

The Quarrel

Working with the poem (Page 40)

Question 1:

With your partner try to guess the meaning of the underlined phrases.

- (i) And somehow we fell out.
- (ii) The afternoon turned black.

Answer:

- (i) fell out – quarrelled or argued.
- (ii) turned black – was spoiled or wasted due to bad or tensed mood.

Question 2:

Read these lines from the poem:

- (i) One thing led to another
- (ii) The start of it was slight
- (iii) The end of it was strong
- (iv) The afternoon turned black
- (v) Thumped me on the back

Discuss with your partner what these lines mean.

Answer:

- (i) During the argument, one thing led to another.
- (ii) The start and cause of the quarrel was petty and small.
- (iii) The quarrel ended on a sour note which had a long lasting effect.
- (iv) The quarrel spoiled the mood of the quarrelling persons and the afternoon became intolerably sad.
- (v) Patted on the back in an amiable manner.

Question 3:

Describe a recent quarrel that you have had with your brother, sister or friend. How did it start? What did you quarrel about? How did it end?

Answer:

Sohan is my best friend at school. I invited him to my birthday party, but he did not turn up for my birthday celebrations. Suddenly he started behaving awkwardly and our relationship turned bitter. Next day, at school we had an argument about the incident. We both didn't talk to each other for a few days. We both remained tensed and sad on those days. Although we were missing each other, we decided to patch up. Therefore, we confronted each other and resolved our differences amicably. We shook hands and hugged each other and promised to renew our friendship in a fresh manner.

(**Note:** Students can attempt this question as per their personal experience)