

SUN AND MOON – Katherine Mansfield

I. Fill in the blanks:

1. Sun and Moon are Siblings.
2. The party was arranged in the ground floor of the house.
3. Nurse and Annie are altering mother's dress.
4. Nellie is a house maid.
5. Sun really likes the little grey man.

(Dress, the party, little grey, Nellie, Siblings)

II. Choose the best answers :

1. Katherine Mansfield was _____ writer.
a) an Australian b) an Indian c) a Newzealand d) an African
2. Sun and moon was written by _____.
a) John Galsworthy b) Ray Bradbury c) Anton Chekov
d) Katherine Mansfield
3. _____ ribbons and bunches of roses were tied at the corners of the table.
a) Green b) Red c) Yellow d) Pink
4. In the dining room there was a lake with _____ floating on it.
a) Rose petals b) lotus petals c) lily petals d) orchid petals
5. A big _____ was placed at the corner of the room.
a) Piano b) Television c) shelf d) clock

III. State whether the following statements are true or false:

1. The ice pudding is a little pink house with white snow. *True*
2. Sun and Moon are cousins. *false*
3. The party is arranged in a hotel. *false*
4. Nurse appreciated moon as a little cherub. *True*
5. Mother is fanning herself with a black fan. *false*

IV. Synonyms :

1. Awfully - *unpleasantly*
2. Cherub - *a type of angel*
3. Wail - *a long high pitched sound.*
4. Banging - *beating*
5. Brooch - *an ornament fastened to clothing with a hinged pin and watch.*

V. Answer the following in one or two sentences :

1. What are the names of the children?

Sun and Moon were the names of the children

2. What is going on in the house?

The owner of the house, a rich couple is making arrangements to host a party.

3. What is the mother of the children doing?

The mother of the children is been running all over the house and telephering the father of the children not to forget things

4. What is the theme of the story Sun and Moon?

The theme of the story Sun and Moon is the inseparable gap between the parent and the children. The Nurse look after the children and the parent have no time to spare for their children.

5. Why were the children named as Sun and Moon?

The parents gave such names because initially the children were the centre of their Universe.

6. Describe the ice-pudding.

The ice-pudding is a little pink house with one snow on the roof, green windows and a brown door. There was a nub for a handle stuck in the door.

7. How was the dining room decorated?

The blinds were down in the dining room, lights shaped like red roses were turned on. Red ribbons and bunches of roses were tied at the corner of the table. In the middle there was a lake with rose petals floating on it.

8. What was the dress worn by Sun for the party?

Sun was dressed in a white shirt with red and white daisy speckled on it. Breeches with strings at the sides and he wore white socks and red shoes.

9. What was the dress worn by Moon in the occasion?

Moon was dressed in all white with fur on it. There was fluff by stuff on the legs of her drawers. Her shoes were white with big blobs on them.

10. What did the little grey man ask Sun?

The little grey man asked Sun whether he was fond of dogs.

11. How was the dining room after the party?

The ribbons and the roses were all pulled untied. The little table napkins lay on the floor and all the shining plates and glasses were dirty.

12. How was the ice-pudding after the party?

The little pink house with the snow roof and the green windows was broken-half melted away in the centre of the table.

ESSAY

Katherine Mansfield (1888 – 1923) is the pseudonym of Katherine Mansfield Beauclerk. She was born in New Zealand and educated in London. Her stories share some of the matchless qualities of Chekhov's stories and she has often been described as the Chekhov of English. Most of her stories have a lyrical quality and show her psychological insights into women and children.

This story 'Sun and Moon' presents a grand dinner party through the eyes of two little children Sun and Moon who are thrilled by the preparations for the party. It is a fine probe into the minds of the innocent children.

One fine afternoon a grand party is arranged in the house of the two young children named as Sun and Moon. The rich parents are very busy and so involved for the preparations of the party without paying attention to their children. The children are excited and thrilled by the decorations. Their mother is seen running about all over the house and reminding her husband not to forget things. There is no one to look after the children.

