

Main points

- Mother Tongue is written by Padma Sachdev.
- She is the recipient of Sahitya Academy Awards.
- Padma Sachdev's mother tongue is Dogri which is spoken in Jammu region of Jammu and Kashmir..
- In this poem, she has shown her discontentment on the negligence of Dogri language in its native script.
- The poet is serving her mother tongue by writing poetry in Dogri.
- The poet calls herself as the servant of her mother tongue.
- She requests the stem to provide a quill so that she can glorify her mother tongue.
- The poet has used personification for her mother tongue.
- Personification is a figure of speech which is used to attribute human qualities to inanimate objects.
- The poet explains to the stem through conversation that the entire world likes to enjoy,celebrate and realize the beauty of her mother tongue.
- Finally after hearing her arguments ,the stem agrees to give a quill to her so that the poet can carry forward her work of serving her mother tongue.

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

- Who is the poet of the poem ' Mother Tongue'?**
 - Sarojini Naidu
 - Kamla Das
 - Padma Sachdev
 - Annie Besant
- What is the mother tongue of Padma Sachdeva?.**
 - Bangla
 - Tamil
 - Oriya
 - Dogri
- The poem 'Mother Tongue' is originally written in which language?**
 - Dogri
 - Hindi
 - English
 - Marathi
- Dogri is spoken in which part of India?**
 - Punjab
 - Kerala
 - Jharkhand
 - Jammu and Kashmir
- Padma Sachdeva belongs to which part of India?**
 - Tamil Nadu
 - Haryana
 - Delhi
 - Jammu and Kashmir
- Padma Sachdeva has been awarded with which of the following awards?**
 - Nobel Prize
 - Sahitya Academy Awards
 - Pulitzer Prize
 - Booker prize
- Padma Sachdeva writes in which language?**
 - Tamil
 - Punjabi
 - Hindi
 - Urdu
- Which script is used to write Dogri in present days?**
 - Devnagri
 - Roman
 - Persian
 - Mixture of Devnagri and Persian
- Who is 'she' in the poem 'Mother Tongue'?**
 - Quill
 - Stem
 - Dogri
 - Poet
- Dogri is listed in which schedule of the constitution?**
 - Schedule 1
 - Schedule 8
 - Schedule 5
 - Schedule 9
- What is the central element in the poem?**
 - Quill
 - Flower
 - Bird
 - Tree
- Who is 'I' in the first line of the poem,Mother Tongue?**
 - Stem
 - The poet

so she wants to glorify her language.

4. Why is the stem irritated to give her the quill ?

Ans. The stem is irritated to give her the quill because she has already given the poet, one, recently. The stem asks the poet why she needs it so frequently.

5. What does the word Shahni represent ?

Ans. The word Shahni means 'a powerful, rich and influential lady'. Padma Sachdeva in her poem Mother Tongue has represented her mother tongue as Shahni which is rich in her literature.

6. "I too am her servant", in the poem who says this and why ?

Ans. In the poem, reed, too considers herself as the servant of mother tongue. It means that not only those who are devoted to the language serve her but also those who serve as a means to write.

she considers herself as its servant. She wants her mother tongue to be celebrated, appreciated and known to the whole world. This attachment reached a height when the stem also wanted that the poet to take her language to new heights.

4. How has the poet employed personification in the poem ?

Ans. Personification is a figure of speech that attributes human qualities to inanimate objects. In the poem, the poet has used it very effectively. Throughout the poem it is seen that the poet is in constant conversation with the stem. It has the qualities of questioning, analyzing and even reaches to certain decisions. Mother tongue Dogri is also personified as Shahni, which implies a rich and powerful lady. The poet has very dramatically presented the feeling of loyalty towards her native language.

LONG QUESTIONS

1. Explain the significance of quill in the poem ?

Ans. The quill is symbolic of a new script. It represents the conversion of old script into new. Dogri language was originally written in the Sharade script which is regarded to have its root in the Brahmi script. Later Devanagari script took the place of Sharade script. The new quill represents the Devnagri script which has replaced the Sharade script of Dogri language. The quill serves as a medium through which the poet can glorify her mother tongue. That is why in the end, she says that "I too am her servant". The poet is in search of a new quill with which she could serve her mother language in the best possible way.

2. There is a sense of urgency in the poet's demand ? Why is it so ?

Ans. The poet demands for a quill from the stem. She needs it quickly because she feels that her Shahni must be looking for her. Her mother tongue is her Shahni. The poet is devoted to her mother tongue and she does not want to waste time in her service. She calls herself as the servant of her language. She wants to make her mother tongue appreciated by the whole world and in doing this she doesn't want any delay.

3. How has the poet brought out her emotional attachment to her mother tongue ?

Ans. The poem is a kind of tribute by the poet to the Dogri language. She depicts a strong emotional attachment to her mother tongue Dogri. The poet has a deep reverence for her language as