Class 9th | English

आरंभ

Kaveri

Canvas of Soil

Chapter 3 | Lecture 1

CANVAS OF SOIL

Class 9 English (Kaveri Book) – Poem 3

By Maya Anthony

THEME

The poem "Canvas of Soil" celebrates nature as a living artwork and presents gardening as a creative and patient process. It highlights the deep connection between art and life, showing how human love, imagination and hard work transform the soil into a beautiful garden. The poem is a tribute to nature's beauty, growth, hope and the joy it brings to our lives.



SUMMARY

- The poet compares the soil to a painter's palette—rich, deep and full of colours and possibilities.
- Gardeners are like artists whose dreams seep into the earth.
- Seeds are sown like brushstrokes on a canvas, planted with care and faith.
- The gardener waits patiently for spring to bring vibrant colours and blooms.
- Blossoms dance in the morning light, creating a breathtaking sight.
- The garden displays shades of green, red and blue—nature's endless artistry, ever new and full of life.
- Each garden plot is a wide canvas where art and life meet and blend together.
- In the hands of those who till the soil, gardens become paintings—living masterpieces that inspire joy and wonder.



EXPLANATION



Soil as a Palette: The poet beautifully compares soil to a painter's palette, suggesting that it holds countless possibilities, just like colours.



Seeds as Brushstrokes: Planting seeds is compared to making brushstrokes. Each seed is planted with a dream and a vision.



Blossoms as Art: When the flowers bloom, they create a stunning picture that dances in the morning light—nature's living artwork.



Colours and Diversity: The shades of green, red and blue show the richness, diversity and beauty of nature.



Art and Life Coincide: The garden becomes a place where art (beauty, creativity) and life (growth, change) come together.



Human Touch: The poem acknowledges the role of the gardener. Through love, patience and hard work, they turn the soil into a living painting.

DEEPER MEANING

- The poem suggests that nature is not just around us, it is a great artist.
- It teaches us to appreciate the beauty of gardens and the tireless effort of gardeners.
- It reflects hope, growth, patience and respect for nature.
- It reminds us that art is not only on canvas but also in every living thing around us.



CENTRAL IDEA

The poem conveys that gardening is a creative art where human dreams and efforts, combined with nature's magic, create timeless beauty and joy.

आरंभ

Next Toppers

Canvas of Soil

Palette of earth, rich and deep,
Where dreams of gardeners seep.
Brushstrokes of seeds, planted true,
Awaiting spring's vibrant hue.

hopes, hardwork

Careful art of artists - compared







Canvas of Soil

multi-colour

Flowers — garden full of flowers → canvas

Blossoms bloom, a painted sight,

flowers swaying (personification)

Dancing in the morning light.



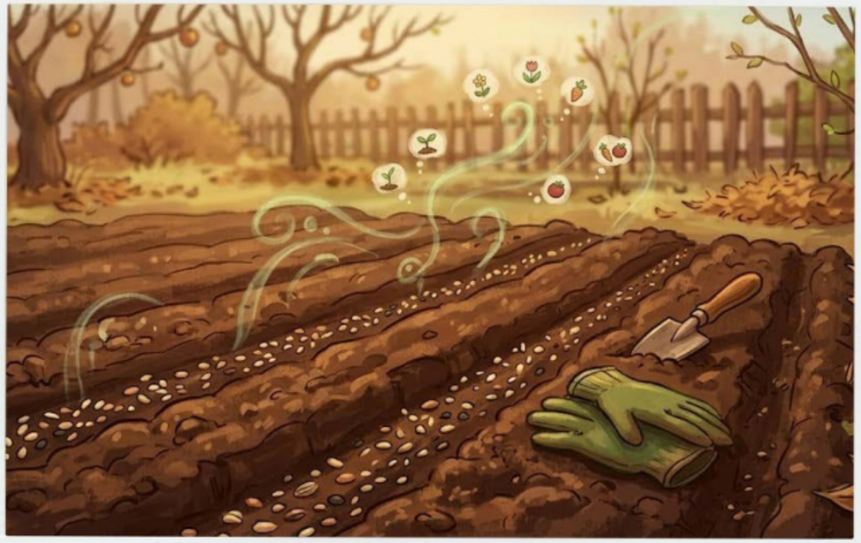
Shades of green, red, and blue,

Nature's artwork, ever new.

continuous process of nature – create & recreate







आरंभ

Next Toppers

Canvas of Soil

Each plot, a canvas wide,
Gardening – art of growing plants & giving life
Where art and life coincide.