The party is arranged in the dining room. All the furniture is taken out of the dining room. The big piano is placed at a corner and flower pots are placed inside. Colourful lights make the walls brighter and beautiful. Delicious and variety of dishes are prepared by the servants and the cook. The cook shows the ice- pudding to the children. It is a little pink house

with white snow on the roof and green window and a brown door and there is a nut for the handle on the door.

Sun and Moon are almost frightened and they just stand at the door and make eyes at it. It is not real night but the blinds are down in the dining room and the lights turned on and all the lights are red roses. Red ribbons and bunches of roses tie up at the corners of the table. In the middle there is a lake with rose petals floating on it.

The two children are dressed beautifully by the maid. Sun is dressed in a white shirt with red white daisies speckled on it and Moon is dressed in fur, all white and looks like a cherub. Soon the house is filled with guests who arrive in carriages and there is full of entertainment. The drawing room is full of sweet smelling, silky, rustling ladies and men in black with funny tails on their coats. The only one man who is liked by Sun is the little grey man with long grey whiskers. Later the mother asks Sun and Moon to go upstairs.

The children are taken to their bed room, but very soon the children wake up on hearing the loud noise of clapping from downstairs. Soon they both get out of the room and sit on the top step to watch the party cross over the hall into the dining room. The children hear only the noise of pops and laughing as the door is shut. They both get disappointed and return to their Moon. They wake up when they hear their father's voice and mother's laughter. All the guests have gone.

Sun and Moon are taken to the dining hall. Now the beautiful dining room is in disorder. The ribbons and the roses are pulled untied. All the shining plates and winking glasses are dirty. There are bones and bits and fruit peels and shells scattered everywhere. And the little pink house with the snow roof and the green windows is broken and melted away in the centre of the table. Everything looks horrible to Sun. He even refuses the piece of cake from his father which he liked most. When Moon picks out the nut from the little handle of the cake sun gets anger and he shouted that everything is horrid. On hearing that, father orders to get out of that room.

Humanistic orientation of the story is obvious. Mansfield claims the need for a clear expression of parents' love to their children and then their relationship will be harmonious and sincere. The writer left a last will in which she claimed that there could be only one type of true human relations absolute sincerity in everything.

PARAGRAPHS

1. Describe the hectic preparations for the party.

One fine afternoon a grand party is arranged in the house of the two young children named as Sun and Moon. The rich parents are very busy and so involved for the preparations of the party without paying attention to their children. The children are excited and thrilled by the decorations. Their mother is seen running about all over the house and reminding her husband not to forget things. There is no one to look after the children.

The party is arranged in the dining room. All the furniture is taken out of the dining room. The piano is placed at a corner and flower pots are placed inside. Colourful lights make the walls brighten and beautiful. Delicious and variety of dishes are prepared by the servants and the cook. The cook shows the ice-pudding to the children. It is a little pink house with white snow on the roof and green window and a brown door and there is a nut for the handle on the door.

Sun and moon are almost frightened and they just stand at the door and make eyes at it. It is not real night but the blinds are down in the dining room and the lights turned on and all the lights are red roses. Red ribbons and bunches of roses tie up at the corners of the table. In the middle there is a lake with rose petals floating on it.

The two children are dressed beautifully by the maid. Sun is dressed in a white shirt with red white dairies speckled on it and moon is dressed in fur, all white and looks like a cherub.

2. Discuss about the arrival of the guests.

The arrangements for the party have been made and soon the house is filled with guests who arrive in carriages and there is full of entertainment. The drawing room is full of sweet smelling, silky, rustling ladies and men in black with funny tails on their coats. The only one man who is liked by Sun is the little grey man with long grey whiskers. He asks Sun whether he is fond of dogs. Later the mother asks Sun and Moon to go upstairs.

