

Ecology

A. Choose the correct option.

1. Which of the following is not true about the champak trees?

c. The mother under the attack of migraine is angry with them

2. Which of the following is not a reason for the mother's love of the champak trees?

d. The poet is intimate with them

3. Why is the poet angry with the champak trees?

b. because they give mother migraine

B. Answer the following questions in one or two sentences.

1. How did the champak trees come into being?

A: The champak trees germinated from the seeds that reached the earth through the 'providential droppings' of a bird.

2. What is the poet's attitude to the story about the origin of the champak trees?

A: The poet is skeptical about and slightly contemptuous of the 'providential' origin of the champak trees.

3. Why does the poet come home in rage?

A: The sight of the bloomed champak trees, which is sure to give his mother a blinding migraine, drives the poet into rage.

4. "... but mother flashing her temper. . ." Why did the mother lose her temper?

A: The mother lost her temper when others tried to fell her beloved champak trees.

C. Answer the following in about 100 words.

1. Give a description of the poet's house.

A: The poet's house is decrepit with black pillars and walls worn out at many places like the scales of a fish. There are smells, holes, cracks, creaking doors and windows as well as nocturnal animal visitors. All these indicate the ramshackle state of the house. The house is described as porous too—it permits the movement of fluids. That is, when it rains the house leaks. The house, in short, is old and dilapidated.

2. Why does the poet's mother refuse to have the trees cut down?

A: Though the champak trees cause blinding migraine, the mother would not hear of getting them felled. She loves, adores and worships them and cannot even imagine their destruction. For her the origin of the trees is divine— they germinated from the seeds that reached the earth through the 'providential droppings' of a bird. The stubborn resistance of the mother when it comes to

destroying the trees is in fact indicative of the strong sense of ecology that rustic people have assimilated.

3. What is the poet's attitude to the champak trees?

A: For the poet, the champak trees are a cause of irritation and revulsion. But despite their causing blinding migraine, the mother would not hear of getting them felled. For her the origin of the trees is divinely ordained— they germinated from the seeds that reached the earth through the 'providential droppings' of a bird. The poet is skeptical about and a bit contemptuous of the 'providential' origin of the champak trees and considers them hazardous to health.

4. What does the poet say about the fragrance of the champak trees?

A: The fragrance of the champak tree is pungent and lingering in such a way that no wind can scatter it. The fragrance is pervasive too. It freely enters the poet's decrepit house through the holes and cracks of the wall.

D. Answer the following question in about 300 words.

1. How does the attitude of the mother towards the champak tree conflict with that of the children?

A: For the poet, the champak trees are a cause of irritation and revulsion. The fragrance of the champak tree is pungent and lingering in such a way that no wind can scatter it. The fragrance is pervasive too. It freely enters the poet's decrepit house through the holes and cracks of the wall.

But the attitude of the mother towards the trees is entirely different. Despite their causing blinding migraine, the mother would not hear of getting them felled. Though the champak trees are obviously a cause of disease, the mother loves, adores and worships them and cannot even think about cutting them down. For her the origin of the trees is divinely ordained— they germinated from the seeds that reached the earth through the 'providential droppings' of a bird. The poet is skeptical about and a bit contemptuous of the 'providential' origin of the champak trees and considers them hazardous to health.

The stubborn resistance of the mother when it comes to destroying the trees is in fact indicative of the strong sense of ecology that common people have assimilated.