The Character of a Happy Life (Poem)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words</th>
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<td>se</td>
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<td>Retreat</td>
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No. 1
Happy is he born and taught
wreteth not another's will;
Armour is his honest thought,
ipple truth his utmost skill.

Verse:

Lines have been taken from the poem "The Character of a Happy Life" composed by Henry Wotton.

Poem:
The poet tells us the secrets of a happy life. The man is happy who gets education and is free from vices. He is an honest person and has strong conscience.

Verse:

Lines have been taken from the poem "The Character of a Happy Life" written by Henry Wotton.

Poem:
The poet tells us the secrets of a happy life. The man is happy who gets education and is free from vices. He is an honest person and has strong conscience.
Paraphrase:
The poet says that the character of a happy life does not become the slave of his passions. He believes that he has to die one day. He is free from the worries of the world and does not like to be famous fakely.

Stanza No. 3
Who envies none that chance doth raise,
Nor vice; who never understood
How deepest wounds are given by praise;
Nor rules of state, but rules of good;

Reference:
These lines have been taken from the poem "The Character of a Happy Life" composed by Henry Wotton.

Context:
In this poem, the poet tells us the secrets of a happy life. The man is happy who gets education and is free from all vices. He is an honest person and has strong conscience.

Paraphrase:
This person does not envy from other's progress. He does not do any vice with the person who fails to understand him. When he helps others or does good thing to others, people praise him. But he does not like it because it hurts his feeling.

Stanza No. 4
Who hath his life from rumours freed;
Whose conscience is his strong retreat;
Whose state can neither flatterers feed;
Nor ruin make oppressors great;

Reference:
These lines have been taken from the poem "The Character of a Happy Life" composed by Henry Wotton.

Context:
In this poem, the poet tells us the secrets of a happy life. The man is happy who gets education and is free from all vices. He is an honest person and has strong conscience.

Paraphrase:
He wants his life to be free from rumours. His strongest shelter is his conscience that protects him. He hates to be like flatterers and oppressors.

Stanza No. 5
Who God doth late and early pray
More of His grace than gifts to lend;
And entertains the harmless day
With a religious book or friend;

Reference:
**Reference:**

These lines have been taken from the poem "The Character of a Happy Life" composed by Henry Wotton.

**Context:**

In this poem, the poet tells us the secrets of a happy life. The man is happy who gets education and is free from all vices. He is an honest person and has strong conscience.

**Paraphrase:**

He prays to God from morning till late night. He wants God’s grace instead of gifts. During the day time, he likes to stay with his friend or to read a religious book.

**Stanza No. 6**

This man is freed from servile bands
Of hope to rise or fear to fall:
Lord of himself, though not of land,
And having nothing, yet hath all.

Reference:

These lines have been taken from the poem "The Character of a Happy Life" composed by Henry Wotton.

Context:

In this poem, the poet tells us the secrets of a happy life. The man is happy who gets education and is free from all vices. He is an honest person and has strong conscience.

Paraphrase:

The poet says that this man is free from the bands of slavery i.e., ups and downs of life. Although he has no lands like a lord but he is lord of himself. He has nothing but seems to have everything.

**SUMMARY**

Henry Wotton

Lahore Board 2010 Group I)

This morallistic poem has been composed (لَا نَحْبَبُ) by Henry Wotton. The poet has used the happy man as a mouthpiece (مَثَلَ) to teach us goodness (بَيْنَ) . Man should develop such qualities in himself to be happy and satisfied. Only that man is happy who is not under the commandments (عَرَفَ) of another person. He remains honest and truthful in all circumstances (ثَّقَلَ) . He is not under the clutches (مُحَجَّرَات) of his passions. He is not afraid of death. Rather, he is always ready to face this reality, he does not care whether he (مُنذِرُ) becomes famous or dies alone and (مُنذِرُ) anonymous

He is free from evil passions of envy, jealousy and vice (مَتَرِي) . He knows that praise is a dangerous thing and it brings harm. He is always determined to do good (مُنذِرُ) to others. He does not believe in rumour mongering . (مُتَرِي) His conscience is a great check and stops him from such pernicious (مُتَرِي) acts. He is never elated (مُتَرِي) at flattery (مُتَرِي) nor is crestfallen at a loss. His strength is his honest thought and he remains truthful in his conduct and behaviour. He is always under the commandments (مُتَرِي) of Allah. He is never desirous of material gains.

