



Poem-1 | Dust of Snow

Worksheet-1

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What was saved for the poet in the given line?

And saved some part

Of a day I had rued.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| (a) His whole life | (b) A fortnight |
| (c) The postman | (d) God |

2. Name the poetic device used in the line Has given my heart.

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| (a) Simile | (b) Oxymoron |
| (c) Alliteration | (d) Metaphor |

3. What do the crow and hemlock tree represent in the poem Dust of snow?

- | | |
|------------|--------------------|
| (a) Sorrow | (b) Joy |
| (c) Hatred | (d) Vindictiveness |

4. What did crow shake on the poet? (Dust of snow)

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| (a) Dust of land | (b) Dust of tree |
| (c) Dust of garden | (d) Dust of snow |

5. What did the poet think of the day before the dust of snow fell on him?

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| (a) He was energetic | (b) He was rude |
| (c) His day was ruined | (d) He was lucky |

6. What does the phrase 'Of a day I had rued' means?

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (a) A day that was very pleasant | (b) A day that was held in regret |
| (c) A day that was full of enthusiasm | (d) A day that had no significance |

7. What is meant by dust of snow ?

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| (a) Ray of hope | (b) Natural joy and enthusiasm |
| (c) All of these | (d) Flakes of snow |

8. What is the rhyme scheme of the poem Dust of snow?

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| (a) abab cdcd | (b) abba cdcd |
| (c) baba cdcd | (d) abab cddc |

9. The poet Robert Frost visualizes nature as?

- (a) A distraction
- (b) A medium to heal negative emotions
- (c) A negative entity
- (d) A mysterious entity

10. Why was a crow chosen specifically by the poet in the poem Dust of snow?

- (a) He considered crows to be lucky for himself
- (b) Crows are believed to possess an eerie vibe
- (c) He liked crows
- (d) Crows are a symbol of joy

Fill in the blanks :

- 11. The crow was sitting on _____.
- 12. The literal meaning of the phrase Dust of snow is _____.

True / False

- 13. Dust of Snow represents healing power of nature.
- 14. Crow shook down Dust of Snow from the Hemlock tree.

Very Short Type Questions

- 15. The dusting of snow on account of the crow helped to make the poet's day better. How do you think the crow's droppings might have impacted the poet?
- 16. What does the presence of a hemlock tree tell you about the setting of the poem Dust of snow?

Short Type Questions

- 17. The crow and hemlock are usually used as negative references in literature. How is this different in the poem Dust of snow?
- 18. What is the underlying message for us in our hectic life with reference to the poem, 'Dust of Snow'?

Essay Type Questions

19. Read the stanza given below and answer the following questions: (1×4=4)
- The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree
- The word 'me' here refers to ____.
 - What do the crow and hemlock represent?
 - Where was the dust of snow dropping from?
 - How was the poet feeling?
20. Our mental condition depends on our surroundings. Explain with reference to the poem Dust of Snow.

HOTS

21. **Assertion (A)** : The crow and the hemlock tree symbolize negative elements in the poem.
Reason (R) : The poet used them to show that only positive images can bring joy.
- 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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Answer & Solution

1. (d)
As the snowflakes fell on the poet, his mood cheered up. The dust of snow uplifted his gloomy mood and filled his heart with joy. So at least for some hours in the day, he was optimistic and happy.
2. (c) Alliteration
3. (a) The crow and hemlock tree are symbolic of loneliness and depression felt by the poet in this materialistic world.
4. (d) Dust of Snow
5. (c) His day was ruined
6. (b)
The poet's day was wasted as he was in a gloomy state of mind. But nature had a soothing effect on him and saved rest of his day from being held in regret.
7. (c)
Dust of snow refers to the snowflakes in the literal sense and it symbolizes joy, positivity and happiness.
8. (a) abab cdcd
9. (b)
Nature had a soothing effect on the poet's mind. It added vibrance to his dull and gloomy mood.
10. (b)
Crows are symbolic of sorrow and depression, so they were the perfect choice for the poet to represent his gloomy mood.
11. Hemlock Tree
12. Snowflakes
13. True
14. True
15. The dust of snow removed the poet's laziness and saved the whole day. The crow's droppings might have ruined the poet's mood from bad to worse.
16. The poem presents a perfect setting. The hemlock tree is a symbol of sadness. The poet's mood was also sad. But the falling dust of snow changed the poet's mood.
17. The crow and hemlock tree are used as a negative means to demonstrate the mood of the poet. Often the crow is a symbol of ill omen and the hemlock tree is a poisonous one. But the poet used them beautifully to portray the fact that inauspicious things too can bring joy and happiness.

18. The underlying message for us in our hectic life with reference to the poem 'Dust of Snow' is that we should enjoy nature to our full capacity and we should have a positive outlook even towards simple acts because they can lead to the learning of greater lessons of enjoying life. No matter how small or significant an incident is, it is the reaction that matters the most.

19. a. Robert Frost
b. Sorrow
c. A Hemlock tree
d. The poet was feeling upset, he was in a bad mood.

20. Our environment is an important determinant of our mood. It is true indeed that our mental state depends on our surroundings. If the surroundings are positive, our thoughts and mental condition will be healthy. Likewise, if our surroundings are negative, our mental condition and thought processes will be negative. In the poem 'Dust of Snow', the poet writes about a crow who shakes off the snow dust. This depicts how the crow shaking off snow dust made the poet shake off all his miseries and sadness in the same way. Such small imageries present around us, have a lot to teach us. These can change the mood of the people as they did to the poet in the poem.

21. (c)

The crow and the hemlock tree do symbolize negativity, but the poet uses them deliberately to show that even negative or ordinary elements in nature can uplift our mood, not that only positive things bring joy.

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