

CHAPTER 9
VASANT PANCHAMI

True/False Questions

1. Kite flying is mentioned as a main activity of Vasant Panchami. (True / False)
2. The speaker in the poem welcomes the songs of the Koels and dhadikulas. (True / False)
3. The poem references "ivory curds" as part of the festive offerings. (True / False)
4. The speaker compares their heart to "fallen flower and faded leaf." (True / False)
5. Sarojini Naidu describes her life as "joyous" in the poem. (True / False)

Fill in the Blanks

1. "O lifting _____, hush your rapturous notes."
2. "Wild bees to your _____ festival."
3. "Ye brides who streamward bear on jewelled feet, / Your gifts of silver lamps and _____ wheat."
4. "My heart has grown, plucked by the wind of _____."
5. "Akin to every lone and _____ thing / That hath forgone the kisses of the spring."

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the central theme of the poem?
 - a) Celebration of spring
 - b) Contrast between joy and personal sorrow

- c) Description of Indian festivals
- d) Praise of nature's beauty

2. Which flower is described as "crimson Gul mohafs"?

- a) Rose
- b) Champa
- c) Gulmohar
- d) Lotus

3. What do the brides carry in the poem?

- a) Silver lamps and new-blown wheat
- b) Plantain blossom and pomegranate
- c) Sandal-soil and rose wreaths
- d) Ivory curds and corn

4. The speaker compares their life to:

- a) A blooming flower
- b) Sorrow-trodden grass
- c) A joyful song
- d) A fragrant altar fire

5. What literary device is used in "Your songs are poisoned arrows in my breast"?

- a) Simile
- b) Metaphor
- c) Personification
- d) Alliteration

6. Which tree is addressed as "dear Sirisha trees"?

- a) Banyan
- b) Neem
- c) Sirisha (Albizia)
- d) Peepal

7. What does the speaker ask the girls to dim?

- a) Their jewelry
- b) Their voices when singing
- c) Their silver lamps
- d) Their altar fires

8. The phrase "fragrant altar fires" is associated with:

- a) Kite flying

- b) Happy women's desires
- c) Nesting birds
- d) Fallen leaves

9. The poem ends with the speaker feeling:

- a) Rejuvenated by spring
- b) Connected to festive rituals
- c) Isolated and withered
- d) Angry at nature

10. Who is the poet of this poem?

- a) Rabindranath Tagore
- b) Sarojini Naidu
- c) Kamala Das
- d) Toru Dutt