



**INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT**  
**SENIOR SECTION**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**  
**CLASS IX**  
**THE SEVEN AGES**  
**WORKSHEET**



I. Read the extracts and answer the following questions:

1. "And then the lover,  
 Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad  
 Made to his mistress' eyebrow."
    - a. Which stage is described in these lines?
    - b. Why has the lover being compared to a 'sighing furnace'?
    - c. Explain: 'Made to his mistress' eyebrow.'
    - d. Why is the lover's ballad a woeful one?
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2. "Then a soldier.  
 Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the pard,  
 Jealous in honour, sudden and quick in quarrel,  
 Seeking the bubble reputation even in the canon's mouth."
    - a. Why is the soldier compared to a pard?
    - b. What traits characterize this stage?
    - c. What is the importance of reputation for him?
    - d. Bring out the literary device in line 2 and line 4.
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3. "And then the justice,  
 In fair round belly with good capon lined,  
 With eyes severe and beard of formal cut,  
 Full of wise saws and modern instances;  
 And so he plays his part."
    - a. Which stage of men's life has been described here?
    - b. Give the meaning of 'good capon lined'.
    - c. How does he display his wisdom?
    - d. What status does he enjoy at this stage?

II. Short answer questions(30-40 words):

- a. Why does the poet refer to men and women as players?
- b. Draw a parallelism between human life and theatre stage.
- c. Bring out a contrast between a judge and a soldier.
- d. What is 'second childishness'? Why has it been called so?
- e. How does Shakespeare perceive a man in the sixth stage of his life?

III. Long answer question(100-120 words):

“All the world’s a stage  
And all the men and women merely players  
They have their exits and their entrances.”

Is human life truly a drama? What values do you think can make this drama full of happiness and joy? Which one’s can turn it into a tragedy?

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