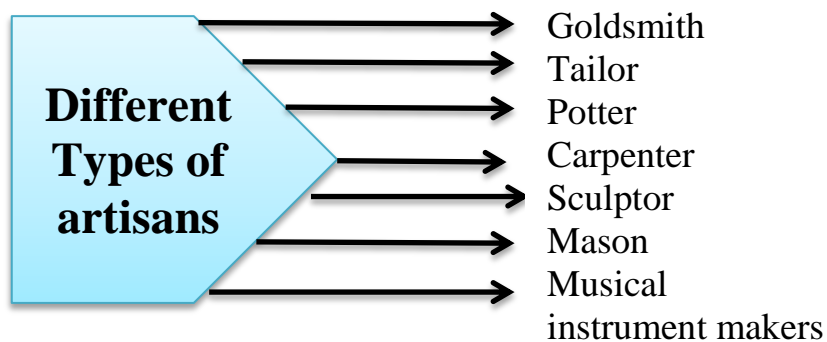




## 2.2 INDIAN WEAVERS

### ICE BREAKERS

1] Artisans (**कारीगर**) are also called craftsmen. They are creators of diverse (**various**) goods and use their hands to create unique, functional and also decorative items using traditional techniques. Now complete the web given below:



2] Discuss with your partner the seasons/occasions when we need:

(a) **Woolen clothes:** woolen clothes need in winter.

(b) **Casual clothes:** Casual clothes are used on the occasion of party and outing.

(c) **rich silk clothes :** rich silk clothes are used on the occasion of social gathering such as weddings or Puja.

(d) **Colourful, comfortable clothes :** Colourful, comfortable clothes are used at home and during travel

3] Let's play a game. The teacher will ask the students some questions. Students will understand that there are some exceptions to the general rules. Let's start.

a) One who weaves is a weaver.

b) One who plays a game is a player/gamer

- c) One who sings is a singer
- d) One who dances is a dancer
- e) One who teaches is a teacher
- f) One who cooks is a cook

**4] We have often seen the picture of Gandhiji spinning on his charkha. Discuss the reasons behind this. One has been given for you.**

- 1) To give rural people an opportunity to earn their livelihood.
- 2) Revival of the cottage industry
- 3) To remove the growing poverty
- 4) To create the sense of Swadeshi among the people.
- 5) To make India self-dependent in cloth making.

**5] Name some tools used by the weavers.**

- (a) Loom
- (b) Comb
- (c) Shuttle

**6] Name some types of yarns used by the weavers.**

- (a) Linen
- (b) Wool
- (c) cotton
- (d) rayon
- (e) silk
- (f) polyester.



**(A1) Discuss with your partner about the following vocations:**

- (a) Weaving: **It is the process of forming a fabric by interlacing yarn on the handloom or power-loom**
- (b) Tailoring: **It is the process of stitching garments from a fabric on a manual or an automatic tailoring machine**
- (b) Knitting: **It is the process by which yarn is handled to create a fabric , specially woollen garments**
- (c) Embroidering: **It is the art of decorating cloth by sewing with a threads.**

**(A2) (i) Discuss the various products made by the weavers in the poem.**

**Ans:** The weavers make three different products in the three stanzas of the poem:

1. In the first stanza, they make vibrant **blue-colored robes of a new-born child** with the colour resembling the blue wings of the wild halcyon.
2. In the second stanza, they make **the marriage-veils of a queen** in purple and green, with the colours resembling the plumes of a peacock.
3. In the third stanza, they make **a funeral shroud for a dead man**. The shroud is white, like a feather and like a cloud. These products symbolize childhood, youth and old age, re....pectively.



**(ii) The words in the three stanzas of the poem mention different times of a day. Complete the table.**

Time of the day	Words/phrases	Weaver's work
Early morning	Break of day	Weavers weave robes for the new-born child
Late in the evening	<b>Fall of night</b>	<b>Weavers weave the marriage-veils of a queen</b>
Cold night	moonlight chill	<b>Weavers weave a dead man's funeral shroud</b>

**(iii) The poem reveals three phases of life. Fill in the blanks with feelings and colours appropriate to the phases of life. One is done for you.**

