the above lines, the poet has given a description about a new kite. It looks magnificent in the clear sky. It moves from one place to another, diving and dipping in the sky. During its movement, the kite makes noise through its tail. The kite has only one sail to catch the wind. Its tail acts as a sail.

Stanza 2

As over tides
Of wind it rides,
Climbs to the crest
Of a gust and pulls,
Then seems to rest
As wind falls.
When string goes slack
You wind it back

Reference : Same as in stanza 2

Context : The poet describes the movement of the kite. The poet says that after riding high in the sky, the kite takes rest when the wind falls. When its thread becomes loose, the master of the kite rolls back its thread.

The poet compares its movement with a ship which rides on the waves on the ocean.

Explanation : The poet says that the kite rides high in the air. It reaches at the top spot when the air current is strong. The kite takes rest when the wind falls. Therefore, its movement is being determined by the wind. When the wind is strong, it will rise higher. When the wind is weak, it will take rest. When its thread gets loose, the person who is handling the kite rolls back the thread and controls the movement of the kite.

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Stanza 3

And run until
A new breeze blows
And its wings fill
And up it goes!
How bright on the blue
Is a kite when it's new!
But a raggeder thing
You never will see
When it flaps on a string
In the top of a tree

Reference : Same as in stanza 1

Context : The poet emphasizes that the movement of the wind is very important for the kite's fate. The poet compares a new kite which looks attractive with a torn out kite which gets trapped in the branches of a tree. It looks ugly and dirty.

Explanation : The poet says that the person, who handles the kite has to wait for the wind to blow. The kite moves up with the help of the wind. The same kite, which looks bright in the sky when it is new, appears ugly when it is torn out. It looks dirty and unattractive after it gets trapped in the branches of a tree. Therefore, the movement of the air decides the fate of the kite.

NCERT Corner

Working with the Poem

1. List out the action words in the poem.

Dive, dip, snaps,.....

Find out the meanings of these words,

Ans. Dive, dip, snaps, soars, climbs, rides, pulls, falls

Dive Plunge head first into water with one's arms raised over one's head.

Dip Put or let something down quickly or briefly in or into (liquid).

Snaps Break suddenly and completely, typically With a sharp cracking sound

Soars Fly or rise high in the air.

Climbs Go or come up a (slope or staircase); ascend.

Rides Sit on and control the movement of something.

Pulls Exert force on (someone or something) so as to cause movement towards oneself.

Falls Move from a higher to lower level, typically rapidly and without control.

2. Read these lines from the poem.

Then soars like a ship with only a sail

The movement of the tailless kite is compared to a ship with a sail. This is called a simile. Can you suggest what or who the following actions may be compared to?

He runs like.....He eats like.....

She sings like.....It shines like.....

It flies like.....

i. He runs like a cheetah.	ii. He eats like a bird	iii. She sings like a nightingale
iv. It shines like a star,	v. It flies like a kite.	

3. Try to make a kite with your friends. Collect the things required such as colour paper/ news-paper, thread, glue, a thin stick that can be bent. After making the kite see if you can fly it.

Do it yourself.

Chapter Practice

Very Short Answer Type Questions

1. **How does the kite look in the sky?**

The kite looked bright in the clear blue sky.

2. **When does the kite take rest?**

The kite seems to take rest when the wind falls. It waits for the wind to blow so that it can fly again.

3. **What happens to the thread when it gets loose?**

The master of the kite, who controls it, rolls back the thread when it gets loose.

4. **When does the kite lose its beauty?**

The kite loses its beauty and shine when it gets trapped in the branches of a tree.

Short Answer Type Questions

1. **Describe the upward movement of a kite.**

A new kite looks very bright in the blue sky. The kite jumps in the air and moves up in the sky. It shakes its tail with a noise. It soars high like a ship in the air, it moves upward in the air as a ship rides in the strong wave of the sea.

2. **What happened when the kite got trapped in a tree?**

The kite looked dull after it was trapped in a tree. It fluttered when its string was caught in the tree branches. The master of the kite could no longer control the kite and its string. The kite could no longer move upward in the air.

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Extract Based Questions

Extract 1

Directions (Q. Nos.1-6) Read the extract given below and answer the following questions.

How bright on the blue
Is a kite when it's new!
With a dive and a dip
It snaps its tail
Then soars like a ship
With only a sail.

1. **Who makes sharp sound with its tail?**

The kite makes the sharp sound with its tail while moving in the air.

2. **What do you mean by the line, "Then soars like a ship"?**

The poet has compared the movement of a kite with a ship with only one sail with the help of the line.

3. **What has the kite been compared to?**

The kite has been compared to ship.

4. **Find the antonym of the word 'bright'**

(a) Dark

(b) Shine

(c) Movement

(d) Clear

(d) Dark

5. **Give the synonym for the word 'dive'.**

(a) Deep

(b) Dull

(c) Beat

(d) Plunge

(d) Plunge

6. **Give one word substitute for a piece of material extended on a mast to catch the wind and propel a boat or ship or other vessel.**

(a) Captain

(b) Sail

(c) Raincoat

(d) Cloth

(b) Sail

Exact 2

Directions (Q.Nos.1-6) Read the extract given below and answer the following Questions.

Of wind it rides,
Climbs to the crest
Of a gust and pulls,
Then seems to rest
As wind falls.

When string goes slack
You wind it back.

1. **What happened to the string attached to the kite?**

The string attached with the kite gets loose and the kite could not move upward.

2. **Who tries to roll back the thread of the kite?**

The master of the kite rolls back the thread when it goes loose. The master controls the kite.

3. **When does the kite climb?**

The kite climbs after going up and down.

4. **Write antonym for the word 'pull'.**

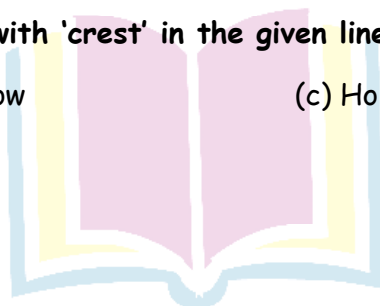
- (a) Climb (b) increase (c) Jump (d) Push
(d) Push

5. **Give synonym for the word 'slack'.**

- (a) Loose (b) Tight (c) Easy (d) Slim
(a) Loose

6. **Find the word which rhymes with 'crest' in the given lines.**

- (a) Chair (b) Below (c) Hollow (d) Rest
(d) rest



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Directions (Q.Nos.1-6) Read the extract given below and answer the following Questions.

A new breeze blows
And its wings fill
And up it goes!
How bright on the blue
Is a kite when it's new!
But a raggeder thing
You never will see
When it flaps on string
In the top of a tree.

1. "And up it goes" , who is being referred to in this line?

The kite is being referred to in this line, the kite goes up when the breeze blows.

2. How does the kite look when it is new?

The kite looks bright on the sky when it is new.+

3. "When it flaps on a string. In a top of a tree"?

The Kite flutters when the string of the kite gets caught in the branches of the tree.

4. Write the opposite/ antonym of

(a) Bright

(b) Top

(a) Dark

(b) Down

5. 'Breeze' is associated with.....

(a) Water

(b) Wind

(c) mountain

(d) Snow

(b) Wind

6. Give the synonym for 'dive'

(a) Jump

(b) Sleep

(c) Dry

(d) Stand

(a) Jump

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