**LITERATURE NOTES**

1. **STOPPING BY WOODS ON A SNOWY EVENING:**

**A) MESSAGE:**

* Poet wants to give us a message that our life is like a traveller on a journey. Until the final destination, death arrives, we need to fulfill our duties and responsibilities and enjoy the little moment of life happiness that come along in our way.
* We should, however, avoid temptations that come along in our way as a hinderance while performing our duties.
* Perseverance and determination are the key to reach the milestone.
* It gives us a significant message that is we should carry on our journey of life, with all the life struggles and hardships.
* We should, however, resist the temptations and we should take up the challenges head-to-head.
* We should accept the reality of life and be courageous enough to tackle the different hardships of life.
* We should take the bull by its horns and stay strong. We should also fulfill all the responsibilities rather than giving up.

**B) THEME**:

* Stopping by woods on a snowy evening is a commitment to convention.
* It is also a commitment to risk especially being imaginative, in order to posses something aesthetically-the woods for example that one cannot posses or ‘own’ in another way.
* The poem is about some abstract convention and the movement of time.
* It is about the boundaries and limits within the which human beings live and within which must die.

**C)WHY DOES THE POET USE WINTER SCENE?**

* Because it best describes the mood of the poet and what is he going through. He seems to be sorrowful and solemn.
* Life seems to be monotonous in winter unlike the spring season when all the flowers are blooming, and the birds are chirping.
* Similarly, we observe dullness, sadness, and sorrow in poet’s life with no colours of happiness.
* The poet’s life is seized; therefore, the poet wants to escape from life and needs a breath of escape.

**D) DARKEST EVENING OF THE YEAR:**

* It refers to the darkest phase of poet’s life.
* Forced to chose between the hardships of life and calm serene world.
* His conscience reminds him that it is a very unwise decision to take a break from the reality of life and this may end into his failure.
* The poet has no way out. He is bound to follow the obligations and conventions of life. It shows that he is sad and solemn. He seems to be confined and entrapped by the promises that he has kept and needs to fulfill. The difficulties and problems him entangled that is why his life is solemn and sad, full of sorrows.
* The poet also seems undecisive at this point that whether to choose the alluring world and the fantasy of life or to continue his life without having any break. He chooses to live over everything.
* The darkest evening could also be referred to his sad emotions.

**E) WHAT WAS THE SPEAKERS ATTITUDE ABOUT THE WOODS?**

* The poet wants to stop near the woods, yet he seems a bit worried about being seen especially by being seen by the owner. He still stops there to admire the beauty of nature, to watch the snowfall and to observe that how serene and beautiful the Woods look in winter.
* The poet thinks that the woods were lovely, dark, and deep. The natural beauty compels him to stop there and watch the great scene of nature
* He looks through the Woods and admires the Woods as they are majestic, enchanting, and aesthetically pleasing.
* The Woods are heavenly and mysterious, something that makes him stay there longer. He admires the Mystic beauty of nature
* The woods were calm and had silence that was alluring.
* These woods and frozen Lake made him feel joyful but then again, he had other responsibilities and promises to keep.

**F) WHAT IS THE MEANING OF MILES TO GO BEFORE I SLEEP?**

* Sleep refers to death which overcomes everything in the material world. The poet emphasizes on the idea that life is like a journey with many leaps and bounds. Struggling through the temptations and to continue a journey peacefully towards our final destination-internal sleep should be the purpose of life.
* He realizes that there is a considerable distance yet to be traveled before he reaches the final destination. the repetition of line, “miles to go before I sleep” is very significant. The first line symbolizes the obligation and the journey of the poet's life which he still must cover. In the next line, the word ‘sleep’ is very important and significant. It tells about the internal sleep and tells that the poet tries to resist the temptations of life and shows perseverance and seems very consistent in his attitude before he takes his last breath.
* He wants to fulfill all the responsibilities and promises he has kept. The poet shows determination to carry on the journey of life and to be resolute to take up the challenges with courage.

**G) EXPLANATION OF STANZA 2:**

* The horse is a symbolic presentation of his inner self and his conscience.
* The poet stopped by the Woods without a farm house near so the horse thinks that it is something very strange and unusual to stop by the Woods because it is harsh winter season.
* His inner self is awake and do not want him to take a break from life. His conscious give gives a reminder to carry out his journey, although his life long journey is full of difficulty.
* The poet seems to be waiver off and wants to enjoy the alluring world and is tempted by the fantasy of life which keeps him captivating and occupied.
* The poet seems quite undecisive at this point of life. The line between the woods and the frozen Lake describes how his life is monotonous. It represents how his life is lifeless and uncolourful.
* The darkest evening refers to the darkest phase of poet’s life. The poet is forced to choose between the hardships of the life and the calm serene world. His conscience reminds him that it is an unwise decision to take a break from the reality of life and this may end into his failure.
* The darkest evening could also be referred to his mood and sad emotions.

**H) WHAT DO THE WOODS SYMBOLISE IN THE POEM ‘STOPPING BY THE WOODS ON A SNOWY EVENING’?**

* This poem is a melodic poem that focuses on the captivating power of nature. This poem symbolises the journey of life and the movement toward the end.
* The poet stops near the woods to relax as he is tempted by them and wants to give up life. He feels urged to escape life, as the reality of life is always very difficult and hard.
* The woods also symbolise the beauty and mystery of world that most people are busy to appreciate.
* Here the woods symbolise distractions in various ways and temptations of life. We often get distracted by those things in the journey of our life and thus end up failing to reach our destination; our goals.
* The woods also represent the beauty aspects of life. We need to enjoy these, but have no time to spend with it as we have miles to go before I sleep.

I)INFO:

* the poem symbolises the journey of life