

I am a **feather** on the bright sky
 I am the blue horse that runs in the **plain**
 I am the fish that **rolls**, shining, in the water
 I am the shadow that follows a child
 I am the evening light, the **luster** of **meadows**
 I am the eagle playing with wind
 I am a **cluster** of bright **beads**
 I am the **farthest** star
 I am the cold of the **dawn**
 I am the **roaring** of the rain
 I am the **glitter** on the **crust** of the snow
 I am the long track of the moon in a lake
 I am the flame of four colors
 I am the whole dream of these things.
 You see, I am alive, I am alive
 I stand in good relation to the earth
 I stand in good relation to the lords
 I stand in good relation to all that is beautiful
 I stand in good relation to all that is fruitful
 You see, I am alive, I am alive.

میں روشن آسمان پر ایک بگھڑی ہوں
 میں میدان میں دوڑتا ہوں، گھوڑا ہوں
 میں پانی میں چمکتی ہوئی لوٹ پوٹ ہوتی مچھلی ہوں
 میں بچے کا تعاقب کرتا سایہ ہوں
 میں چراگا ہوں کی چمک، شام کی روشنی ہوں
 میں ہواؤں سے انگھیلیاں کرتا ہوں عقاب ہوں
 میں چمکدار موتیوں کا ایک گچھا ہوں
 میں انتہائی دور دراز کا ایک ستارہ ہوں
 میں صبح سویرے کی ٹھنڈک ہوں
 میں بارش کی آواز ہوں
 میں برف کی سطح سے چمکتی ہوئی روشنی ہوں
 میں جھیل میں چاند کا ایک طویل راستہ ہوں
 میں چار رنگوں کا ایک شعلہ ہوں
 میں ان تمام چیزوں کا ایک مکمل خواب ہوں
 دیکھا، میں خوش ہوں، میں زندہ ہوں
 میرا زمین سے اچھا تعلق ہے
 میرا لوگوں سے اچھا تعلق ہے
 میرا خوبصورت چیزوں سے اچھا تعلق ہے
 میرا ان تمام چیزوں سے اچھا تعلق ہے جو نفع بخش ہیں
 دیکھا، میں زندہ ہوں، میں زندہ ہوں۔

WORDS	URDU	SYNONYMS	WORDS	URDU	SYNONYMS
roaring	گر جنا	thundering , loud, noisy	rolls	گھومنا	move, turn, spine
crust	اوپری سطح	bunch , top, coating	beads	سوئی	droplets, pearls, spheres
glitter	چمکنا	glare , twinkle, sparkle, flash	plain	میدان	lowland, field
meadows	بزدار	pastures , grassland	luster	چمک	shine, gloss, gleam
feather	بال و پر	spike, quill, plume	cluster	گچھا	group, collection, mass
farthest	دور ترین	remotest, distant	dawn	صبح	morning, daybreak, sunrise

EXPLANATION WITH REFERENCE TO THE CONTEXT**LINES 1-3**

*I am a feather on the bright sky
I am the blue horse that runs in the plain
I am the fish that rolls, shining, in the water*

REFERENCE:

These lines have been taken from the poem “The Delight Song” by N. Scott Momaday.

CONTEXT:

A person is alive when he is in harmony with all that is beautiful and fruitful. The whole universe is with the person who stands in good relation to the earth. Internal happiness of the poet reflects through the beautiful images of nature.

EXPLANATION:

The poet expresses his extreme joy through various metaphors of unique objects. He is overjoyed and feels himself in harmony with the surroundings. He feels himself like a feather flying in the infinite vastness of the sky. The feelings of lightness and carefree attitude are visible in this line. He feels himself like a horse of good breed (blue horse) that runs on the ground. The horse stands for energy, vigour and independence. He feels himself like a fish that rolls in the infinite depths of water. The fish stands for mobility, agility and flexibility. In these lines the poet expresses his happiness through metaphors of unique things that he finds in the sky, water and on the earth.

LINES 4-6

*I am the shadow that follows a child
I am the evening light, the luster of meadows
I am the eagle playing with the wind*

EXPLANATION:

The poet expresses his feelings of joy and pleasure through the metaphor of a child’s shadow. This metaphor depicts innocent pleasure and tension-free attitude of the poet. He feels happy, relaxed and care-free like a child. The poet compares himself to the evening light which is soothing, comforting and pleasing. He compares himself to the brightness of meadows and the eagle that plays with the wind in the sky. The metaphor of eagle stands for the poet’s high morale and feelings of sublimation.

LINES 7-9

I am a cluster of bright beads

I am the farthest star

I am the cold of the dawn

EXPLANATION:

The glitter and brightness of pearls is proverbial. The poet compares himself to the glitter of pearls to express his happiness. The image of 'bright beads' denotes the glow of happiness that reflects through the poet's words and tone. Distant things have their own charm and beauty. The poet compares himself to the distant star that shines in the blue depths of the sky. The poet calls himself the cold of dawn to express purity and freshness of his soul. All the metaphors in these lines show the height of delight of the poet.

LINES 10-12

I am the roaring of the rain

I am the glitter on the crust of the snow

I am the long track of the moon in a lake

EXPLANATION:

The poet compares himself to the melodious sound of rainfall that creates pleasing and soothing effect. He compares himself to the shine of the crust of snow. The metaphor of snow perfectly describes the beautiful glow of happiness of the poet. He compares himself to the long journey of the moon in the sky, whose reflection in the lake looks very romantic. The poet calls himself the same beautiful long track. All the metaphors in these lines show the height of delight of the poet.