He always aspires (مُتَرِي) to enjoy God’s grace (مُتَرِي) . He spends his days and nights in reading religious books or in the company of a good friend. No one shuns him. Rather (مُتَرِي) everyone is attracted
to him for his virtuous nature. Apparently, he possesses nothing but he is the master of everything in real sense.

EXERCISES

Answer the following questions.

i. What is the main idea of the poem?
   Ans. The main idea of this poem is that a happy man is honest, moderate and modest. He has faith in God and is contented with his place in life, not chasing glory or material possessions. He, in the end, is richer in what really matters.

ii. Underline nouns in the poem.
   Ans. Will, armour, thought, truth, skill, passions, masters, soul, death, world, care, fame, breath, vice, wounds, praise, rules, state, good, life, rumours, conscience, retreat, flatterers, feed, day, oppressors, God, pray, grace, gifts, book, friend, man, bands, fears, lord, lamb.

iii. Make a list of rhyming words in the poem.
   Example: taught, thought
   Add two more rhyming words in each line.
   i. born, scorn, flown
   ii. soul, doll, goal
   iii. vice, nice, price

Paraphrase the second stanza.
The poet says that a gentle person is not a slave of his passions. He has full control over his passions. He is not afraid of death, rather he is always ready to face death. He does not bother about worldly fame or gains. He is untied with the worldly affairs.

Explain the last stanza.
The poet says that a happy man does not have any desire for getting rise in the world. He is not afraid of losing fame. He does not possess any property, yet he is very happy. He has not lands but is lord of himself. He remains satisfied with his resources. He does not have anything yet he has everything.

Missing letters.
   i. Consc__ence
   ii. U__most
   iii. Ru__n
   iv. Ser__ile
   v. Re__reat
   vi. Oppress__r

Match the words similar in meaning in List 'A' with 'B' and write the answer in 'C'.

| (i)  | Oppressor                      | Destruction       |
| (ii) | Servile                       | Cruel             |
| (iii) | Ruin                          | Free              |
| (iv)  | Vice                          | Slavish           |
| (v)   | Untied                        | Sin               |

Use the following words in your own sentences.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Armour</td>
<td>☼</td>
<td>In olden times, warriors used armour for their safety.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passions</td>
<td>☽</td>
<td>Bridle your passions to lead a well balanced life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soul</td>
<td>☿</td>
<td>Soul is immortal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untied</td>
<td>آزاد</td>
<td>The freedom fighter is untied from the servile bands.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice</td>
<td>بیانی</td>
<td>Vice is opposite to virtue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conscience</td>
<td>ضمير</td>
<td>My conscience blames me whenever I do something wrong.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruin</td>
<td>تارکریه</td>
<td>A violent bomb explosion ruined the building of the church.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Praise</td>
<td>تبریف</td>
<td>A teacher must praise the brilliant students for their encouragement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flatterers</td>
<td>خوشنده</td>
<td>Wise people are always aware of the flatterers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oppressors</td>
<td>داکنگان</td>
<td>Oppressors can never win the hearts of their people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Servile</td>
<td>گالان</td>
<td>I dislike your servile attitude.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harmless</td>
<td>نامزرا</td>
<td>Dove is an innocent and harmless bird.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Envies</td>
<td>رقیب</td>
<td>He envies others' progress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rumours</td>
<td>آقائیان</td>
<td>Wise men never pay attention to rumours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retreat</td>
<td>پناه گیری</td>
<td>Retreat is defeat.</td>
</tr>
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**Answers**

**Missing Letters.**

i. t ii. t iii. i iv. v v. t vi. o

**Correct List 'C'**