

STOPPING BY THE WOODS ON A SNOWY EVENING

Question (1) How is 'woods' different from 'forest' ?

Answer. The 'woods' refers to small forest near which there can be locality. No wild beasts are there. Forest is a deep, dense, vast patch of land covering trees and trees.

Question (2) Where does the rider stop ? Answer. The rider stops between the woods and frozen lake.

Question (3) Why does he stop ?

Answer. He stops in the woods to watch the serene beauty of the snowy jungle in the evening.

Question (4) "He will not see me stopping here" - what does this expression mean ? Answer. The poet here says that the owner of the jungle was living in the village nearby. He won't see him stopping there on a snowy evening.

Question (5) Why does the horse give his harness bells a shake ?

Answer. The horse gave his harness bells a shake to inform the poet if he had any wrong.

Question (6) What is the 'only other sound' besides that of harness bells ?

Answer. Besides the harness bells the only other sound's the sweep of easy wind and downy flake.

Question (7) Why does the poet use the expressions 'dark', 'deep', 'darkest' ?

Answer. The poet uses the words 'dark', 'deep', 'darkest' because it was the darkest evening of the year. The forest was dark too.

Question (8) How do the speaker, the owner of the woods and the horse react to the beauties of nature ?

Answer. The speaker fell in love with the beauty of nature. The horse and the owner were materialistic. They had no sense of beauty, no poetic feelings. They here detached towards the woods.

Question (9) What picture of natural beauty do you get from the poem ?

Answer. The woods itself offers natural beauty through frozen lake, downy flake, sweep easy wind, deep, dense foliage.

Question (10) In the final stanza, the speaker says that he is not yet ready to 'sleep'. What has he to do before he can take a rest ?

Answer. Before he can take rest he wants to fulfill his wish, ambitions, dreams, promises.

Question (12) A four-line stanza is called a quatrain. How many quatrains are there in the poem ?

Answer. There are four quatrains in the poem. Post- reading Activities

(1) Arrange the following sentences in their logical order to narrate the theme of the poem.

- (a) He passes by the woods which are lovely, dark and
- (b) The poet is riding his horse to a destination.
- (c) But he remembers that he has promises to keep before he can rest.
- (d) It is snowing and the wind blows gently. (e) The beauty of the woods tempts him to stop and enjoy the sight.
- (f) It is an evening in winter.

Answer:

- (a) It is an evening in winter.
- (b) It is snowing and the wind blows gently. (c) The poet is riding his horse to a destination.
- (d) He passes by the woods which are lovely, dark and deep.
- e) The beauty of the woods tempts him to stop and enjoy the sight.
- (f) But he remembers that he has promises to keep before he can rest.

What does the expression mean 'And miles to go before I sleep'

- (A) a long life of rest and sleep
- (B) a long distance to be travelled by the poet
- (C) a long journey of life before the poet leaves for heavenly rest
- (D) None of the above

Answer is (C) a long journey of life before the poet leaves for heavenly rest

2. Why is the poet not willing to stay more near the wood ?

- (A) He has no interest to say
- (B) He has an urgent work
- (C) His horse is unwilling to stay
- (D) He has promises to keep

Answer is (D) He has promises to keep

3. The poet described about the woods as _____

- (A) lovely, dark and deep
- (B) dense, dangerous , difficult

(C) natural, attractive, enjoyable

(D) None of the above

Answer is (A) lovely, dark and deep

4. The poem "Stopping By Snowy Evening" is written by _____

(A) William Wordsworth

(B) Thomas Hardy

(C) John Keats

(D) Robert Frost

Answer is (D) Robert Frost

5. _____ is the attraction in this poem described by the poet.

(A) nature

(B) matter

(C) a great responsibility

(D) a great person

Answer is (A) nature

7. The poet stops his horse by some _____ on a snowy evening.

(A) sea beach

(B) forest

(C) river bank

(D) woods

Answer is (D) woods

8. The journey through the woods is described the journey of through _____ itself.

(A) heaven

(B) sea

(C) hill

(D) life

Answer is (D) life

9. At which time of the day the poet was passing by the woods ?

(A) evening

(B) morning

(C) night

(D) afternoon

Answer is (A) evening

10. The poet usually stops at _____

(A) at a cottage

(B) at a farm house

(C) at a guest house

(D) at an inn

Answer is (B) at a farm house

11. Why did the horse feel strange and uncomfortable ? Because

A) stopping in a frozen land life is at risk

(B) stopping in the mid of the forest where life is full of danger

(C) stopping on the way where there is no farm house

(D) None of the above

Answer is (C) stopping on the way where there is no farm house

12. What is the meaning of the word 'queer' ?

(A) sound

(B) stop

(C) search

(D) strange

Answer is (D) strange

13. Where does they usually stop ?

(A) at a guest house

(B) at an inn

(C) at a cottage

(D) at a farm house

14. What is the meaning of the word 'little' in the poem Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening.

(A) short

(B) small

(C) nothing

(D) humble

Answer is (D) humble

15. The woods are covered with _____ that described in the poet stopping by woods on a snowy evening.

(A) rain water

(B) trees

(C) snow

(D) fruits

Answer is (C) snow

Beside from the sounds of harness bells, there are other natural sounds near the woods ? What are they ?

(A) sounds of easy wind and downy flake

(B) sounds of spirits and ghosts

(C) sound of animals and spring

(D) sounds of stones and rustling of trees

Answer is (A) sounds of easy wind and downy flake

What makes the speaker halt at the woods?

Answer : The attractiveness and calmness of the woods makes the speaker halt there. He wanted to enjoy the snow falling amidst the deep, dark and lovely woods before continuing on his journey again. He was highly fascinated by the charms of the scene.

iii) What is the significance of 'sleep' in the poem?

Answer : 'Sleep' here refers to death, which overcomes everything in the material world. The poet wants to say that life is like a journey and there are lots of attractions on our way. We should overcome all these temptations and continue peacefully towards our final destination – a long eternal sleep.

iv) What 'promises' is the speaker talking about?

Answer : The 'promises' are the duties and responsibilities which the speaker has towards himself and others. There are many commitments and compulsions that he needs to take care of. He wants to fulfill those duties and responsibilities before embracing a long sleep, which is death.