

- 2 Aunt Jennifer's finger fluttering through her wool Find even the ivory needle hard to pull. The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.

Compartment 2017

- (i) How would you describe Aunt Jennifer based on the above extract?

(a) oppressed (b) malnourished
(c) aging (d) diseased

- (ii) Uncle's wedding band sits heavily on Aunt Jennifer's hand because

(a) it is an expensive and heavy ring.
(b) she was married against her will.
(c) she feels burdened in her marriage.
(d) their relationship is lacking in love.

- (iii) Which of the following is an example of an alliteration?

(a) Finger fluttering through the wool
(b) Upon Aunt Jennifer's hand
(c) Ivory needle hard to pull
(d) Massive weight of Uncle's wedding band

- (iv) The ivory needle used to embroider is the difficulty in using it.

(a) symbolic of
(b) in sharp contrast to
(c) a distraction from
(d) representative of suppression which results in

- (v) Can you say that the Uncle's wedding band is a symbol?

- (vi) What do you as reader feel about Aunt Jennifer?

- Ans (i) (a) Oppressed
(ii) (c) she feels burdened in her marriage.
(iii) (a) Finger fluttering through the wool
(iv) (b) in sharp contrast to
(v) Yes, the Uncle's wedding band is a symbol of Aunt Jennifer's restricted life in a patriarchal setup. She is bound by responsibilities that married life had bought upon her.
(vi) We, as reader feel sympathetic for the condition of Aunt Jennifer. At the same time, we are angered by the oppressive nature of the patriarchal society.

- 3 "When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie. Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by. The tigers in the panel that she made Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid."

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- (i) Read the statement given below:

Aunt Jennifer's plight is best explained by her hands, they hold both her freedom and the instrument of her imprisonment.

Choose the option that best explains the above statement, as per the extract.

- (a) Aunt Jennifer's hands are terrified but when she is dead, her tigers will roam free.
(b) Aunt Jennifer knits her desires but is overpowered by the wedding ring she wears.
(c) Aunt Jennifer's tigers are proud and unafraid but she is mastered by ringed ordeals.
(d) Aunt Jennifer makes panels of tigers when she has time from her responsibilities.

- (ii) Which of the following CANNOT be inferred from the given extract?

- (a) Aunt Jennifer's tigers will keep her alive in everyone's memory.
(b) Aunt Jennifer feels oppressed and constricted in her marriage.
(c) Even in death, Aunt Jennifer cannot escape patriarchal subjugation.
(d) Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance as a lasting symbol of her desires.

- (iii) What makes the tigers proud and unafraid?

- (a) They embody the grandeur and supremacy of animals in the wild.
(b) They symbolise authority and are 'topaz denizens of green'.
(c) They represent Aunt's repressed desires for freedom and power.
(d) They are a product of Aunt's imagination and colonial experience.

- (iv) Answer appropriately.

The theme associated with the extract is _____.

- (v) On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.

- (1) Aunt Jennifer would not be free even after her death.
(2) Aunt Jennifer's desire of freedom would live through her art.
(a) (1) can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot
(b) (2) can be inferred from the extract but (1) cannot
(c) Both (1) and (2) can be inferred from the extract
(d) (2) is the reason for (1) and can be inferred from the extract

- (vi) Choose the option that DOES NOT reflect the movement implied by 'prancing'.

- (a) Bounding (b) Frolicking
(c) Strutting (d) Shuffling