

Class 11 chapter 3 A Photograph

Answer the following questions:

1. What does the word, cardboard, denote in the poem?

A The word cardboard denotes the photograph pasted on hard thick paper. This word has been used to refer to a practice in the past when photographs were pasted on a card board and framed with glass in front to preserve them.

2. What has the cameras captured?

A. The camera has captured the three girls –the poet’s mother and her two cousins. Betty and Dolly, in their swimming dresses with the poet’s mother in the middle and the two cousins on either side holding her hands and walking with bare feet in sea water.

3 What has not changed over the years? Does this suggest something to you?

A. The sea has not changed over the years. Its waves are fresh, shining and tireless as they were years ago .The changelessness of sea reminds us of the changes in human face with advancing age.

4The poet’s mother laughed at the snap shot? What did this laugh indicate?

A. , This laugh indicated her joy at remembering an incident connected with her past life. When she was quite young and free from the tensions and worries of life.

5. What is the meaning of the line’ both wry with the laboured ease of loss’?

A. The sea holiday and the laughter of the poet’s mother are incidents of the past life. There is a sense of loss associated with them. Both are amusing yet disappointing as the state of feeling comfortable or relaxed is unnatural or forced one. This sense of loss is quite painful to bear

6. What impression do you form of the poets’ and the poets, mother after reading the poem, A photograph.

A. The poem presents the poet as a sensitive person who is quite affectionate towards her mother and is deeply attached to her..She loves her sweet face and notes the changes in it as she advances in age. She remembers all the incidents connected to her life including her laughter on looking at the pghotograph.She finds it hard to bear her death. The pangs of separation stun her to speech lessness. The poet’s mother appears as a physically well informed person with sweet face and beautiful simile. She has a friendly temperament and free mixing nature. She has great affection for her two girl cousins and goes with them for a sea holiday where they put on quaint dresses. She poses with them smilingly for a snap. Her laughter on seeing the dresses in the snap shows her fine temperament and good humour.