

10th English New Course NBF: EnglishKeys Academy

Chapter 05: Mother Nature

Stanza 1

Word	Meaning in Urdu	Synonyms	Antonyms
Gentlest	سب سے نرم	kindest, tenderest	harshest, cruellest
Impatient	بے صبر	restless, eager	patient, tolerant
Feeblest	سب سے کمزور	weakest, frailest	strongest, toughest
Waywardest	سب سے نافرمان	disobedient, unruly	obedient, well-behaved
Admonition	تنبیہ	warning, caution	praise, encouragement

Nature, the gentlest mother,
Impatient of no child,
The feeblest or the waywardest,
Her admonition mild

قدرت، سب سے نرم ماں،
کسی بچے سے بے صبر نہیں،
چاہے وہ کمزور ترین ہو یا سب سے نافرمان،
اس کی تنبیہ نرم ہوتی ہے۔

Paraphrase: Nature, the kindest of mothers, shows no impatience with any child—whether weak or rebellious—her warnings are always soft and gentle.

Comprehension Questions:

1. What kind of mother is Nature portrayed as?

Answer: She is portrayed as the gentlest and most patient mother.

2. How does Nature deal with the weakest or most disobedient children?

Answer: With soft and gentle warnings (mild admonition).

3. Which poetic device is used in “Nature, the gentlest mother”?

Answer: Personification, as nature is given human qualities of a mother.

Stanza 2

Word	Meaning in Urdu	Synonyms	Antonyms
Forest	جنگل	woods, jungle	city, desert
Hill	پہاڑ	mountain, slope	plain, valley
Traveller	مسافر	wanderer, voyager	resident, settler
Restraining	روکنا	controlling, limiting	encouraging, allowing
Rampant	بے قابو	wild, uncontrolled	calm, subdued
Impetuous	جوشیلا، تیز	impulsive, reckless	cautious, thoughtful

In Forest and the hill,
By traveller is heard,

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Restraining rampant squirrel
Or too impetuous bird.

جنگل اور پہاڑ میں،
مسافر اسے سنا ہے،
وہ بے قابو گلہری کو روکتی ہے
یا حد سے زیادہ جوشیلے پرندے کو۔

Paraphrase: In the forest and on the hill, the traveler hears her voice gently restraining the unruly squirrel or the overenthusiastic bird.

Comprehension Questions:

1. **Where is Nature's voice heard by the traveler?**

Answer: In the forest and on the hill.

2. **Whom does Nature restrain in this stanza?**

Answer: The rampant squirrel and the too impetuous bird.

3. **What poetic device is seen in "restraining rampant squirrel"?**

Answer: Alliteration (repetition of the 'r' sound).

Stanza 3

Word	Meaning in Urdu	Synonyms	Antonyms
Fair	خوبصورت	lovely, pleasant	ugly, unpleasant
Conversation	گفتگو	talk, dialogue	silence, stillness
Summer	گرمی	hot season	winter, cold
Assembly	مجلس	gathering, meeting	solitude, dispersal
Goes down	غروب ہونا	sets, descends	rises, ascends

How fair her conversation,
A summer afternoon,
Her household, her assembly;
And when the sun goes down

کتنی خوشنما ہے اس کی گفتگو،
گرمیوں کی دوپہر میں،
اس کا گھر، اس کی مجلس؛
اور جب سورج غروب ہوتا ہے

Paraphrase: Her gentle communication graces a summer afternoon, within her household and her gatherings; and as the sun begins to set...

Comprehension Questions:

1. **What is described as "fair" in this stanza?**

Answer: Nature's conversation.

2. **What time of day is mentioned?**

Answer: A summer afternoon and sunset.

3. **Which poetic device is used in "Her household, her assembly"?**

Answer: Repetition and personification.

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Stanza 4

Word	Meaning in Urdu	Synonyms	Antonyms
Isles	جزیرے	islands	mainland, continent
Incites	ابھارتی ہے	provokes, encourages	discourages, restrains
Timid	ڈرپوک	shy, fearful	bold, brave
Minutest	سب سے چھوٹا	tiniest, smallest	largest, biggest
Unworthy	حقیر، غیر قابل	undeserving, insignificant	worthy, noble

Her voice among the isles
Incites the timid prayer
Of the minutest cricket,
The most unworthy flower

جزائر میں اس کی آواز
ڈرپوک سی دعا کو ابھارتی ہے
سب سے چھوٹے جبینگر کی،
اور سب سے حقیر پھول کی۔

Paraphrase:

Her voice across the islands inspires even the shy prayer of the tiniest cricket and the humblest flower.

Comprehension Questions:

1. What does Nature's voice incite?
Answer: The timid prayer of the smallest creatures.
2. Which small creatures are mentioned?
Answer: Cricket and flower.
3. What poetic device is used in "timid prayer of the minutest cricket"?
Answer: Personification and imagery.

Stanza 5

Word	Meaning in Urdu	Synonyms	Antonyms
Suffice	کافی ہونا	be enough, satisfy	fall short, lack
Lamps	چراغ	lights, lanterns	darkness, shadows
Bending	جھکنا	leaning, curving	standing, straightening

When all the children sleep
She turns as long away
As will suffice to light her lamps;
Then, bending from the sky

جب تمام بچے سو جاتے ہیں
تو وہ اتنی دیر کے لیے منہ موڑ لیتی ہے
جتنی کافی ہو اس کے چراغ جلانے کو؛
پھر، آسمان سے جھک کر

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Paraphrase: Once all the children are asleep, she turns away just long enough to light her lamps, and then gently bends down from the sky.

Comprehension Questions:

1. **What action does Nature take when children sleep?**

Answer: She turns away briefly to light her lamps.

2. **What might “lamps” symbolize?**

Answer: Stars or moonlight.

3. **Which poetic device is used in “light her lamps”?**

Answer: Metaphor.

Stanza 6

Word	Meaning in Urdu	Synonyms	Antonyms
Infinite	لامحدود	boundless, endless	finite, limited
Affection	محبت	love, fondness	hatred, indifference
Care	خیال	attention, concern	neglect, disregard
Wills	حکم دیتی ہے	desires, commands	refuses, ignores
Silence	خاموشی	stillness, quiet	noise, sound

With infinite affection

And infinite care

Her golden finger on her lip,

Wills silence everywhere

لامحدود محبت کے ساتھ
اور لامحدود خیال کے ساتھ
اپنی سنہری انگلی ہونٹوں پر رکھ کر،
وہ ہر جگہ خاموشی کا حکم دیتی ہے۔

Paraphrase: With boundless love and careful tenderness, she places her golden finger to her lips and gently commands silence everywhere.

Comprehension Questions:

1. **What gesture does Nature use to command silence?**

Answer: Placing her golden finger on her lips.

2. **What qualities are emphasized about Nature in this stanza?**

Answer: Infinite affection and care.

3. **Which poetic device is in “golden finger on her lip”?**

Answer: Imagery and symbolism.

Poem Summary

Emily Dickinson’s poem “*Nature, the Gentlest Mother*” personifies nature as a loving, patient, and nurturing mother. Nature gently guides all creatures—no matter how weak or unruly—without anger or cruelty. Her quiet presence is felt in forests and hills, calming animals and inspiring reverence. At night, she lights the world with stars and lovingly demands silence, showing infinite care. Through vivid imagery and personification, the poet presents nature as the perfect embodiment of tenderness and control.

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