

ENGLISH

CHAPTER 2: GEOGRAPHY LESSON



GEOGRAPHY LESSON

~Summary~

-by Zulfikar Ghose

"Geography Lesson" by Zulfikar Ghose is a poem in which the poet talks about his experiences of flying high in a jet. As the jet takes off, he sees the cities that are laid out below in an unplanned and disorganised way. He says that he understands the reason for them to be disarranged such that things are existing as they are meant to be. He also says that he understands the logic behind people settling near river valleys. People need water to perform all basic activities and therefore, they settle near water bodies. He also confirms that the earth is round and that majority of its surface is covered by water, as seen from the height. Although he understands all these concepts, he does not understand why human beings fight and spread hate in spite of life being so beautiful.

~Conclusion~

The moral of the poem is that we shall use natural resources like land and water wisely. Also, we shall all live together on harmony and not fight with each other over trivial things. In this way, we can make Earth a beautiful place to live in.

NCERT SOLUTIONS

Questions (Page No. 35) (Working with the poem)

Question 1. Find three or four phrases in stanzas one and two which are likely to occur in a geography lesson.

Answer: Some of the three or four phrases which are likely to occur in a geography lesson are listed below:

- a. "the city had developed the way it had"
- b. "it scaled six inches to the mile"
- c. "the country had cities where the rivers ran"
- d. "the valleys were populated"
- e. "land and water attracted man"

Question 2. Seen from the window of an aeroplane, the city appears

- a. as haphazard as on ground.
- b. as neat as a map.
- c. as developed as necessary.

Mark the right answer.

Answer:

- c. as developed as necessary.

Question 3. Which of the following statements are examples of "the logic of geography"?

- a. There are cities where there are rivers.
- b. Cities appear as they are not from six miles above the ground.
- c. It is easy to understand why valleys are populated.
- d. It is difficult to understand why humans hate and kill one another.
- e. The earth is round, and it has more sea than land.

Answer:

Statements (a), (c) and (d) are correct.

Question 4. Mention two things that are

- a. clear from the height.
- b. not clear from the height.

Answer:

- a. From the height, it is clear that the cities and valleys of the various countries are populated near the rivers. Besides, it also implies that the earth is round and that it had more sea than land.
- b. From the height, it is difficult to understand why the men on the earth find reasons to hate each other and build walls across cities and want to kill. This implies that Nature does not restrict itself in boundaries, but human beings are always trying hard to divide the beautiful planet by building walls among themselves.