NCERT Solutions for Class 11 English Hornbill Poem 5 Father to Son

Question 1.
Does the poem talk of an exclusively personal experience or is it fairly universal ?
Answer:
The complaint and anger of a father against his headstrong son is common in every home and land. The poem doesn't talk of an individual father's personal experience. In every home the head tries to rule while the youngsters usually revolt. The conflict goes on and on. You may call it a generation gap, want of understanding between the old and the young.

Question 2.
How is the father's helplessness brought out in the poem ?
Answer:
The poem brings out the helplessness of a father. His relationship with his son has turned sour. They live in the same house. He has built and brought up the child according to his own plan. But the son has got a mind to think freely and act differently. The father can't throw him out, can't break off with him completely. He longs for a compromised but gets no response.

Question 3.
Identify the phrases and lines that indicate distance between father and son.
Answer:
I do not understand this child
I know nothing of him.
We speak like strangers What he loves I cannot share.
Silence surrounds us.

Question 4.
Does the poem have a consistent rhyme scheme ?
Answer:
Yes. The rhyme scheme is consistently a bba b a.

Aakash Institute