

SECTION D (POETRY)

Text Book Poetry

1. Read the given extract and answer the questions.

Belinda lived in a little white house,
With a little black kitten and a little grey mouse,
And a little yellow dog and a little red wagon,
And a realio, trulio, little pet dragon.

- a) List the adjectives used in the above stanza? 1
- b) What does 'realio trulio' mean? 1
- c) Which of these can be concluded after reading above stanza? 1
 - (i) Belinda mostly lived with animals.
 - (ii) All the animals in the house live together harmoniously.
 - (iii) Belinda's house is described as white to show the peaceful nature of the creatures.
 - (iv) Contrasting colours are described in each line.

2. Read the given extract and answer the questions.

But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice is also great
And would suffice.

- a) Which symbol is used to represent hate in the poem? 1
- b) Why does poet prefer ice for destruction? 1
 - (i) ice symbolizes intense emotions and passion.
 - (ii) ice is the symbol of love and desire.
 - (iii) ice represents warmth and healing.
 - (iv) ice symbolizes coldness, indifference and emotional detachment.
- c) Why is the word "twice" used in the above stanza? 1
 - (i) To suggest that world can be destroy at once.
 - (ii) To indicate destruction is impossible.
 - (iii) To emphasize that there are two different ways of destroying the world.
 - (iv) To emphasize two dimensions of the world.

3. Read the given extract and answer the questions.

Some say the world will end in fire
Some say in ice,
From what I've tasted of desire
I hold with those who favour fire.

- a) Why does the poet hold with those who favour fire instead of ice? 1
- b) What does the phrase 'tested of desire' suggest about the speaker's understanding of desire? 1
- c) What is the significance of the phrase 'some say' in the poem? 1
 - i. It emphasizes the speaker's certainty about the world's end.
 - ii. It suggests that there are multiple view points about the world's end.
 - iii. It introduces a personal opinion of the poet.
 - iv. It shows that the speaker has no strong opinion on the matter

4. Read the given extract and answer the questions.

The trees inside are moving out into the forest,
 The forest that was empty all these days
 Where no bird could sit
 No insect hide
 No sun bury its feet in shadow
 The forest that was empty all these nights
 Will be full of trees by morning.

- (a) Why does the poet describe the forest as empty before the trees move in? 1
- (b) What role do the trees play in transforming the forest in the poem? 1
- (c) What does the phrase 'the trees inside are moving out' most likely symbolize? 1
 - i. Trees leaving the forest.
 - ii. Transformation or change.
 - iii. A natural disaster.
 - iv. Birds flying away.

5. Read the given extract and answer the questions

The way a crow
 Shook down on me
 The dust of snow
 From a hemlock tree.

- a) 'The dust of snow' stands for? 1
- b) What does the crow symbolize in the above lines? 1
 - (i) The beginning of a storm.
 - (ii) An unexpected change in mood or perspective.
 - (iii) A sense of foreboding and doom.
 - (iv) The arrival of winter.
- c) What can be concluded about the crow and the hemlock tree after reading the above lines? 1
 - (i) The crow and the hemlock tree are the symbol of beauty and innocence.
 - (ii) The crow and the hemlock tree are associated with darkness and mystery.
 - (iii) The crow and the hemlock tree represent poet's emotion.
 - (iv) The crow and the hemlock tree represent arrival of winter.

6. Read the given extract and answer the questions

Don't bite your nails Amanda!
Don't hunch your shoulders, Amanda!
Stop that slouching and sit up straight Amanda!

- a) What is the purpose of exclamation mark at the end of each line? 1
- (i) To express strong emotion.
 - (ii) To emphasize Amanda's action.
 - (iii) To focus on Amanda.
 - (iv) To indicate a command
- b) What does speaker want to change in Amanda? 1
- (i) Her physical posture and habit.
 - (ii) Her way of speaking.
 - (iii) Her attitude towards life.
 - (iv) Her facial expression.
- c) Which of the following best describes the speaker's attitude towards Amanda? 1
- (i) Indifferent
 - (ii) Angry
 - (iii) Encouraging
 - (iv) Controlling

7. Read the given extract and answer the questions

He should be snarling around houses
At the jungle's edge
Baring his white fangs, his claws,
Terrorising the village!

- a) Which animal is described in the above lines? 1
- b) Why the phrase "snarling around houses" is used in the lines? 1
- (i) To show animals curiosity towards human settlement.
 - (ii) To imply the animal's aggressive behaviour and territorial nature.
 - (iii) To show animal's fear of humans.
 - (iv) To describe the animal's playful nature.
- c) Identify the literary devices used in the above lines. 1

Short Answer Type Questions

- 1) In the poem "A tiger in the zoo" why does the tiger expresses his anger quietly? 2
- 2) Do you think loss is a necessary part of childhood? State your opinion with reference to the poem 'The Ball Poem'. 2
- 3) What does poem Amanda tell you about Amanda? 2

- 4) The poem 'Dust of Snow' suggest that small actions or moments can significantly impact one's mood or day. Do you agree with this perspective? Justify your answer with examples from the poem or your own experiences. 2
- 5) Evaluate the poet's belief that only God can love a person for their inner beauty? Is this view realistic or idealistic? 2
- 6) How would you explain the message of the poem 'The Ball Poem' to your younger brother or sister who has just experienced loss for the first time? 2
- 7) Why is the fog described as coming on little cat feet rather than a different animal? 2
- 8) What does the line "And no one buys a ball back" suggest about the nature of loss and recovery? Can it relate to real-life experiences? 2
- 9) What other contrasting elements besides fire and ice could the poet have used to convey similar emotions of destruction and human tendencies? 2
- 10) Imagine a world without trees. How would the scenarios described in the poem be different? 2

Long Answer Type Questions

1. How do the trees in the poem symbolize freedom and rebellion? Do you think this imagery applies to human struggles as well? Why? 3
2. What message do you think the poet conveys about the relationship between humans and nature through the act of the trees leaving the house? 3
3. Why do you think the poet describes the trees as moving out "into the night"? How does the setting of night enhance the theme of the poem? 3
4. Explain how 'The Ball Poem' and 'Amanda!' both emphasize on the importance of responsibility, but with different approaches? 4
5. "In the lines: 4

'Though to distinguish beasts of prey

A novice might nonplus'

(from *How to Tell Wild Animals*),

and:

'And a little yellow dog and a little red wagon.

And a **realio trulio**, little pet dragon'

(from *The Tale of Custard the Dragon*),

We see the poet experimenting with words. Why do you think the poet chose to put the words differently?

6. Read the lines given below from the poem 'For Anne Gregory': 4

"Love you for yourself alone
And not your yellow hair"

Why do you think the woman has such a realistic approach? Is it due to her experience or her concern for the boy?
7. How can 'The Tale of Custard the Dragon' be considered a humorous ballad? Justify your answer with examples. 4