

**Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa TS Introduction:** The poem Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa T.S, written by Nissim Ezekiel is a satire on the way Indians use the English Language. As English is the second language, there remains a lot of impact of Hindustani when individuals try to talk in English and somehow the cultural and traditional habits are also quite visible in their dialect. Nissim Ezekiel in this poem narrates an incident when a woman (Miss Pushpa) is supposed to leave India and her colleagues have masterminded a “Goodbye Party” for her. The narrator who is likely a man uses Babu English which is quite interesting as he uses the Hindustani dialect and manners in it. The Indianness inherent in the very title of the poem, the occurrence of the initials at the end of the name, a very Indian habit both in speech and writing. Even ‘goodbye party’ seems to be an Indian imitation of ‘birthday party’!

**Summary:** Stanza-1 Friends,.....bon voyage. The speaker addresses the colleagues and subordinates as friends in a party to bid goodbye to a subordinate He tells them that their dear sister(friend), Miss Pushpa is leaving the country and they all have gathered to bid her good bye.

Stanza-2 You are.....she is feeling. In these lines the speaker starts praising Miss Pushpa’s sweetness which is both internal and external. She is beautiful not only because of her charms but her honesty. She keeps smiling most of the time. Poet is telling us Miss Pushpa’s good and amicable nature. She always puts on a smiling face. It is obvious that Nissim Ezekiel is ridiculing the habitual use of the continuous tense even where it is ungrammatical and inappropriate, and also the use of word, ‘smiling’ in the lines is more like Indian usage.

Stanza-3 Miss Pushpa is coming..... which place. The speaker continues his address at the Goodbye Party and tells the audience that Miss Pushpa belongs to a reputed family. Her father was a renowned advocate in Bulsar and Surat but he does not remember the correct place.

Stanza-4 Surat? Ah, yes,..... time ago. In these lines the fun is made of the wayward mind of the speaker who forgets the occasion and starts talking about his days in Surat with the family of his uncle’s old friend. The speaker is informed by someone in audience that the place was Surat and he remembers and talks about his experience in Surat. The speaker’s digression to Miss Pushpa’s father, and hanging on it, the speaker’s connection to Surat and then to his/her uncle’s very old friend and his wife there—are typical of the unprepared, spontaneous speech, characteristic of many Indians who lack propriety in such grave formal functions.

Stanza-5 Lines 26-28 Coming back..... ladies also. After diversion from topic of his speech, the speaker goes back to Miss Pushpa. He says that she is very popular with both men and women. It is obvious in the lines that Nissim Ezekiel is ridiculing the amusing, ungrammatical speech of Indians and their sentimental, exaggerated way of speaking.

Lines 29-34 Whenever .....saying no. Praising his subordinate, Miss Pushpa, the speaker goes ahead and praises her good nature. She would never say no to the work assigned to her. This shows that she has a good spirit and her readiness to do any work. She is a willing worker. The unnecessary use of ‘just’ and ‘only’ exhibits the speaker’s ignorance of the usage of English words, creating laughter and fun.

Lines 35-42 Whatever.....summing up. In the concluding lines, the speaker says that she was always ready to help whenever asked by him or any other colleague. Today the speaker and the other colleagues have gathered to wish her happy journey as she is going abroad to improve

her prospects. After this speech is over, the speaker asks other speakers to speak and says that Miss Pushpa will sum up, after the colleagues' speech. Analysis The narrator use Babu English which can be considered as a mix of English and Hindustani, e.g. ample use of – ing and funny terms like, two three days, what sweetness is Miss Pushpa, external and internal sweetness, smiling and smiling, simply because she is feeling etc. the narrator is trying to exaggerate to show his love and respect for Miss Pushpa. Such kind of exaggeration is quite common in Hindustani and even an important part of Indian culture. The tone of the poem is hilarious however mocking is destitute.