3. Write about the curiosity and disillusionment of Sun and Moon.

The children are taken to their bed room, but very soon the children wake up on hearing the loud noise of clapping from down stairs. Soon they both get out of the room and sit on the top step to watch the party cross over the hall into the dining room. The children hear only the noise of pops and laughing as the door is shut. They both get disappointed and return to their room. They wake up when they hear their father's voice and mother's laughter. All the guests have gone.

Sun and Moon are taken to the dining hall. Now the beautiful dining room is in disorder. Everything looks horrible to Sun. He even refuses the piece of cake from his father which he like most. When Moon picks out the nut from the little handle of the cake Sun gets anger and he shouted that everything is horrid.

FUR – H.H. Munro (Saki)

I. Fill in the blanks:

1. Saki is the pen name of H.H. Munro.
 2. Fur is a humorous story by Saki.
 3. The story Fur is about the relationship of Two friends.
 4. _____ is the cousin of Suzanne. Bertram Kneyght.
 5. Suzanne was keen on getting a little Dresden figure.
- (Dresden figure, Fur, Two friends, Bertram Kneyght, Saki)

II. Choose the best answers :

1. Eleanor and Suzanne were _____.
a) sisters b) cousins c) friends d) strangers
2. Bertram Kneyght was Suzanne's _____.
a) father b) brother c) uncle d) cousin
3. The Prize of the Dresden figure is _____.
a) 36 shillings b) 26 shillings c) 46 shillings d) 56 shillings
4. Suzanne was going out to _____ for winter.
a) Switzerland b) Davos c) Russia d) Argentina
5. Suzanne really wants _____.
a) fan b) guide book c) fur d) dressing bag
6. There are some fine _____ at Goliath and Mastodon's.
a) Silver-fox stoles b) flower vase c) Dresden figure d) fan
7. Eleanor wanted Suzanne to attend _____.
a) A wedding b) A seminar c) A cricket match d) A bridge party
8. Bertram Kneyght usually walks down to his club at _____.
a) 3 o'clock b) 2 o'clock c) 5 o'clock d) 6 o'clock

9. Eleanor wanted to talk to _____.
- a) Suzanne b) Bertram kneyght c) Adela d) Harry Scaris brooke
10. Bertram presented _____ to Eleanor.
- a) a Fur b) a Fan c) a photograph frame d) a guide book
11. Bertram presented to _____ a fan.
- a) Suzanne b) Eleanor c) Harry d) none of the above

III. State whether the following statements are true or false:

1. Eleanor and Suzanne are relatives. *false*
2. Eleanor had a rich uncle called Bertram. *True*
3. Eleanor wanted Suzanne to join her bridge party. *True*
4. Suzanne got a fan as birthday present. *True*
5. Bertram gave Eleanor a photograph frame. *false*

IV. Synonyms :

1. Stole - A woman's long scarf.
2. Inveigle - Persuade someone to do something
3. Ambush - trick
4. Pelt - a surprise attack by people.
5. Fur - The skin of an animal's hair.

V. Answer the following in one or two sentences :

1. What was Suzanne anxious about?

Suzanne was anxious about her birthday which is going to be fall on next week.

2. Why was the choice of a good birthday present a problem for her?

Suzanne was worried about that her Cousin Bertram might be satisfied with an inexpensive present.

3. What was Eleanor's plan to solve Suzanne's problem?

Eleanor told Suzanne that they can join her Cousin Bertram accidentally on his way to the club and they take him to the furshop and personally choose the gift.

4. What did Eleanor want Suzanne to do for her? How did Suzanne react?

Eleanor wanted Suzanne to join her bridge party. But Suzanne refused to join since Eleanor's aunts were slow players.

5. What is the purpose of the two ladies to meet Bertram?

Eleanor agrees to meet Bertram with Suzanne to share with him Suzanne's desires for her birthday.

6. What is meant by Fur?

Fur is a garment made of animals skins with thick hair.

7. What is meant by silver-fox?

Silver-fox is an American Fox with white-tipped black fur.

8. What does Suzanne expect from her cousin as her birthday present?

Suzanne expected an expensive fur for her birthday from her Cousin.

