

Question1

How do the children of the elementary school in a slum look?

Answer

They look grim. Their faces are pale and lifeless. The torn hair around their pale faces look like rootless weeds. They look ill, weak, exhausted and depressed due to malnutrition. Their eyes shine like the rat's eyes in their diseased body.

Question2

How has the poet expressed his despair and hope?

Answer

The poet has expressed his despair through the paper-thin boy who has inherited his father's gnarling disease and his hope through the unnoted boy who sits on the last seat and dreams of squirrel's game Out-side the class room in the tree- trunk.

Question3

Why don't the maps and pictures have any relevance to the children of the slum?

Answer

The maps and pictures that decorate the classroom walls belong to the world of rich. There is a big gap between the world in which the slum children live and the world of the rich. The beautiful wall hangings cannot cheer them as they are diseased and suffer from malnutrition and their future full of uncertainties.

Question4

What does the poet want for the children of the slum?

Answer

The poet does not want the children to be cramped in classrooms with pictures donated by the rich that have no relevance to their living; rather they should be allowed to explore the world, get strength from the Sun and fight the social injustice.