

POEM-11 | Ode to a Nightingale

QUIZ-01

1. What does the poet compare his numbness to in the opening stanza?

- A. Drinking wine from Hippocrene
- B. Listening to sad music
- C. Drinking hemlock or a dull opiate
- D. Sleeping in the forest (C)

Explanation: The poet describes his numbness as though he had drunk hemlock or a dull opiate and sunk towards forgetfulness.

2. What is the nightingale referred to as in the poem?

- A. A dark messenger
- B. A winged Dryad of the trees
- C. A fallen angel
- D. A sad spirit of the air (B)

Explanation: The poet calls the nightingale a "light-winged Dryad of the trees," indicating its mythical and natural presence.

3. What does the poet wish to do with a draught of vintage?

- A. Celebrate with friends
- B. Forget his sorrow and fade into the forest
- C. Recall happy memories
- D. Fall asleep (B)

Explanation: He wishes to drink and "leave the world unseen" to fade into the forest with the nightingale.

4. Which classical river does Keats reference in relation to forgetting worldly pain?

- A. Styx
- B. Thames
- C. Lethe
- D. Ganges (C)

Explanation: Lethe, a river from Greek mythology, was believed to cause forgetfulness, aligning with the poet's desire to escape reality.

5. What kind of sound does the nightingale produce?

- A. Melancholic notes
- B. Silent whispers
- C. A plaintive anthem
- D. Shouting calls (C)

Explanation: The poet describes the bird's song as a "plaintive anthem," which fades as it moves away.

6. Who is Ruth, mentioned in the poem?

- A. A fairy queen from folklore
- B. A Roman goddess
- C. A biblical figure longing for home
- D. A muse of poetry (C)

Explanation: Ruth is a woman from the Bible who is described as standing "in tears amid the alien corn," highlighting her homesickness.

7. What kind of poem is Ode to a Nightingale, based on its structure and subject?

- A. Ballad
- B. Limerick
- C. Ode
- D. Elegy (C)

Explanation: The poem is a classical ode, addressing the nightingale directly and reflecting deep emotions.

8. What aspect of human life does the poet describe as weary and painful?

- A. Friendship
- B. Love
- C. Old age and sickness
- D. Nature's laws (C)

Explanation: He speaks of the "palsy," "gray hairs," and youth growing "spectre-thin," portraying the sorrows of aging and death.

9. How does the poet describe the song's reach across time?

- A. It is forgotten by future generations
- B. It is only heard at night
- C. It has been heard by emperors and commoners alike
- D. It changes in every era (C)

Explanation: The poet claims that the nightingale's voice was heard in "ancient days by emperor and clown," implying its timelessness.

10. What emotion signals the poet's return to reality?

- A. Joy
- B. Longing
- C. Forlornness
- D. Confidence (C)

Explanation: The word "Forlorn" acts like a bell tolling him back to his "sole self," ending the ecstatic trance.