



The Kites

-Daphne Lister

From text to thought:

Let's Recall-

Fill the kites with examples of similes and alliteration from the poem 'The kites' along with the rhyme scheme of the poem.

1. Similes:

"Like coloured birds"

- "And light as air"
- (If using Harry Behn's poem): "Soars like a ship"

2. Alliteration:

- "wild wind"
- "wind-whipped"

3. Rhyme Scheme:

- The poem generally follows an **abcb** rhyme scheme in its four-line stanzas (e.g., fly/sky, air/there, wings/sings, down/town, stare/air).

Pick the best fit.

1. (b) a child
2. (c) To climb a kite and sail up
3. (b) Coloured birds
4. (c) Sunny day (implied by the activity of flying kites in the open sky)

REFERENCE TO THE CONTEXT-

A. *"Then I would drift upon
The paper wings,
And hear the songs
That the wild wind sings."*

1. Who is the poet in the above lines?

The poet of these lines is Daphne Lister.

2. What does the child want to do?

The child wants to float (drift) on the kite and listen to the sounds the wind makes while high up in the air.

3. Name the poetic device used in the line 'That the wild wind sings'.

The poetic device used is Personification, where the wind is given the human quality of "singing". It also uses alliteration with "wild wind".

4. Use the word 'drift' in a sentence of your own.

We watched the clouds drift lazily across the clear blue sky.

5. What will the child hear when he is up in the air?

The child will hear "the songs / That the wild wind sings".

B. *"Up in the air*

See the kites fly,

Like coloured birds

In the wind-whipped sky."

1. What are the kites compared to in the above stanza?

The kites are compared to "coloured birds".

2. Describe the kites as mentioned in the stanza.

The kites are described as colourful and flying high in a sky that is being "wind-whipped" (blown strongly by the wind).

3. What is the rhyme scheme of the above stanza?

The rhyme scheme is abcb (fly/sky).

4. Give one example each of alliteration and simile from the above lines.

The rhyme scheme is abcb (fly/sky).

Alliteration: "wind-whipped"

Simile: "Like coloured birds"

THINK AND ANSWER-

Answer the following questions briefly.

1. What does the child want to be?

The child wants to be small and light as air so that they can climb onto a kite and experience the freedom of flying high in the sky like a bird.

2. How does the child feel when he is up in the air?

The child feels a sense of joy, wonder, and excitement, experiencing the thrill of adventure and freedom while drifting with the wind.

3. What will the child see when he looks down?

The child imagines looking down over the park and the rooftops of the town, seeing the world from a unique, elevated perspective.

4. How does the poet use kites to highlight the importance of freedom in human life?

The poet uses the kite as a symbol of **freedom** and escape from the ordinary world. The child's strong desire to fly with it, and the imagined admiration of the people below who "wish they were me," highlights a universal human longing for liberation, new experiences, and the ability to soar above daily constraints.

Attempt the following in 100-120 words.

1. Recently you participated in the kite flying festival held in your city.

Record your experience and reflections in the form of a diary entry.

October 26, 2026

Saturday

Dear Diary,

Today was one of the most exciting days of my life! I went to the annual kite flying festival at the riverfront, and the sky was a breathtaking canvas of colors. The air was filled with cheers, laughter, and the gentle whirring of countless kites dancing in the strong breeze.

We managed to get our bright yellow kite, with its long red tail, soaring high after a few attempts. Watching it dip and climb, a tiny speck against the vast blue, filled me with an incredible sense of joy and freedom. For those moments, all my worries seemed to disappear, carried away by the wind. I felt a connection to everyone around me, sharing in the simple, collective pleasure. The sight reminded me of the poem "The Kites", where the speaker wishes to be as light as air. I truly understood that feeling today—the simple beauty of looking up and letting your spirit soar. It was a truly magical and memorable experience. I can't wait for next year!

Until next time,

[Your Name]

GRAMMAR-

In the following sentences, one word has been omitted from each line. There is a (/) where the word has been omitted. Write the omitted word in the space provided.

1. Parrots are colourful birds / bright green feathers and curved red beaks. **with**
2. They can copy human voices and / very intelligent. **are**
3. Parrots mostly eat fruits, seeds, / nuts. **and**
4. They are friendly and are often / as pets. **kept** (or **reared**)
5. People love parrots for / beauty and playful nature. **their**
6. A bird sanctuary / a safe place where birds are protected. **is**
7. Many migratory and local birds / there. **are**
8. It provides food, water, and shelter / birds. **for**
9. People visit bird sanctuaries / watch and learn about birds. **to**
10. Bird sanctuaries / in saving endangered species. **help** (or **assist**)

Activity 1: Kite Design with Meaning:

To be completed independently by the students.

Activity 2: Poetic Mood Colours:

To be completed independently by the students.