**SAINIK SCHOOL GOPALGANJ**

**Summer-Vacation Homework**

**Subject: English Class-VIII**

Chapter-1(Poem): The Ant and the Cricket (Book: Honeydew)

**1. Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow in a line or two:**

(A) A silly young cricket, accustomed to sing  
Through the warm, sunny months of gay summer and spring  
Began to complain when he found that, at home  
His cupboard was empty, and winter was come.

(i) What did the ‘silly’ cricket do?  
(ii) When did he sing?  
(iii) What was his complaint?  
(iv) What worried him the most?

(v) What is the rhyme scheme of these lines?

(B) My heart was so light That I sang day and night,  
For all nature looked gay.”  
“You Sang, Sir, you say?  
Go then,” says the ant, “and dance the winter away.

(i) What did the cricket reveal about his routine?  
(ii) What did the ant reply to him?  
(iii) What does the poet try to teach his readers?  
(iv) Name the literary device (s) used in these lines with examples.

**2. Answer these questions in not more than 30 words:**

(i) **Why is the adjective ‘gay’ used to describe summer and spring?**

**(ii) The ant refuses to help the cricket because of a principle. What is that principle? Explain in some words.**

**(iii) Describe the sufferings of the cricket.**

**(iv) Does the poet criticise the ant for his unhelpful behaviour?**

**3. Answer the question in 100-120 words:**

(i) Narrate the story of the ant and the cricket in about 50 words. What moral or message does it convey?

(ii) Delineate the character of the Ant and the Cricket and bring out the similarity/contrast between their character.

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