	New-born/ Childhood	Youth/ Adulthood	Old age/ Death
Colour	Blue	<b>purple and green</b>	<b>White</b>
Feeling	Hopes and expectations	<b>Happiness and struggle</b>	<b>emotionless and lifeless</b>

**(iv) Complete:**

The weavers weave in the chill moonlight a dead man's funeral shroud

**(v) Pick out two words used to describe the weavers in the last stanza. Also state their importance.**

**Ans:** The two words that describe the weavers in the last stanza are 'solemn' and 'still'.

The words are used to describe the weavers who are weaving a funeral shroud for the dead man, **in a silent state and not happy.**

**(vi) Express your views about the present condition of weavers.**

**Ans:** It is sad that the craft is giving the Indian fashion industry so much of respect and money, is now in poor condition. A large number of Indian weavers are forced to end their lives because of their inability to pay the heavy debts due to low income and ignorance of the government. They are in such a miserable condition that they are unable to face the problem. They are either ending their lives or shifting to some other profession after migrating to cities. Immediate solution to this problem is needed to save the traditional craft from extinction.

**(vii) Describe in your own words the steps or measures that can be taken to solve the problems of the weavers.**

**Ans:** (a) The textile ministry should arrange for more subsidies for making life easier of the weavers.

(b) Yarns should be available to them at affordable prices.

(c) The weavers should be able to get the yarns easily on their own without the middlemen interfering.

(d) The weavers can sell their own products directly in the market and the government should make arrangement of this facility so that the middlemen do not create any problem for the weavers.

(e) The weavers should also be trained in the latest technology and

the government should bear the cost.

**(viii) Express your own views and opinions from the weavers' point of view and complete the following table.**

Stanza	Activity(done by weavers)	Views/Opinion
First stanza	Robes for a new-born child	The weavers feel happy because a young one who has just came to the world.
Second stanza	Marriage-veils for a queen	The weavers feel happy and enthusiastic because they are weaving the marriage-veils of a queen, <b>which is a merry occasion</b>
Third stanza	Funeral shroud of a dead man	The weavers feel sad and depressed because they are silently and seriously weaving the funeral shroud upon the death of a man, <b>which is a sad occasion.</b>

**(ix) Pick out the words, expressions or phrases from the poem that indicate the different times of the day.**

Ans. The expressions, words or phrases indicating different times of the day in the poem are –

Break of day – early morning

fall of night – late in the evening

moonlight chill – cold night

**(x) Is there a similarity between the break of day and the birth of the baby? If yes, what is it?**

Ans. Yes, there is a similarity between the break of the day and the birth of a baby. Both symbolize a new beginning.

**(xi) Pick out the two objects to which the shroud is compared to for its colour.**

Ans. The funeral shroud of a dead man is compared with white feather and cloud for its colour.

**(xii)** Identify and collect the words in the poem that indicate the changing mood of the poet.

Ans. The words gay, bright, solemn and still in the poem indicate the changing mood of the poet.



**(A3) (i) Pick out the rhyming words from the poem.**

**Ans:** Day – gay,  
Wild – child  
Night- bright  
Green –Queen  
Still –chill  
Shroud - cloud

**(ii) Give antonyms and synonyms of the following and make sentences of your own.**

Word	Antonym	Sentence	Synonym	Sentence
new	<b>Old</b>	I like my old traditions	novel	They use novel way to do the cybercrime
bright	<b>Dull</b>		colorful	
dead	<b>Alive</b>		deceased	
still	<b>Mobile</b>		stationary	
wild	<b>Tame</b>		feral	
fall	<b>Rise</b>		decline	
child	<b>Adult</b>		infant	

**(iii) Make a word register for clothes/attire/dress.**

**Ans:** Garment, outfit, casuals, formal, traditional, denim etc.

**(A4) (i) Complete the following table.**

Figure of Speech	Line
Simile	Blue as the wing of a halcyon wild
Imagery	Like the plumes of a peacock, purple and green
Metaphor	"Weavers, weaving at break of day,"
Alliteration	"Why do you weave a garment so gay?"

## 5. Imagery - Imagery is the name given to the elements in a poem that spark off the senses.

Despite "image" being a synonym for "picture", images need not be only visual; any of the five senses (sight, hearing, touch, taste, smell) can respond to what a poet writes.

e.g., The poet has painted the picture of Indian weavers who weaves tirelessly at different times of a day. This poem has been used as a imagery to describe the three stages of human life, from birth to death, just as the weavers weave from dawn to night.

