

2.5 Autumn

■ ■ ■ Warming up! ■ ■ ■

1. What changes do you see in nature in each of the following seasons? A few sentences are given below as examples. Use these and your own to describe a season appropriately.

- New grass sprouts.
- Tender leaves shoot out on plants or trees.
- Migratory birds return.
- The sun shines brighter than before.
- We see mist in the morning.
- There are sudden showers and hailstorms.
- Trees blossom.



- (a) Name the six seasons according to the Indian calendar. Which of the seasons is equivalent to Autumn?
- (b) What changes do we see in the life of human beings when the season changes? Write with reference to their (a) clothes (b) diet (c) celebrations.
2. Guess what is personified and fill in the gaps. Choose from the brackets. (Sun, alarm, bird, car, wind, stars, machine)
- (a) The weary was also petrol-hungry.
- (b) The playful whistled among the trees.
- (c) The annoying screamed at 5 am.
- (d) The naughty winked at me from above.
- (e) The rising stretched its arms.
- (f) The cheerful sang as it perched on a tree.
- (g) The tireless hummed as it worked hard.

Autumn

- ◆ Why is Autumn called a 'maiden fair'?
- ◆ What is the cooing of birds compared to?
- ◆ How does Autumn dress up at night?

- slender : slim
- diadem : crown
- bars (here) : patches
- ruffles : disturb a smooth surface

THE autumn comes, a maiden fair
In slenderness and grace,
With nodding rice - stems in her hair
And lilies in her face.
In flowers of grasses she is clad;
And as she moves along,
Birds greet her with their cooing glad
Like a bracelet's tinkling song.

A diadem adorns the night !
Of multitudinous stars;
Her silken robe is white moonlight,
Set free from cloudy bars;
And on her face (the radiant moon)
Bewitching smiles are shown :
She seems a slender maid, who soon
Will be a woman grown.

- Kalidas

Translated by Prof. A. W. Ryder



