

NCERT Solutions for Class 6 English Chapter 7 Vocation

Working with the poem

Question 1:

Your partner and you may now be able to answer these questions.

(i) Who is the speaker in the poem? Who are the people the speaker meets? What are they doing?

(ii) What wishes does the child in the poem make? Why does the child want to be a hawker, a gardener, or a watchman?

Pick out the lines in each stanza, which tell us this.

(iii) From the way the child envies the hawker, the gardener and the watchman, we can guess that there are many things the child has to do, or must not do.

Make a list of the dos and don'ts that the child doesn't like.

The first line is done for you.

The child must

come home at a fixed time.

The child must not

get his clothes dirty in the dust.

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Now add to the list your own complaints about the things you have to do, or must not do.

(iv) Like the child in the poem, you perhaps have your own wishes for yourself. Talk to your friend, using “I wish I were...”

Answer:

(i) The person speaking in the poem is a kid who goes to school. Every day, the kid sees three different people: a bangle seller, a gardener, and a watchman.

(ii) The kid has a simple and innocent mind. He observes the people around him with great interest. He wishes he could have the freedom and enjoyment that the bangle seller, gardener, and watchman seem to have.

Firstly, on the way to school, the kid sees a bangle seller shouting and selling crystal bangles. The kid wishes he could spend his whole day like the bangle seller, without any rush. The bangle seller doesn't have a fixed path, time to go home, or specific rules to follow. The kid wants this freedom too.

Secondly, the kid meets a gardener working hard, digging in the garden. The gardener's clothes get dirty, but nobody scolds him. He can work under the sun, get wet in the rain, or sweat, and nobody minds. The kid wishes he could be a gardener and not get scolded for working or getting dirty.

Lastly, the kid sees a watchman outside the window, patrolling the dark street. The streetlight looks like a giant with a red eye. The watchman walks with his lantern, and he never gets to sleep. The kid wishes he could be a watchman and walk the streets at night with a lantern, chasing shadows.

(iii)

The child must	The child must not
Go to school on time	Waste his time unnecessarily
Obey his parents and teachers	Be ill-mannered or rude in behavior
Go to school every day	Get baked in the sun or wet in the rain
Wake up early in the morning	Walk on the dark and lonely streets at night

(iv) Do it yourself.

Question 2:

Find out the different kinds of work done by the people in your neighborhood. Make different cards for different kinds of work. You can make the card colorful with pictures of the people doing the work.

Answer:

Activity to be done by yourself.