The poem is considered as mellow assault on Indian English Speakers. The poem may be straightforward, yet it talks about a genuine subject. The tradition of over praising the one who is about to leave or retire is common in India. The author uncovers the befuddle between Indian musings and English culture. The artist utilizes Pidgin or Colloquial English as it satisfies the requirement for an exceptional dialect in a bilingual circumstance and the artist could likewise mirror the idiolect highlights of English utilized by the speakers of various local dialects. The poem starts with present continuous tense as to the ridiculing of Indian Speakers, which can be seen throughout the poem. The speaker and the gathering of people at the goodbye party doesn't realize that his English is linguistically wrong. The poet ridicules how semi-taught Indians talk or compose the English dialect. He disparages the blunders in sentence structure, linguistic structure and expressions which numerous Indians confer while communicating in English. The poem is very interesting, and the writer impersonates the Indian method for communicating in English with such a significant number of deficiencies. Hence, the poem is all about the use of English by Indians and the reflection of their culture in their expression.

#### **Themes:**

- **Human Foibles (imperfection):** The principle theme in the "Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa T.S." isn't the loss of a companion – it's human foibles, or character faults. As indicated by Dominic, this is a prominent theme among Ezekiel's works. The poet offers a satirical look at how some individuals in India speak English. He misuses the present continuous tense and uses turns of phrases and syntax, the way they found in the Indian dialect, for ex. Ezekiel writes, "Whatever I or anyone is asking/She is always saying yes." The poem also hints at dramatic incongruity when the speaker and the crowd at the goodbye party doesn't realize that his English is grammatically incorrect.

- **Satire on Indian English:** Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa T.S is a satirical poem by Nissim Ezekiel. He satirizes the way in which Indians speak in English through this poem. This is noticeable in the use of present continuous tense where simple present tense should be the norm. Ezekiel is masterful in observing these peculiarities of Indian English and transferring them effortlessly into his poetry. They make his poems humorous and enjoyable to read.

- Nissim Ezekiel also satirizes certain Indian customs, traditions and manners in the poem Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa T.S. It is in the form of dramatic monologue. • The poem is in free verse, typical of modern poetry.

- The speaker stands for every speaker in Indian context.

- He uses free and broken language to share the views and emotions.
- The poet mocks at literal translation. For example, “two three days”, is the literal translation of a vernacular expression. Another example of literal translation, “with men also and ladies also”, is an unacceptable collocation used in literal translation of a vernacular expression.
- Another way of unfolding parody is the way of not using indefinite articles. For example, “very high family”, “renowned advocate”, there is the absence of the indefinite article “a”. The phrase should be like “a very high family”, “a renowned advocate”. Miss Pushpa is laughed at and laughs at all the people.
- “Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa T. S.” is a social satire on speech which is delivered on an occasion when all praise the good natured, helpful and sacrificial attitude, and leadership qualities etc. of the person.
- Nissim Ezekiel has not given a definite identity of the speaker. We do not know whether it is male or female speaker. Nissim Ezekiel by hiding the identity of the speaker renders the mistakes to every Indian in general.

**Conclusion:** To conclude the poem is a parody of an Indian speech. It is a satirical of the manners of Indian educated people. The whole poem is comic in nature. The speaker’s words make us laugh. The parody includes irony, vague speech, and literal translation, the use of present progressive tense and Babu English in the poem. The Use of Language in the Poem: The poem right from its first stanza makes fun at the way we speak English.

In the first stanza the speaker says that Miss Pushpa will depart in “two three days” instead of “two or three days.” Instead of saying that Miss Pushpa is kindhearted and gentle woman the speaker says that she is sweet both ‘internal’ and ‘external’. In the same stanza the speaker instead of saying that Miss Pushpa is a pleasant looking woman he says that she is “smiling and smiling even for no reason.” While giving her family background the speaker says that she come from a ‘high family’ for saying ‘rich family’.

The speaker’s deviation while talking about Surat shows the Indianism. He remembers his past, when he went to Surat to stay with one of his uncle’s friend. “Just now only I will do”, is again a mistake committed by the speaker, when he attempts to say that Miss Pushpa would do things within minutes. Babu English (meaning) Ezekiel wrote many of his works, including "Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa T.S.," in the dialect of urban Indians, particularly those in Bombay, according to Dominic. This dialect is called “Babu English.” Originally, the colonial British used the word “babu” as a derogatory term when referring to subordinate Indians who spoke English as a second language, according to The Hindu website. A “Babu” was a person who tried to impress a British master using stylish ornamentation, as the way that he expressed a message was more important than information relayed. Possible questions: What is the poem about? Which is the most striking image and why? Comment on the theme of the poem.