

Poem – 5 | The School Boy

QUIZ-01

- In The School Boy, what is the boy's mood in the first stanza?
A. Joyful and connected with nature
B. Tired and disinterested
C. Anxious about school
D. Bored with life (A)

Explanation : The boy enjoys the summer morning, birds singing, and nature's beauty, reflecting his happiness and connection with the environment.

- What is the boy's main complaint about school in the second stanza?
A. Lack of interesting lessons
B. The burden of strict discipline
C. Being separated from nature
D. The harshness of the teacher (C)

Explanation : The boy feels that attending school drives joy away, as it separates him from the freedom and joy of nature.

- What does the phrase "a cruel eye outworn" from stanza 2 most likely mean?
A. A teacher's unkind gaze
B. A strict headmaster
C. The lack of freedom in school
D. The child's tiredness (A)

Explanation : The phrase suggests a stern, controlling gaze, symbolizing the teacher's strictness and the restrictive atmosphere of school.

- In stanza 3, what does the boy compare himself to?
A. A flower withering in the heat
B. A bird trapped in a cage
C. A river blocked by a dam
D. A tree stripped of leaves (B)

Explanation : The boy likens himself to a caged bird that cannot enjoy its natural joy and freedom due to restrictions.

- What message does the line "Nor sit in learning's bower, worn thro' with the dreary shower" convey?
A. Classrooms are often uncomfortable
B. Teachers fail to make learning enjoyable
C. Children cannot enjoy learning when it feels oppressive
D. Students are distracted by external issues (C)

Explanation : The boy laments that the joy of learning is lost when education feels burdensome and dreary, stifling curiosity.

- In stanza 4, what does the boy suggest will happen if joy is taken away from children?
A. They will become rebellious
B. They will not grow or thrive
C. They will lose interest in studies
D. They will seek joy elsewhere (B)

Explanation : The boy compares children to plants that wither without care, emphasizing that lack of joy hinders their growth and potential.

- What is the significance of the question in stanza 5: "How shall the summer arise in joy, or the summer fruits appear?"
A. Reflecting the seasons' dependency on human actions
B. Questioning the future joy and growth of children deprived of happiness
C. Highlighting the lack of productivity in schools
D. Discussing the importance of summer vacations (B)

Explanation : The boy uses a metaphor to stress that a deprived childhood will lead to an unfulfilled and joyless future.

- What literary device is prominently used in the poem when comparing children to birds and plants?
A. Simile
B. Personification
C. Metaphor
D. Hyperbole (C)

Explanation : The poet uses metaphors to compare children to birds and plants, emphasizing their need for freedom and nurturing to thrive.

- What overall tone does The School Boy convey about traditional schooling?
A. Nostalgic and hopeful
B. Critical and sorrowful
C. Neutral and descriptive
D. Encouraging and optimistic (B)

Explanation : The poem criticizes traditional schooling for stifling creativity and joy, expressing sorrow over its restrictive nature.

- What does the poet imply is essential for a child's growth and happiness?
A. Proper schooling and discipline
B. Freedom and joy in their formative years
C. Knowledge of nature and art
D. Strict guidance from teachers and parents (B)

Explanation : The poet stresses the importance of freedom and joy in childhood, as these are crucial for a child's overall growth and happiness.