

Multiple Choice Questions

- The moon is broken like a mirror. Which poetic device is used here?**
 - Paradox
 - Simile
 - Imagery
 - Illusion
- Which poetic device is used in the below line:**
Long-cramped boughs shuffling under the roof like newly discharged patients.
 - Metaphor
 - Simile
 - Illusion
 - Imagery
- I sit inside, doors open to the veranda writing long letters. 'I' here refers to whom?**
 - God
 - Poet
 - Trees
 - Nature
- Why did the poet criticize the acts of human beings regarding nature?**
 - She had a perception that human beings are the real destroyer of the nature
 - She was well to do with the criticism
 - She criticized it in a sarcastic manner
 - She didn't like the acts of human beings
- According to Adrienne Rich, What work did the trees do in the night time in her house?**
 - Rest for a while in the night time
 - Repairs their tissues in night time
 - Process of Photosynthesis
 - Disengage the roots from the cracks
- Which kind of Poetry is used by the poet in his Poem, The Trees?**
 - Sonnet
 - Acrostic
 - Free verse
 - Rhyming
- What social message is prompted to the readers through the poem, The Trees?**
 - There is safety in numbers
 - Honesty is the best policy
 - Freedom is everyone's right
 - Idle hands are devil's workshop
- Where did the poet of the poem, The Tress born?**
 - Australia
 - U.S.A.
 - Brazil
 - Russia

9. **My head is full of Whispers which tomorrow will be silent. Why did the poet articulate tomorrow as a silent day ?**

- (a) Tomorrow will be a silent day in her country
- (b) Trees are going to be silent by tomorrow
- (c) Poet is shifting her house
- (d) Trees will move out to the forest in the night

10. **The poem, The Trees is composed by whom?**

- (a) John Berryman
- (b) Walt Whitman
- (c) Adrienne Rich
- (d) William Butler Yeats

Fill in the blanks :

11. The poem "The Trees" is written by _____.
12. The trees in the poem symbolize a desire for _____ and growth.

True / False

13. The trees in the poem represent actual plants only.
14. The poem is written in a strict rhyming scheme.

Very Short Type Questions

15. The Trees is a symbolic poem and Adrienne Rich has used trees as a metaphor for human beings. What do they symbolize? Explain.
16. The trees have been shown to have human qualities in the poem. Justify the statement with any two instances from the text.

Short Type Questions

17. Why is the poet writing long letters? Why does she not mention the departure of the trees?
18. What are the three things that can't happen in a treeless forest?

Essay Type Questions

19. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (1 4=4)
-long-cramped boughs shuffling under the roof
like newly discharged patients
half-dazed, moving
to the clinic doors.
- What are the boughs doing?
 - What are the boughs compared to?
 - Why does the poet use this comparison?
 - What does 'half-dazed' mean?
20. What message does Adrienne Rich want to convey through the poem, The Trees?

HOTS

21. **Assertion (A)** : The poem "The Trees" explores the conflict between man and nature.
Reason (R) : Humans are depicted as exploiting nature for their own greed, leading to its destruction and confinement.
- Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
 - Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
 - A is true, but R is false
 - A is false, but R is true

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Poem-7 | The Trees

Worksheet-1

Answer & Solution

1. (b)

The poetic device used here is Simile. Here, in that line, the phenomenon of the breaking of the moon is shown to be similar to the breaking of the mirror.

2. (b)

In that particular line, Simile is used as a poetic device as the boughs (larger branches of trees) look somewhat like newly discharged patients.

3. (b)

In the above text, 'I' refers to the poet who is expressing the scenario of his house where he likes to write and sit which is close to the veranda of his house.

4. (a)

The poet is not at all into criticism but even then, she criticized some of the acts of human beings which according to her was inhuman. She had a firm perception about human beings that they are the real destroyer of nature because they exploit it for their own greed which is not at all right and that's why the Poet criticizes this act of human beings as they are the real destroyers of nature.

5. (d)

Trees are working at night just to seek their freedom. In order to get their freedom, they used to disengage the roots from the cracks to make themselves free from the artificial environment created by the poet in her house.

6. (c)

The poem 'The Trees' is written in free verse, as no particular rhyme scheme is used in the entire poem.

7. (c)

The poem has an appealing tone which emphasizes that Freedom is everyone's right as no one has the authority to snatch away someone's freedom. This is not observed in the case of nature and human beings. Categorically, human beings are recklessly snatching away the freedom of nature and forcing it to be confined rather than free. That's why the poem is about the deep conflict between man and nature.

8. (b)

The poet of the poem is Adrienne Rich. She was born in Baltimore, Maryland in U.S.A.

9. (d)

The poet was used to the whispers created by the trees, but from tomorrow they won't be there as the trees are moving out to the forest at night. Thus, tomorrow will be a silent day for the poet and her house.

10. (c)

The poem is being composed by Adrienne Rich. She is the author of nearly twenty volumes of poetry. She is called a feminist and a radical poet.

11. Adrienne Rich

12. freedom

13. False

14. False

15. In Adrienne Rich's poem "The Trees," the trees symbolize human desire for freedom, growth, and renewal. They metaphorically represent individuals breaking free from confinement or oppressive situations, yearning to reclaim their natural state. The trees symbolize both nature and the essence of being, particularly womanhood. In a male-dominated society, women, like the trees, struggle to escape the grip of oppression and seek freedom. The poem holds hope that, like the trees, women will eventually achieve liberation. The trees' struggle to escape enclosed spaces symbolizes the human quest for liberation, autonomy, and the reconnection with nature and inner strength.

16. Nature represented by trees and forest, is struggling like women to escape the onslaughts of man to destroy it. The victorious march of the trees gives a message of hope that nature cannot be tamed or subdued by the arrogance of man.

17. The poet is writing long letters because there is so much she wants to express. The poet hardly mentions the departure of trees from the house in her letters because humans did not care for nature in the first place. So, perhaps, the poet now thinks that nobody would be interested in knowing about the efforts that the trees are making in order to set themselves free. If other people cared about the trees, they would not have destroyed them. It seems that this whole beauty of trees moving back to forests can be seen and felt only by the poet.

18. The three things that cannot happen in a treeless forest are that birds cannot sit on the trees, the insects cannot hide, and the sun cannot bury its rays in shadow.

19. a. shuffling under the roof
b. newly discharged patients
c. branches are trying to find their way just like patients discharged from hospitals
d. weak / unsteady / feeble / sleepy.

20. The poem 'The Trees', states that in the conflict between man and nature, man has caused much harm to nature. Man has learned to acquire a lot of material goods, but forgotten the importance of preserving nature. As a result, large forests have been cut down, animals have been killed and water bodies have been destroyed. Man has wrongly judged nature to be weak, whereas nature is the most powerful. Any natural disaster cannot be prevented, though we are moving in a technologically advanced world. The destructive forms of nature e.g. flood, earthquake, volcanoes, tornadoes etc. teach man that the real power lies with nature and it can do anything.

21. (a)

The poet wants to give the message that the presence of a few trees inside our homes does not equate to nature, but a very false idea of nature. Real nature is outside, in the forests that we have destroyed. The poem tells us how the trees want to break free from the walls that humans have put around them, and go out in the forest. We shall stop cutting trees, otherwise we will be responsible for the deleterious consequences.

The poem explicitly presents a deep conflict between man and nature. The reason accurately explains this conflict by highlighting how human greed leads to the exploitation and confinement of nature, making R a direct and correct explanation for A.

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