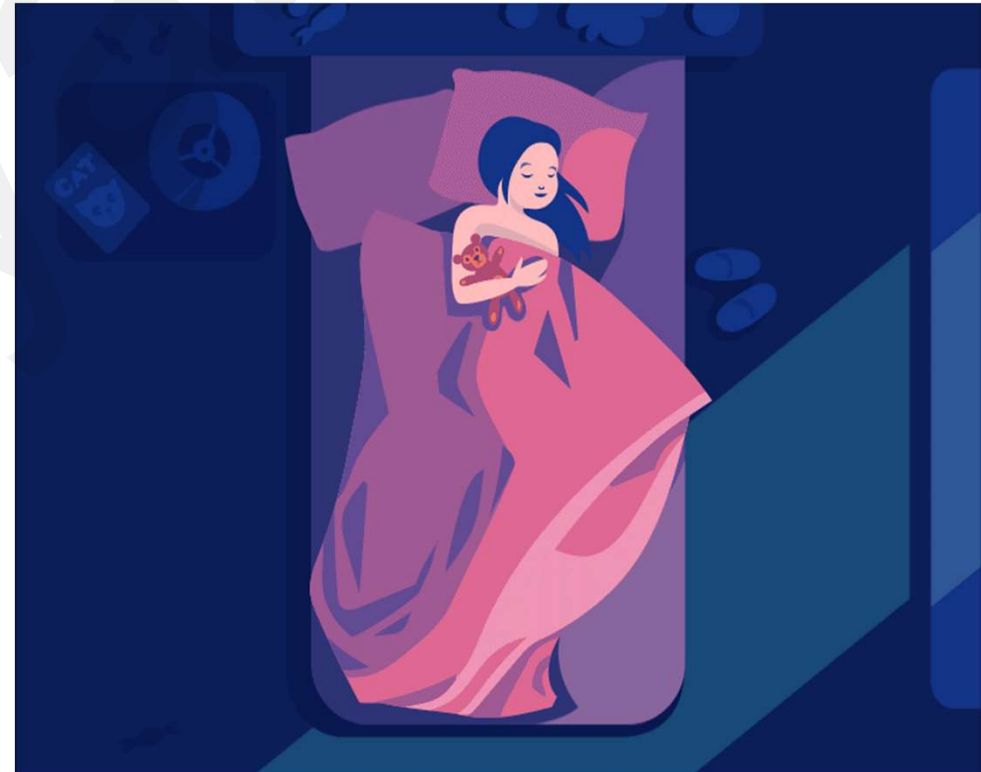


CLASS IX POEM 10 A SLUMBER DID MY SPIRIT SEAL (NCERT)

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THINKING ABOUT THE POEM (PAGE 136)

QUESTION 1. “A slumber did my spirit seal”, says the poet. That is, a deep sleep ‘closed off’ his soul (or mind). How does the poet react to his loved one’s death? Does he feel deep sense of grief? Or does he feel a great peace?



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ANSWER: The poet is shocked and surprised at the death of his loved one. It feels painful. Death does not make anyone feel good. It is always associated with misery.



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QUESTION 2. The passing of time will no longer affect her, says the poet. Which lines of the poem say this?

ANSWER: “She seemed a thing that could not feel the touch of earthly years”.

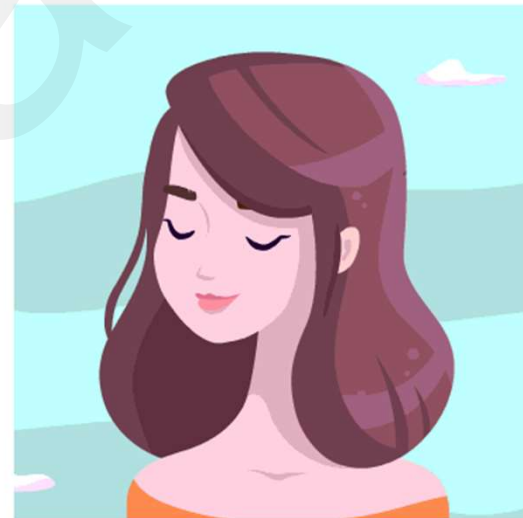


CLASS IX POEM 10 A SLUMBER DID MY SPIRIT SEAL (NCERT)

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1ST STANZA

**A SLUMBER DID MY SPIRIT
SEAL—
I HAD NO HUMAN FEARS.
SHE SEEMED A THING THAT
COULD NOT FEEL
THE TOUCH OF EARTHLY YEARS.**



CLASS IX POEM 10 A SLUMBER DID MY SPIRIT SEAL (NCERT)

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QUESTION 3. How does the poet imagine her to be, after death? Does he think of her as a person living in a very happy state (a 'heaven')? Or does he see her now as a part of nature? In which lines of the poem do you find your answer?

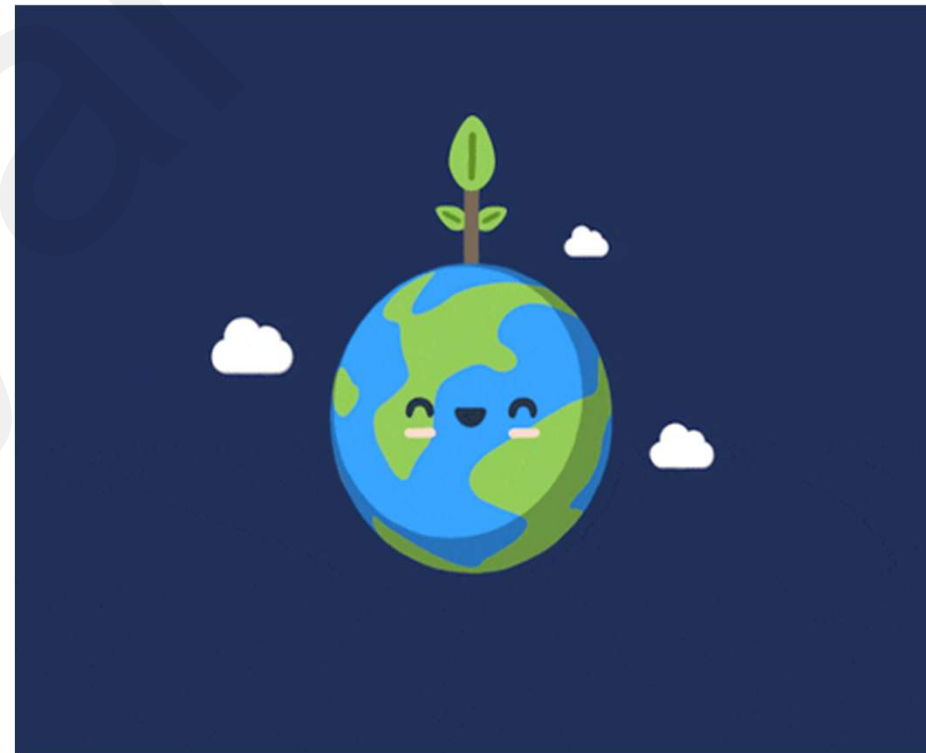
ANSWER: The poet imagines her to be an inseparable part of nature. No, he does not think so because 'heaven' is not a dead thing. It is shown in the line 'Rolled round in earth's diurnal course/With rocks and stones and trees'.

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LAST STANZA

**NO MOTION HAS SHE NOW, NO
FORCE—
SHE NEITHER HEARS NOR SEES,
ROLLED ROUND IN EARTH'S DIURNAL
COURSE
WITH ROCKS AND STONES AND TREES.**



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