

POEM-2 | Keeping Quiet

QUIZ-01

1. What does the poet propose we do at the beginning of the poem?

- A. Speak in different languages
- B. Take action against violence
- C. Count to twelve and keep still
- D. Celebrate diversity (C)

Explanation: The poet suggests counting to twelve and remaining quiet as a means of introspection and pause.

2. What would the moment of stillness be like, according to the poet?

- A. Boring and silent
- B. Exotic and strange
- C. Loud and joyful
- D. Depressing and painful (B)

Explanation: The poet calls it an "exotic moment" filled with strangeness, as it contrasts with our usual activity and noise.

3. What does the poet hope fishermen would stop doing during this stillness?

- A. Singing
- B. Catching fish
- C. Harming whales
- D. Building boats (C)

Explanation: The poet imagines that during the quiet moment, fishermen would not harm whales.

4. What example does the poet give of people who would benefit from a moment of quiet?

- A. Dancers and singers
- B. Travelers and tourists
- C. Warriors and soldiers
- D. Salt gatherers and war makers (D)

Explanation: The salt gatherer could reflect on his pain, and those waging war might stop and embrace peace.

5. What does the poet want to avoid being misunderstood as promoting?

- A. A spiritual retreat
- B. Total inactivity and death
- C. War and conflict
- D. Strict discipline (B)

Explanation: The poet clarifies he is not advocating death or total inactivity, but a meaningful pause for reflection.

6. What emotion does the poet link with a lack of understanding and constant activity?

- A. Joy
- B. Ambition
- C. Sadness
- D. Curiosity (C)

Explanation: The poet says the sadness comes from never understanding ourselves and threatening our own lives.

7. What does the poet mean by "perhaps the Earth can teach us"?

- A. Nature offers lessons in violence
- B. Earth supports only the quiet ones
- C. Nature shows that life follows stillness
- D. Earth rejects human silence (C)

Explanation: The poet suggests that the Earth, which appears lifeless in winter, later blooms again — teaching renewal through stillness.

8. How is the idea of 'clean clothes' used in the poem?

- A. As a symbol of purification and peace
- B. As a literal suggestion for hygiene
- C. As a demand for uniforms
- D. As a metaphor for wealth (A)

Explanation: The image of wearing clean clothes represents a symbolic cleansing from violence and aggression.

9. What does the poet mean by "I want no truck with death"?

- A. He wants to explore the idea of death
- B. He associates silence with death
- C. He refuses to be involved with death
- D. He drives a truck for a living (C)

Explanation: The phrase means the poet does not support death or lifelessness, only a peaceful pause in action.

10. What does the poet suggest about our single-mindedness in life?

- A. It helps us succeed
- B. It makes us calm
- C. It prevents understanding and creates fear
- D. It connects us with others (C)

Explanation: The poet criticizes how constant activity and focus on movement keep us from self-awareness and lead to fear of death.