

## MCQs (1 mark)

1. The poet was leaving the house of
  - (a) her parents
  - (b) her aunt
  - (c) her in-laws
  - (d) her nephew
2. She was going to
  - (a) Goa
  - (b) Mumbai
  - (c) Cochin
  - (d) Kolkata
3. The poet was driving towards the
  - (a) railway station
  - (b) bus-stand
  - (c) airport
  - (d) metro station
4. The person in the car, beside the poetess, was,
  - (a) her aunt
  - (b) her niece
  - (c) her uncle
  - (d) her mother
5. The poetess says her mother looked pale like a
  - (a) corpse
  - (b) ghost
  - (c) malnourished child
  - (d) anaemic person
6. Poet Kamla Das She soon put that thought out of her mind and
  - (a) smiled
  - (b) laughed heartily
  - (c) cried bitterly
  - (d) looked out of the window
7. What is the kind of pain and ache that the poet feels?
  - A) losing her mother
  - B) heart attack
  - C) headache
  - D) children screaming at her
8. What is the significance of the title My Mother at Sixty Six?
  - A) poet's fear of losing her old mother
  - B) poet's fear of moving fast
  - C) poet's inability to express her feelings
  - D) all of these
9. What was the expression of the poet's face while parting from her mother?

- A) satirical
  - B) funny
  - C) sad
  - D) smiling
10. What does the expression smile, smile and smile signify?
    - A) poet was going home and was elated
    - B) poet was happy
    - C) poet was hopeless
    - D) poet's desperate efforts to hide her fears
  11. What does the poem revolve around?
    - A) poet's fears
    - B) poet's love for her mother
    - C) theme of old age
    - D) all of these
  12. The tone of the poem towards the end is?
    - A) Sad
    - B) Hopeless
    - C) cheerful
    - D) resignation with acceptance



12. The tone of the poem towards the end is?
- A) Sad
  - B) Hopeless
  - C) cheerful
  - D) resignation with acceptance
13. Why did the poet look at her mother again?
- A) because she was busy
  - B) because she was going away
  - C) because she wanted to stay back
  - D) because of fear and insecurity
14. Why has the poet used the imagery of merry children spilling out of their homes?
- A) to show hope
  - B) to show happiness
  - C) to show youthfulness of her age
  - D) to show hope and happiness in children

### Short answer type questions (2 marks)

- 1 What were the poet's feelings at the airport? How did she hid her emotions?
- 2 What do the parting words of Kamala Das and her smile signify?
- 3 Why has the poet's mother been compared to the 'late winter's moon'?
- 4 What is the kind of pain and ache that the poet feels? \*
- 5 What does the phrase, 'familiar ache' mean ?

### 3 marks questions

1. How was the scene outside the car different from the scene inside in the poem 'My Mother at Sixty Six'?
2. What were Kamala Das' fears as a child? Why do they surface when she is going to the airport?
3. Why has the poet compared her mother in the late winter's moon?
4. What is significance of the parting words of the poet and her smile in My Mother at sixty Six?

### Long Answer Type Question – 5 marks

- 1 Analyse the concept of losing our dear ones on account of old age in the context of the poem.

## My Mother At Sixty-Six

### MCQs

Answer Key MCQ:- My Mother at Sixty Six					
1	A	6	D	11	D
2	C	7	A	12	D
3	C	8	A	13	D
4	D	9	C	14	D
5	A	10	D	15	

### 2 marks questions

1. she might not see her again. She hid her emotions by smiling
2. hope of meeting inspite of fear that his mother might die
3. because of old age she is losing the vitality of life
4. familiar childhood fear
5. pain and agony that the poet often felt that one or the other day she had to suffer due to the separation from her mother

### 3-marks questions

1. The scene outside was totally in sharp contrast to the scene inside. The poet's pale and aged mother was compared to the late winter's moon. The young running trees outside implies that youth passes away very quickly. Thus, the running trees and happy children presented a sharp contrast to the sickmother
2. As a child Kamala Das had a mysterious premonition that she would lose her mother or would be separated from her. Once again the poet is to leave her mothr s she is going away

and is again gripped by the familiar pain of parting. These feelings are even more intense as her mother has grown old and frail. Her fear surface now as she looks at her old mother with open mouth in her car.

3. Poet compared her mother in the late winter's moon to convey the idea of her old age. The late winter moon is dull and shrouded. It is always under the threat of dark clouds, similarly the poet's mother who now sixty six, looks pale and devoid of exuberance. She has lost her strength and shine of youth. She could any time be swept away by death. Hence the comparison is quite appropriate and the smile used is apt and effective
4. The poet's parting words 'See you soon Amma' imply dilemma and confusion in her mind. Her heart aches to see her pale mother's face which reminds her about her aging and ultimate end. She was flying to distant land and was not sure whether the two would meet again. Her smile means to hide this pain and the fear the poet has been nurturing. The smile must have been comforted the old women even if it was a hollow.

### 5-marks question

1. The poem 'My Mother at Sixty-Six' brings out the natural fear of losing our parents, which is common to the hearts of all humans.
  - Ageing is natural and unavoidable part of human life which one has to accept. It is generally through the process of aging that one goes to one's final rest.
  - In the poem the poet witnesses her mother through the process of aging. She has grown old and has a pale and weak face.
  - She tries to escape such this fear by diverting her attention to things outside the car but find herself again face to face with the fear at the airport.
  - The poet also recalls how even as a child she has experienced the fear of losing her mother.
  - Now her fear has changed into the fear of losing her mother to death.
  - But she ends the poem by a such words as 'see you Amma' and with the smile which are give a sense of positive note.

