

3.3 Truth

WARMING UP !

CHIT - CHAT

- (1) Do we speak the truth all the time?
- (2) Why do we tell lies?
- (3) How can words hurt someone?
- (4) Why should we take care of using proper words while speaking?
- (5) How do we break relationships?

(1) (A) Write down five things that make you very happy.

For example : Our team wins the match.

- (1) -----
- (2) -----
- (3) -----
- (4) -----
- (5) -----

(B) Write down five things that are hard to forget, because they had upset you greatly.

For example : My best friend quarrelled with me.

- (1) -----
- (2) -----
- (3) -----
- (4) -----
- (5) -----

(2) Rhyme scheme is a pattern of lines that rhyme other lines in the stanza of a poem.

This pattern of Rhyming words can be referred to by using letters of alphabet to indicate lines that rhyme.

For example : In the 1st stanza of the poem the Rhyme Scheme is abcb.

Truth

Sticks and stones may break my bones,

But words can also hurt me.

Stones and sticks break only skin,

While words are ghosts that **haunt** me.

Slant and curved the fall word-swords

To **pierce** and stick inside me.

Bats and bricks may ache through bones.

But words can **mortify** me.

Pain from words has left its **scar**

On mind and heart that's tender

Cuts and **bruises** now have healed;

It's words that I remember.

— Barrie Wade



- **haunt** : trouble, worry again and again
- **slant** : lean or slope to one side
- **pierce** : stab
- **mortify** : make one feel ashamed and embarrassed
- **scar** : mark left by a wound
- **bruises** : injuries, cuts on the skin

◆ *Where do painful words leave their scars?*

◆ *What are words compared to in the first two stanzas?*

1. Read the poem aloud and recite it with proper rhythm.
2. Find from the poem 2 lines, each that contain the following Figures of Speech.

- (a) Alliteration (i) -----
(ii) -----
(b) Repetition (i) -----
(ii) -----

3. (A) Pick out from the poem the Synonyms of :

- (1) injury : -----
(2) delicate : -----
(3) ache : -----
(4) embarrass : -----
(5) cured : -----

- (B) Pick out from the poem the Antonyms of :

- (1) forget × -----
(2) flat/straight × -----
(3) make × -----
(4) rise × -----
(5) outside × -----

4. Answer in your own words with the help of the poem. Write them in your notebook.

- (a) What objects can cause injury to your body?
(b) How do harsh and bitter words hurt the poet?
(c) What can heal faster – body or the mind and heart (emotions)?
Explain your choice.
(d) Why are harsh words called ‘ghosts’?
(e) What does the poet want you to keep in mind, when you speak?

5. Find the rhyme scheme of the stanza no 2 and 3. (One is done for you.)

- Stanza 1 : abcb
- Stanza 2 :
- Stanza 3 :

6. Just as 'words' can hurt and leave a scar on the mind and heart, words can also heal, a person in distress.

Write in your notebook an experience of your own which proves that kind words relieve distress.

7. Complete the following.

- The title of the poem :
- The poet of the poem :
- Theme of the poem :
- No. of stanzas :
- Rhyme scheme :
- Figure of Speech :
- The line I liked :

8. Summarise the poem in short, in your own words.

Consider these points to summarise the poem.

- Identify who the speaker is and who the poem is addressed to.
- Identify the main points in every stanza.
- Express them in short simple sentences in your own words.
- Explain implied meaning.
- Retain the order of points.
- Write down the points making short paragraph for each stanza.
- Conclude the summary with the over all theme and meaning of the poem.

