

MY ONLY CRY

LESSON OVERVIEW

L.No.	Title of the Lesson	Skills			Grammar/Figures of speech	Life Skills
		Listening/speaking	Reading	Writing		
16	My only Cry	Read the poem aloud with proper intonation	Read the poem silently and reflect upon the thoughts expressed by the child protagonist	Formal letter	Adverbs, Blank verse	Evoking appropriate emotions, compassion

SUMMARY

The child protagonist is pained to realise that the world is sitting on the verge of destruction. Every nation is busy in the rat race of producing war arms and accumulating the wealth of ammunition. The child, though young and innocent, is aware of the dangers of war. He holds the adults responsible for creating a situation where everyone is living under the shadow of war and wholesale destruction. He earnestly implores the grown-ups to close the arms factories, at least for the sake of the coming generation, to restore the environment where children can once again breathe the air of affection free from the fear of destruction.

PRINCIPAL POINTS

- Children are innocent, frank, truthful, and also sensitive
- The child protagonist tries to draw the attention of the adults to the disastrous consequence of the imminent war.
- The production of weapons of mass destruction should be stopped.
- Accumulation of war arms should be discontinued forthwith.
- We must ensure that we give our children love and keep them free from anxiety.
- At present, our children are living in perpetual fear of war and destruction.

ENHANCE YOUR PERFORMANCE

Writing a formal letter

You have already learnt how to write formal and informal letters.

Reminder: Ensure that you follow the format and style of writing.

Adverbs

An adverb modifies/describes a verb. It tells us about the time, place, purpose, reason or manner of an action.e.g.

- I woke up early this morning. (Time)
- She lives nearby. (Place)

- c. She did not go to school because it was raining. (Reason)
 d. She goes for a walk regularly. (Manner)

Literary devices

Blank verse: A blank verse is a form of writing which resembles a prose form. There are no rhyming words or structured stanza forms. Yet it is different from prose because each line has a set of syllables and metre which makes it flow like poetry.

TEST YOURSELF

1. MCQ/Objective type question (interpretation)

Complete the following statement by choosing the best option from the ones given below

The child feels concerned because ...

- A. adults make hollow promises
- B. adults turn a deaf ear to his request
- C. adults play dirty politics
- D. weapons of war are being produced in large numbers

2. VSA (understanding)

What is the child protesting against?

3. SA (recall and understanding)

Explain the terms right wing and left wing politics in your own words.

4. LA Long answer questions (extrapolatory)

As the child in the poem, write an open letter to be published in a national daily (newspaper) and addressed to the leaders of all countries pleading with them to stop manufacture of weapons of destruction. That will be perhaps the only way they can show that they care for the next generation's welfare.