

CBSE CLASS XI WORKSHEET (SET B)

Poem: "A Photograph (Set B)" by Shirley Toulson

English Core (Hornbill) - Class 11

Time Allowed: 45 Mins

Max Marks: 25

EXTRACT-BASED SOURCE MATERIAL

*Some twenty - thirty years later
She'd laugh at the snapshot. "Look at Betty
And Dolly," she'd say, "and look how they
Dressed us for the beach." The sea holiday
Was her past, mine is her laughter. Both wry
With the laboured ease of loss.*

SECTION A: EXTRACT-BASED QUESTIONS (OBJECTIVE & VSA) — [8 MARKS]

- Q1. Who are 'Betty' and 'Dolly' mentioned in the extract, and what is their relationship to the speaker's mother?** (1 Mark)
- Q2. What does the phrase 'snapshot' imply about the nature of the memory being preserved?** (1 Mark)
- Q3. In the line 'Was her past, mine is her laughter', identify the shifting nature of time and loss experienced by the poet.** (2 Marks)
- Q4. Identify the tone of the mother when she says, '...and look how they dressed us for the beach.'** (1 Mark)
- (a) Bitter and resentful
 - (b) Nostalgic and amused
 - (c) Apprehensive and anxious
 - (d) Formal and detached

Q5. Based on the extract, match the entity with its corresponding 'past' state:

(1 Mark)

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|------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Mother's Past | A. The mother's vibrant laughter |
| 2. Poet's Past | B. The childhood beach holiday |

- (a) 1-A, 2-B
- (b) 1-B, 2-A
- (c) 1-B, 2-B
- (d) 1-A, 2-A

Q6. State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE:

(1 Mark)

The phrase 'Both wry' indicates that both the poet and her mother felt complete satisfaction and unmarred happiness at this stage of their lives.

SECTION B: SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS (30–40 WORDS) — [9 MARKS]

Q7. How does the camera play a significant role as a silent catalyst in the theme of the poem?

(3 Marks)

Q8. What are the specific details of the beach dress mentioned by the mother, and what underlying theme does this recollection bring out?

(3 Marks)

Q9. Analyze the significance of the title 'A Photograph'. Why did the poet choose this generic title instead of a personalized one?

(3 Marks)

SECTION C: LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTION (100–120 WORDS) — [8 MARKS]

Q10. Shirley Toulson utilizes the medium of a static photograph to translate deeply dynamic emotions of love, passing time, and finality. Elaborate how structural transitions in the poem help the reader experience the weight of unresolved silence.

(8 Marks)