

Canvas of Soil

Maya Anthony | CBSE Class 9 – Kaveri Textbook | Themes & Poetic Devices

Themes

- 1 **Nature as art** – Soil, seeds, and blossoms become a painter's palette, brushstrokes, and finished picture.
- 2 **Creativity in everyday labour** – The gardener is shown as an artist; ordinary work becomes a creative act.
- 3 **Patience and hope** – Growth takes time; beauty comes only after quiet, patient care.
- 4 **Harmony of art and life** – Every garden is a canvas where nature and human effort meet.
- 5 **Dignity of labour** – Celebrates the quiet, often unnoticed work of gardeners and farmers.

Poetic Devices

- 1 **Extended Metaphor** – The whole poem rests on one sustained comparison: soil as a painter's palette and the gardener as an artist whose seeds work like brushstrokes.
- 2 **Imagery** – Vivid visual imagery shows blooming flowers in shades of green, red, and blue, shining in the morning sunlight.
- 3 **Personification** – Flowers are shown “dancing” in the morning light, giving them human-like liveliness.
- 4 **Symbolism** – Soil symbolises a painter's palette, seeds symbolise brushstrokes, and each garden plot symbolises a wide canvas where art and life meet.
- 5 **Rhyme Scheme** – A simple, joyful rhyming pattern (e.g., deep/seep, true/hue) gives the poem a musical, song-like quality.
- 6 **Diction / Alliteration** – Simple, rhythmic word choice keeps the tone light and accessible while reinforcing the painting metaphor.