

CHAPTER 1.3

MISSING YOU

-Meera John

This Chapter is in the form of a touching letter written by the writer to her father who is no more. She misses her father who had passed away a year ago, due to brain tumour. His vacant chair at the dining table and some other memories make her nostalgic. Her father's Birthday was nearing and she remembers that how they used to plan secretly for the celebration, but now he was everywhere. To her nothing had changed as he was still alive in her memories. She misses him when a pipe leaks, the power trips or mending is required in some gadgets. It becomes different to reconcile, yet she was trying to come to terms. October is a special month because it happened to be the month of not only his birthday, but also his death day. To her his life will always remain a celebration.

Read the following passage and answer the Questions:

Nothing has changed. Death has taken you away, but you live in my treasury of memories, the same as before. I discover that memories are not just lifeless thoughts drifting in my head. They come alive and take the sting out of death. I thought death was final, but I am learning that it is just another among many milestones we cross in life.

As you can see, everything at home is going well, the way you would like it to be. Every time a pipe leaks, the power trips or a gadget needs mending, we wish you were there. But we are learning to be in control, as you always were.

QUESTIONS

- a) Why does the daughter say that nothing has changed?
- b) How has the girl described her memories?
- c) Explain the term 'They come alive and take the sting out of my head.'
- d) On what occasions do the members of the family wish the father should have been there?
- e) Make a sentence with the word 'milestone' so as to bring out a meaning of the word.

ANSWERS

a) **Why does the daughter say that nothing has changed?**

Ans.)

The daughter says that nothing has changed because her father continues to live in her memories even after his death.

b) **How has the girl described her memories?**

Ans.)

The girl has described her memories as something which is not lifeless, she says that her father's memories are not just lifeless thoughts that are drifting in her head.

c) **Explain the term 'They come alive and take the sting out of my head.'**

Ans.)

'They come alive and take the sting out of my head' means that , her father's memories are very fresh in her minds, his smiling face, his talking, laughing, his way of enjoying life are all always present in

her mind and because of these memories, she feels that he has not gone forever, and she can always feel his presence.

- d) **On what occasions do the members of the family wish the father should have been there?**

Ans.)

Every time a pipe leaks, the power trips or a gadget needs mending, the members of the family wish that father should have been there.

- e) **Make a sentence with the word 'milestone' so as to bring out a meaning of the word.**

Ans.)

'Milestone'- Kapil Dev's wining of the World cup has been a milestone in his career.