

National Institute of Open Schooling
Secondary Course : English
Lesson 19 : A prayer for healing
Worksheet – 19

1. What is the main idea of the poem A Prayer for Healing?
2. They suggest that life, air, water and forests should be brought back to their old condition—when the air was pure, the water was clean and plentiful, and forests were thick and full of trees, resources were not overused, animals and birds were safe in their natural habitat and not hunted by human beings. What have you understood by the following lines? Explain in about 30-40 words.
3. Earth is our home. It is the home of many other creatures too. Imagine that you are a bird living in a nest on a tree. Suddenly you find that the tree has been cut. How would you feel and what would you do? (Answer in about 50-75 words.)
4. “We should leave behind for our children a better world.” Do you agree with the statement? Give your opinion in about 30-40 words.
5. This poem is an appeal to everyone to work together to bring the earth back to its old healthy state, to protect it and leave it in a good condition for the future generations. Explain the line in about 30-40 words.
6. “We join with the earth and with each other”. What does the poet mean by this line?
7. Read the following lines and answer the questions:

There is a need to heal the earth because over a period of time many harmful substances have been, and are being added to the environment. This has caused air, water and land pollution. Also, the earth’s resources are limited but the needs of human beings are many. As a result there is a shortage of resources. Therefore resources should be conserved, especially those resources which cannot be renewed. If the earth and its resources are safe then mankind will be safe, because mankind depends on the earth’s resources for all its needs.

- Name any three types of pollution.
 - Why do you think there is a shortage of resources?
 - Why should the resources be conserved?
 - What do you understand by “mankind”?
8. Describe the following phrases in your own words:
 - “to bring to new life”
 - “We join with the earth and with each other, Of one loving mystery, for the healing of earth and the renewal of all life.”
 - “To bring new life to the land, To restore the waters, To refresh the air.”
 9. Write an essay on the topic, “Better earth, better life, better tomorrow...”.
 10. “From ancient times, people across the world, belonging to different cultures and different religions, have prayed to various objects of nature – the sun, moon, stars, earth, wind, water bodies, plants, and animals.” What kind of praying do you believe in? What is the difference between being spiritual and religious? Think and write the above answer in about 100 words.