LINES 13-15

I am the flame of four colors

I am the whole dream of these things.

You see, I am alive, I am alive

EXPLANATION:

The poet visualizes himself as a colourful flame. The flame of four colours depicts the beauties and pleasures of life. He expresses his extreme joy through the metaphors of unique, beautiful objects of nature. He calls himself the dream of all these beautiful images of nature. These lines show that the poet is vibrant and full of life. He is lively, cheerful and highly spirited. His feelings of jubilation and fascination keep him away from all traces of dejection and gloom.

LINES 16-20

*I stand in good relation to the earth
 I stand in good relation to the lords
 I stand in good relation to all that is beautiful
 I stand in good relation to all that is fruitful
 You see, I am alive, I am alive.*

EXPLANATION:

The poet unfolds the secret of his happiness and colourful life in the last lines. These lines are the essence of the poem. The poet says that good relation with nature and earth is the source of pleasure and delight for him. His close bond and intimate connection with all that is beautiful and fruitful makes him lively, cheerful and full of life. The poet concludes the poem with the message that good relation with nature and beauty give us energy, vigor and spirit. He wants to say that we can make our earth a paradise if we develop harmony with all that is beautiful and fruitful.

TEXTBOOK EXERCISE

Q.1 What do you understand when the poet says, “I am the shadow that follows a child”?
 (1 Time)

Free Playful and Full of Life

Ans. The poet wants to say that he is as free, playful and full of life as a child. He feels the same innocent joy and lively pleasure as a child does. The beautiful metaphor of the shadow of the child perfectly describes the poet’s childlike innocence, jubiliations and liveliness.

Q.2 How can the crust of snow glitter?
 (2 Times)

Because of Sunshine

Ans. The crust of the snow glitters in the sunshine. The snow glitters when the sun or the moon pours its light down on it. The poet says that he is the glitter on the crust of the snow in order to describe the beauty, grace and brightness he is bathed in. The metaphor of snow expresses the poet’s purity of soul and the freshness of his happiness.

Q.3 What is the dream of the poet? OR
 Describe the dream of the poet in the poem, ‘The Delight Song’.
 (6 Times)

All Beautiful Objects

Ans. The dream of the poet is to live a beautiful, fruitful and enjoyable life by standing in good relation to the earth, the lords, and all that is beautiful and fruitful. The poet says that he is the dream of all the beautiful object of nature that give him joy, pleasure and energy.

- Q.4** What are the things that keep a person alive? (The Delight Song) OR (10 Times)
 What is the effect of man's good relation with earth and the lords? OR (2 Times)
 What does the line "I stand in good relation to the earth" mean? (1 Time)
 What, according to Scott Momaday, are the things that keep a person alive? (1 Time)

OR

Write down your opinion in three sentences based on the theme of the poem. "The Delight Song". (1 Time)

Happy, Healthy Life

Ans. The things that keep a person alive are his good relations with the earth, the lords and all that is beautiful and fruitful. When a person stands in good relation to nature, he lives a happy, healthy and cheerful life. His close bond and intimate connection with nature makes him lively, vibrant and full of life.

- Q.5** Why does the poet call himself a fish? (The Delight Song) (1 Time)

To Express his Happiness

Ans. The poet calls himself a fish that rolls, shining, in the water in order to express his inner joy and happiness. The fish stands for mobility, agility and flexibility. Internal happiness and liveliness of the poet reflects through the beautiful image of nature.

MCQS FOR PRACTICE

- Who wrote the poem is _____?
 (a) N. Scott Momaday (c) W.H. Auden
 (b) Robert Graves (d) Charles Perrault
- The poet is the evening _____, the luster of meadows.
 (a) light (c) twilight
 (b) bright (d) dusk
- The poet is the glitter on the crust of _____.
 (a) earth (c) flower
 (b) snow (d) soil
- The poet stands in good relation to all that is _____.
 (a) dutiful (c) sorrowful
 (b) delightful (d) fruitful
- The poet says that he is the flame of _____.
 (a) bright light (c) seven colours
 (b) bright colours (d) four colours

ANSWER KEY

1.	A	2.	A	3.	B	4.	D	5.	D
----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---

SYNONYMS FROM PAST PAPERS

1. I am a cluster of bright beads. (1 Time)
 (a) field (b) butter (c) stone (d) bunch
2. I am the glitter on the crust of snow (1 Time)
 (a) bare (b) dare (c) fiare (d) glare
3. I am the roaring of the rain. (1 Time)
 (a) rise (b) glitter (c) thunder (d) shine
4. I am the evening light, the luster of meadows. (1 Time)
 (a) mountains (b) trees (c) pastures (d) brooks

ANSWER KEY

1.	D	2.	D	3.	C	4.	C
----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---

MORE SYNONYMS FOR PRACTICE

1. I am the fish that rolls, shining, in the water.
 (a) breathes (c) rests
 (b) swims (d) moves
2. I am the evening light, the luster of meadows.
 (a) glow (c) richness
 (b) grass (d) stream
3. I am the cold of the dawn.
 (a) evening (c) night
 (b) morning (d) noon
4. I am the glitter on the crust of the snow.
 (a) flash (c) dew
 (b) cold (d) dullness
5. I am the glitter on the crust of the snow.
 (a) blaze (c) shine
 (b) covering (d) depth

ANSWER KEY

1.	D	2.	A	3.	B	4.	A	5.	B
----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---