

The Basement Room  
Explanation

① All his seven years . . . . . important than before.

These lines have been taken from  
Graham Green's story, "The Basement Room".  
In these lines the author presents a deeply psycho-  
logical picture of Philip, a child of seven years.  
His parents had gone out on a fortnight holiday.  
This was for the first time that Master Philip  
felt free. He was free from his parents' control.  
He was between two nurses, the one discharged and  
the other not yet arrived. It was quite a new expe-  
rience to him. He never had the opportunity of  
enjoying such a freedom. His brain was crowded  
and busy with memories of the past. The state of  
his mind may be compared to a city which feels  
the shock of an earthquake at a distance. The com-  
parison suggests the thrill that Philip felt at  
having realised that he was now free to do  
whatever he pleased.

Philip was apprehensive. But he was still  
happier than he had been ever before. Between doubts and  
hope, he felt the new life lurking. He was delighted. The  
lines are suggestive and ideas are expressed in a very impre-  
ssive language. The author makes the use of beautiful langua-  
ge and symbols to suggest a strange feeling of joy. He  
says that Master Philip was apprehensive. He was happier  
than he had been ever before. Everything, even the  
common place objects had assumed a rare significance.  
The imagery suggests the hilarious and cheerful mood  
which colours the commonplace objects into something  
essentially beautiful.