9. What is the gift presented by Bertram to Suzanne?

Bertram gifted a fur to Suzanne.

10. What is the gift presented by Bertram to Eleanor?

Bertram gifted an expensive Silver-fox fur to Eleanor.

ESSAY

Hector Hugh Munro (Saki) was born on 18th December 1870 at Burma and educated at Exmouth and later at Bedford Grammar school. He travelled widely in Europe. He began to write for the Westminster Gazette under the name 'Saki'. Though chance element plays an important role in many of his stories, they also contain humour and satire. In 'Fur' Saki tells the story of a clever young woman whose selfishness and feeling of hurt get the better of her sense of loyalty to her friend.

Suzanne and Eleanor were Friends. Eleanor made enquiries what Suzanne was worried about. Suzanne's birthday was fast approaching. She had a cousin called Bertram Kneyght who had recently come to England from Argentina. Suzanne was worried about what kind of present he would give. He might be satisfied with an inexpensive gift. Suzanne was keen on getting a little Desden figure she had seen in a shop.

Eleanor then gave Suzanne some practical suggestion. Suzanne expressed her desire to get a fur coat. There were some excellent furs in Goliath and Mastodon's shops. Suzanne then told Eleanor that her cousin was in the habit of taking a walk to his club at three O' clock. The two girls decided to join him accidentally on the way, so that they could take him to the fur shop and personally choose the fur. Suzanne liked this idea very much. Eleanor had planned to talk to her boy friend during a bridge party. She wanted Suzanne to take her place. But Suzanne unknowingly hurt Eleanor by refusing to join the bridge party at her house.

In the evening, Eleanor and Suzanne met Bertram on the way as planned. They slowly walked towards the fur shop. In her anxiety Suzanne walked ahead. Left alone with Bertram, Eleanor told him a fictitious story about her inability to get a silver fox fur. Bertram was so moved that he decided to get a fur for her. At Eleanor's suggestion, he planned to give a fan as gift to Suzanne.

Eleanor gifted a photograph frame to Suzanne for her birthday. Suzanne phoned up and said that she got only a fan from Bertram. Eleanor shocked her by saying that she got a silver fox fur from Bertram as gift. She had thus taken revenge on Suzanne for refusing to come to the bridge party.

PARAGRAPHS

1. How did Eleanor trick Bertram Kneyght into buying a silver-fox stole for her?

In the evening, Eleanor and Suzanne met Bertram on the way as planned. They slowly walked towards the fur shop. In her anxiety Suzanne walked ahead. Left alone with Bertram Eleanor told him a fictitious story that an uncle from her mother's side who promised to gift an expensive silver-fox fur failed to gift her since his wife passed away and he left abroad. And also she said that her dream had not come true till now. Bertram was so moved that he decided to get a fur for her. At Eleanor's suggestion, he planned to give a fan as gift to Suzanne.

2. Why did a cloud arise between the friendship of the two young women?

Suzanne and Eleanor were friends. Suzanne was worried about what kind of gift her cousin would give for her birthday. Eleanor then gave Suzanne some practical suggestions. Eleanor asked a favour of Suzanne to join a bridge party at her house, so that she can talk to her boy friend freely without any disturbance. Suzanne hurt Eleanor by refusing to join the bridge party. In the evening Eleanor and Suzanne met Bertram on the way as planned. They slowly walked towards the fur shop. In her anxiety Suzanne walked ahead. Left alone with Bertram, Eleanor told him a fictitious story about her inability to get a silver-fox fur. Bertram was so moved that he decided to get a fur for her. At Eleanor's suggestion, he planned to give a fan as gift to Suzanne. Eleanor sent a photograph frame to Suzanne for her birthday. Suzanne phoned up and said that she got only a fan from Bertram. Eleanor shocked her by saying that she got a silver-fox fur from Bertram as gift. She had thus taken revenge on Suzanne for refusing to come to the bridge party and a cloud arose between the friendship of the two young women.