

## CHILDHOOD

Q1: What according to the poet is involved in the process of growing up?

Answer: The process of growing up has three stages- childhood, adulthood and old age. It involves the physical and mental growth of a person. A person observes the world around and gains/gets experience. He becomes more logical and rational with the time.

Q2: What is the poet's feeling about childhood?

Answer: The poet is not sad or upset about his childhood. He is very puzzled and wants to know where his childhood had gone and when he entered the adulthood. He experiences a new change in his mental and physical growth.

Q3: Why does the poet think that he had lost his childhood?

Answer: The poet feels that he has lost his childhood because he has lost the innocence and joy of his childhood. He is no more a gullible boy. When he was a child, he believed in hell and heaven. He also believed that elders had real love and sympathy for others.

Q4: How did adults seem to the poet when he was a child?

Answer: When the poet was a child, he thought that the elders were full of love and sympathy for others. They talk endlessly about love and truth. But now he realizes that they are not what they look like. They preach about love and sympathy for others but do not act like that.

Q5: What does the poet realize about adults?

Answer: In the childhood the poet believed that the elders are full of love and sympathy for others. They talk endlessly about love and truth. But when he matured, he realized that their love was not real. He learnt that the adults are hypocrite. They only talk about love but never loved anyone in real sense.

Q6: What happened to the poet when he was aware of his ego?

Answer: At the end of the childhood, the poet realized that he had a separate identity now. He had his own liking and disliking. He could produce his own thought.

Q7: Where does the poet find his lost childhood? How can he get it back?

Answer: The poet finds his childhood on the face of an infant. He thinks that he can feel his childhood once again if he returns to his childhood. He must forget the complication and hypocrisy of elders.

## Poetic Devices Used

1. Repetition: Repeated use of a word or phrase in close proximity
  - i. "When did my childhood go"
  - ii. "Was that the day"
2. Antithesis: use of words or phrases with two opposite ideas.
  - i. "Hell and Heaven"
3. Alliteration: It is repetition of consonant sound at the beginning of a closely connected words:
  - i. "My mind"
  - ii. "The Time"
  - ii. "Whichever Way"
  - iv. "Thought That"