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## Poem-7 | On Killing a Tree

## Worksheet-2

## Multiple Choice Questions

- The plant takes nutrition from - (On Killing a Tree)**
  - soil
  - air
  - Water
  - stone
- Who is the poet of the poem, On Killing A Tree?**
  - Aden Adwin
  - Robert Frost
  - W.W.E Ross
  - Gieve Patel
- What is the rhyming scheme of this poem On Killing a Tree?**
  - aabc
  - abcd
  - no rhyming scheme.free verse
  - abbcd
- What is the strength still the most sensitive part of the tree? (On Killing a Tree)**
  - Stem
  - Branch
  - Leaf
  - Root
- When does a sapling become a tree?**
  - slowly consuming the earth
  - new flowers
  - Takes more place
  - new branches
- What is the message of this poem On Killing a Tree?**
  - Spoil trees
  - Cut trees
  - Use tree irrationally.
  - Don't cut trees and save them
- How do the trees die?**
  - When they don't get water
  - When they don't get manure
  - When their roots are uprooted
  - When we cut it with a knife or jab
- In the poem, On Killing A Tree, what is the meaning of leprous?**
  - polished bark of a tree
  - other part of a tree
  - smooth bark of a tree
  - rough bark of a tree
- In the poem, On Killing a Tree the word bough means:**
  - Shoots
  - Stem
  - flower
  - Roots

**10. What happens to a tree's bleeding bark? (On Killing a Tree)**

- (a) A tree's bark never bleed (b) It heals in a big time  
(c) It never heals (d) It heals soon

**Fill in the blanks :**

11. \_\_\_\_\_ is the cause of pain for the tree.  
12. \_\_\_\_\_ is needed to kill a tree.

**True / False**

13. The strength of a tree lies in its roots.  
14. A tree consumes earth to grow.

**Very Short Type Questions**

15. What finally kills the tree? Write your answer in the context of Poem On Killing a Tree.  
16. What will rise from close to the ground? Why? Write your answer in the context of the poem On Killing a Tree.

**Short Type Questions**

17. Why has the tree's hide been called leprous? Write your answer in the context of Poem On Killing a Tree.  
18. Can a simple jab of the knife kill a tree? Why not? Write your answer in the context of Poem On Killing a Tree.

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## Essay Type Questions

19. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

No,

The root is to be pulled out Out of the anchoring earth;

It is to be roped, tied,

And pulled out - snapped out

Or pulled out entirely,

Out from the earth-cave,

And the strength of the tree exposed

The source, white and wet,

The most sensitive, hidden

For years inside the earth.

- i. Fill the blank with apt words.

Anchoring earth in the above stanza implies that the \_\_\_\_\_ holds the \_\_\_\_\_ of the trees.

- ii. What is the primary action required to kill the tree in the stanza?

- iii. Why does the speaker emphasize the need to pull out the root snapped out or pulled out entirely?

- a. To prevent further growth
- b. To preserve the tree
- c. To expose the tree's strength
- d. To protect the earth-cave

- iv. If you were a tree, how would you describe the stanza where the root is being pulled out of the earth?

20. What message does the poet want to convey through this poem? Write your answer in the context of On Killing A Tree.

### HOTS

21. **Assertion (A)** : The exposure of roots to sunlight and air marks the beginning of a tree's death.

**Reason (R)** : Roots are accustomed to remaining buried in the earth and are too sensitive to withstand external elements like heat and dryness.

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true, but R is false.
- (d) A is false, but R is true.



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## Answer &amp; Solution

1. (a) soil
2. (d)  
Gieve Patel is the poet of the poem, On Killing A Tree.
3. (c) no rhyming scheme, it is written in free verse.
4. (d) Root
5. (a)  
A sapling will become a tree when it is slowly consuming the earth.
6. (d) Don't cut trees and save them
7. (c) When their roots are uprooted
8. (d)  
Leprous means rough bark of a tree.
9. (b)  
The word bough means stem.
10. (d) It heals soon
11. hacking and chopping
12. pulling out the root entirely
13. True
14. True
15. After the tree is uprooted, the withering of the pulled-out root finally kills the tree. The root of a tree is the source of its strength. Once it is pulled out, it can no longer nurture the tree. The root is sensitive to sunlight and air. Once exposed, it withers, turns brown and gets twisted. Ultimately, it dries up and the tree yields to death.
16. If we cut from the bottom, that is, from close to the ground, the curled green twigs will start growing, and miniature branches will come out. Curled green twigs and miniature boughs will rise from the stump of the tree if the roots are not pulled out. They will rise because the tree rejuvenates and revives itself as long as its roots are intact.
17. The bark of the tree is uneven in texture and colour. Leprosy also robs the skin of the leper of its colour and evenness. Hence, the poet has drawn a metaphorical comparison between the discoloured bark of a tree and the diseased skin. The uneven colour of the surface of the trunk of a tree is compared to the skin of a person suffering from leprosy.

18. Simple jab of a knife can certainly not kill a tree. It can merely injure it and cause its sap to ooze out like blood. The real life of a tree comes from the roots that provide it nourishment and firmly hold it. It is the roots that are the strength of the tree. Until the roots are pulled out of the earth, a tree does not die.
19. i. Earth, roots  
ii. The root needs to be pulled out.  
iii. (c) To expose the tree's strength  
iv. As a tree, I would describe the stanza as depicting the painful process of uprooting one of my fellows, where its root is forcibly removed from its anchoring earth, exposing the tree's hidden strength and the sensitive, long-concealed core within the earth's embrace. The words in the stanza portray a picture of our strength.
20. The poem conveys that trees are living beings just like any other form of life. They have strong survival instincts and can withstand any type of assault, trauma, or crisis. The poet, through this poem, conveys the message that human beings have a destructive temperament towards nature. He also emphasises the fact that Mother Nature has regenerative power and cannot be destroyed easily as it has the power to resurrect. The tree also teaches us that we should not feel offended by minor attacks, just like the tree which revives after numerous physical assaults. As long as our root, i.e. our soul is intact nothing can ruin us and we have the ability to rise again. We human beings must live just as trees do.
21. (a)  
The poem clearly states that the root, once exposed to the sun and air, begins to wither, harden, and twist. This process leads to the death of the tree. The reason behind this is the root's prolonged protection underground, making it highly vulnerable to external exposure.

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