

NCERT SOLUTIONS

CLASS - 12th



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Class : 12th

Subject : English

Chapter : 8

Chapter Name : Memories of Childhood

Q1 The two accounts that you read above are based in two distant cultures. What is the commonality of theme found in both of them?

Answer. The two accounts given in the text Memories Of Childhood are based in two distant cultures. The common theme found in both of them is inequality, injustice, humiliation and discrimination.

Zitkala Sa faces prejudice being in a native American School. Getting her hair cut short was a sign of humiliation for her which she tried really hard to escape but failed. According to her mother, short hair is for the warriors of lost battles and shingled for the cowards.

Bama, on the other hand, faces social injustice for being a lower class person which basically signifies untouchability. She brings up the situation of how they were treated poorly and made to live separately and run errands for the upper class people.

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Q2 It may take a long time for oppression to be resisted, but the seeds of rebellion are sown very early in life. Do you agree that injustice in any form cannot escape being noticed even by children?

Answer. According to the text, Bama thinks that the behavior of the elders of her community is funny when she sees a lower class man holding the vadai packet from the string and walked weirdly. However, when she gets to know the real reason why this act was happening, she gets angry and decides to rebel. Instead, her brother tells her to study and make progress in her class and then do something about it with a mature mind.

Similarly, Zitkala Sa shows the signs of rebellion at an early age when she finds out that her hair is going to be cut short by the school authorities. In an attempt to escape, she hides in a room but is caught and tied to a chair after too many attempts of kicking and scratching.

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Q3 Bama's experience is that of a victim of the caste system. What kind of discrimination does Zitkala-Sa's experience depict? What are their responses to their respective situations?

Answer. Bama is from a Dalit community who faces casteism while Zitkala Sa is a native American who falls victim to oppression of her own culture. She was being dominated by the Americans to follow their values and culture.

They both face oppression and discrimination in their own circumstances and decide to overcome this by a common tool which is education. Bama and Zitkala Sa decided to study hard and earn a name for themselves.

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