



# INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



Subject : English

Topic : The Laburnum Top

Worksheet No : 6

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Student : \_\_\_\_\_ Class & Division : \_\_\_\_\_ Roll Number : \_\_\_\_\_

**S.No.      Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow.      Marks**

1.      The Laburnum Top is silent, quite still      **3**  
          In the afternoon yellow September sunlight,  
          A few leaves yellowing, all its seeds fallen.

(a) Why is the laburnum top silent?

The top of the laburnum tree is silent because the young ones of the goldfinch are anxiously waiting for their mother with food.

(b) What is the significance of 'yellow' in the poem?

Both the laburnum tree and the goldfinch's feathers are yellow in colour. So the babies escape being noticed by any predator with this effect. Thus the yellow colour provides high security to the young ones.

(c) Name the poem and the poet.

2.      It is the engine of her family.      **3**  
          She stokes it full, then flirts out to a branch –end  
          Showing her barred face identity mask.

(a) What is the engine of her family?

The nest with the little ones is the engine of the goldfinch family. They start chirruping and fluttering their wings to see their mother with food.

(b) What is the bird cautious about?

The bird is cautious about the safety of her young ones.

(c) What does the bird show?

The mother bird shows her identity to the young ones with her barred face.

Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each.

1.      To what is the bird's movement compared? What is the basis for the comparison?      **2**  
          The goldfinch's movement is compared to a lizard. The basis for the comparison is that it is sleek, abrupt and alert like a lizard. The same kinds of movements are observed when the goldfinch arrives on the laburnum tree.

2.      What is the image of the engine evoked by the poet?      **2**  
          An engine is a source of energy to run a machine. It is compared to the bird as she is too a source of energy for her family. A machine can't work without an engine. Similarly the bird's family can't survive without her.