### (ii) Figures of Speech and Explanation:

#### 1. Weavers, weaving at break of day.

**Alliteration** because the sound of letter 'w' is repeated

**Metaphor** because here there is an implied comparison between the birth (childhood stage of man) and a break of day.

#### 2. Why do you weave a garment so gay? . . .

**Alliteration** because the sound of letters 'w' and 'g' are repeated.

**Interrogation** because the sentence is in the form of question.

#### 3. Blue as the wing of a halcyon wild.

**Inversion** – The words are not in correct order. The correct word order is – The wing of a halcyon wild (is) blue.

**Alliteration** because the sound of letter 'w' is repeated.

**Simile** because the blue coloured cloth is directly compared with a wing of wild halcyon.

#### 4. We weave the robes of a new-born child.

**Alliteration** because the sound of letter 'w' is repeated.

#### 5. Weavers, weaving at fall of night.

**Alliteration** because the sound of letter 'w' is repeated

**Metaphor** because here there is an implied comparison between adulthood (young - the second stage of man) and the fall of night.

#### 6. Why do you weave a garment so bright?

**Alliteration** because the sound of letter 'w' is repeated.

**Interrogation** because the sentence is in the form of question.

**7. Like the plumes of a peacock, purple and green.**

**Simile** because the garment is directly compared with purple & green coloured plumes of peacock.

**Alliteration** because the sound of letter 'p' is repeated.

**8. We weave the marriage-veils of a queen.**

**Alliteration** because the sound of letter 'w' is repeated.



**9. Weavers, weaving solemn and still.**

**Alliteration** because the sounds of letters 'w' and 's' are repeated.

**Tautology** because the words 'solemn' and 'still' are similar in meaning.

**10. What do you weave in the moonlight chill?**

**Interrogation** because the sentence is in the form of question.

**Inversion** because the words are not in correct order.

The correct word order is – What do you weave in the chill moonlight?

**Alliteration** because the sound of letter 'w' is repeated.

**Metaphor** because here there is an implied comparison between death (old age - the third and last stage of man's life) and moonlight.

**11. White as a feather and white as a cloud.**

**Repetition** because the words 'white' and 'as' are repeated.

**Simile** because the garment is directly compared with a feather and a cloud.

**12. We weave a dead man's funeral shroud.**

**Alliteration** because the sound of letter 'w' is repeated.

(13) Write the rhyme scheme of this poem.

The rhyme scheme of this poem is 'a-a-b-b'.

(A5) (i) The poet has asked a question at the beginning of every stanza. Explain the effect it creates on the reader.

Ans: The questions at the beginning of each stanza are used by the poet to create a sense of inquiry and curiosity in the reader's mind to know about the nature of the garment and the reason behind weaving that garment at that particular time by the weavers.



(ii) Compose four lines on 'Importance of clothes.'

His old clothes came to whisper his good name;  
 Now he values them both with pride then.  
 He always picks, blue jeans and shirt the same  
 The old or new the clothes we need to be a man.

**(iii) Write an appreciation of the poem.**

Ans: Appreciation of the poem 'Indian Weavers'

**Poem /poet :** The poem Indian weavers is written by Sarojini Naidu. She is also known as the Nightingale of India and was an Indian Independence Activist and poet. The poem begins by asking questions. It consists of three stanzas with two rhyming couplets each. This poem is a metaphor for the three stages of human life - birth, youth and death. The poet depicts Indian weavers, who weave tirelessly at different times, the new-born baby's garments in the early morning, the queen's marriage-veils in the evening and the dead man's shroud at midnight.

**The central idea:** The central idea of this poem is that human beings pass through different stages of life like joys, responsibilities & sorrow. This poem is a metaphor for the three stages of human life.

**The style of the poem:** The style used in the poem is simple and lucid, with each stanza beginning with a question to evoke the reader's interest. The rhyme scheme of the poem is aabb, . The poem is in question & answer form. Means it **has a conversational tone.**

. **The message/ why do you like?** . The message being conveyed by the poem is that of the motion of life, where each stage, characterised by its unique emotions. I find this poem a good because it is short poem which is full with images. I like the poem for the colour-scheme that the poet has chosen for the garments.