

LITERATURE

The Lost Dances of Cranes

Theme: The poem deals with the destruction of environment. In this poem the poet laments at the loss of cranes which she saw dancing in the fields earlier. She is grieved at the sight of another type of cranes used for building cities.

Summary : The poet addresses the cranes and says that their fields are now empty. The fields where once the cranes used to dance are now empty. The dances of the cranes have become a memory now. In place of these birds another kind of cranes are seen. These cranes are tall machines used for moving heavy objects like building materials. The to and fro movement of the machines is the other kind of dance that the poet has referred to. The birds are fading quickly and they are present only in our memories and video footage. It is an irony that the ones who have destroyed the fields to construct buildings are watching nature videos and enjoying nature in this way.

Message: The message that we get through this poem is to save our environment and protect the endangered species so that they don't become just memories. Rather than just watching the videos about nature, people should do something to protect nature.

Question 1. Answer the following questions:

1. What do you understand by the words 'cranes' and 'cranes of another kind'?
2. Which are the two dances the poet refers to in the poem? What does each of them represent?
3. What would the city dwellers marvel at?
4. What does the poet mourns at?

GRAMMAR

DETERMINERS:

Determiner is a word use before a noun to indicate which things or people we are talking about.

Eg. The girl you met is my friend.

There were many people at the station

Kinds of determiners

1. ARTICLES:

a. Definite article THE (specific)

He threw the ball into the river.

b. Indefinite article a and an (general)

He is a European.

I met him an hour ago.

2. DEMONSTRATIVES:

This, that, these, those (specific)

She bought these books.

We lived in this house for four years.

3. POSSESSIVE:

My, our, your, his, its, their. (Specific)

He is my uncle.

Our neighbour is a rich man.

4. QUANTIFIERS:

Indicate quantity or amount of something.

Much, some, several, a lot of, both, etc.

There is no milk in the bottle.

All children enjoyed the show.

5. INTERROGATIVES:

Used to ask specific questions.

What, which, whose, etc.

Which colour do you like the most?

6. ORDINALS:

Shows sequence or order.

First, second, last, next, etc.

I shall meet him the next week.

He is the last one to help me.

Question 2. Fill in the blanks with suitable determiners.

- i. books are missing from the library. (Any, some)
- ii. She has not solved sums.(Many, any)
- iii. He didn't make progress. (Much, many)
- iv. There is university in our city. (A,an)
- v.ship sank in Bay of Bengal. (A, the)

- vi. I met her week. (This, those)
- vii. shop should we go in? (Which, whose)

WRITING

Question 3. You are Neha/ Naresh of St. Francis School, Allahabad. You have lost a library book. Draft a notice requesting help in finding the lost book. Provide necessary details.

Question 4. Write an essay on the topic - ' Lockdown - An opportunity to connect with family'. (550 words)