In the hands of those who till, (gardeners & farmers)

Gardens become paintings still.
Ordinary simple land turns into living beauty





Poet: Maya Anthony

Poetic Devices

- Metaphor – Palette of Earth
- Imagery – blossom bloom

Personification

Alliteration - blossom bloom

Rhyme Scheme - AABBCC

Symbolism – Garden ~ Art | Spring ~ new life

आरंभ

Next Toppers

I Read the given extracts from the poem and answer the questions that follow.

1 Brushstrokes of seeds, planted true,
Awaiting spring's vibrant hue.

(i) The poet has used a metaphor in 'Brushstrokes of seeds'. Which option from those given below uses a metaphor?

A. Her mother's heart heard her heartfelt request with kindness.

B. She has a heart of gold.

C. Her heart did a dance of joy on seeing the new doll.

D. She has a very kind heart.



आरंभ

Next Toppers

I Read the given extracts from the poem and answer the questions that follow.

(ii) Complete the sentence appropriately.
The phrase 'planted true' is signi cant because it implies _____.

(iii) Why has the poet used the word 'hue' instead of 'colours' in the extract?

(iv) Complete the following analogy correctly with a word from the extract.
Summer: hot :: Spring : _____.



आरंभ

Next Toppers

I Read the given extracts from the poem and answer the questions that follow.

(v) Read the Assertion (A) and the Reason (R) and select the option that is correctly suited.
(A): Gardeners wait for Spring.
(R): Gardens are worth painting in Spring.

A. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
B. Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
C. (A) is true but (R) is false.
D. Kaveri 90 (A) is false but (R) is true.



आरंभ

Next Toppers

I Read the given extracts from the poem and answer the questions that follow.

2 Each plot, a canvas wide,
Where art and life coincide.

(i) What does 'Each plot' refer to in this extract?

(ii) Select which option imitates the rhyme scheme of the extract.

A. beautiful and clear
laughter and cheer

B. beautiful and clear
laughter and tears



आरंभ

Next Toppers

I Read the given extracts from the poem and answer the questions that follow.

(iii) Select the line from the extract that conveys that gardening blends aesthetic beauty with natural growth.

(iv) Complete the following sentence appropriately.
The plot is likened to a canvas suggesting that _____.

(v) Why has the poet most likely used the word 'wide' instead of 'long' in 'canvas wide'?



II Give reasons for the comparisons made by the poet in the poem.

1. A painter is compared to a gardener because _____.

2. A palette is like earth as _____.

3. The brushstrokes are like seeds because _____.

4. A canvas is similar to a garden plot as _____.



III Answer the following questions.

1. How does the metaphor 'Brushstrokes of seeds', enhance the understanding of gardening as an art form?

2. What can you infer about the poet's perspective on the relationship between nature and creativity from the following lines?
'Each plot, a canvas wide,/Where art and life coincide.'

3. Do you think the imagery in the poem successfully paints a vivid picture in the reader's mind? If yes, why? If no, why not?



III Answer the following questions.

4 Support the view that the poet's mention of the colour yellow, besides red, blue and green, would have lent e ectively to the imagery.

5 Considering the line 'Gardens become paintings still', what can you interpret about the poet's view on the timelessness of nature's beauty?

6 Justify the title of the poem, 'Canvas of Soil'.



THANK YOU

Stay Connected

KEEP LEARNING