

POEM 1

CORONA SAYS

MAIN THEME

1. **Respect Nature:-** The earth belongs to all creatures, not only to humans.
2. **Warning to Humans:-** If humans don't change their selfish behavior, more pandemics or disasters will come.
3. **Human Ego:-** Humans think they are the "crown of creation," but they are destroying the world.
4. **Lesson from Corona:-** Corona teaches us to care for nature, animals, and the environment.

BEFORE READING

1. **What is pandemic? Describe a pandemic that you have heard about in the history?**

Answer :-

A **pandemic** is a disease that spreads over a very large area, affecting many countries and a large number of people at the same time. It is more serious than an epidemic because it crosses borders and continents.

One well-known pandemic in history is the **COVID-19 pandemic** (Coronavirus). It started in **Wuhan, China in late 2019** and quickly spread all over the world. Millions of people were infected, and many lost their lives. Schools, offices, markets, and even international flights were closed. People had to stay in lockdown, wear masks, and keep distance from each other.

2. **Is Corona virus a pandemic? How?**

Answer :-

Yes, Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a pandemic. It started in China in 2019 and quickly spread all over the world. Millions of people in many countries were infected and many died. Because it spread across continents and affected almost every country, the **World Health Organization (WHO)** declared it a pandemic in March 2020.

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3. Do you think that human behaviour is responsible for the pandemic?

Answer :-

Yes, human behaviour is also responsible for the pandemic. Humans destroy forests, pollute the environment, keep wild animals in cages, and do many activities that disturb nature. These actions make new diseases spread from animals to humans.

SUMMARY OF THE POEM “CORONA SAYS”

The poem “Corona Says” is written by Vishnu S. Rai. In this poem, Corona speaks like a person and gives a message to human beings.

Corona says that it did not come by its own wish but was invited by human activities like destruction of nature, pollution, and wars. Humans blame Corona for many deaths, but Corona reminds them that humans themselves have killed millions through wars, violence, and misuse of nature.

Corona shows that during the lockdown, the sky became clear, the environment became fresh, and animals felt free. This was to make humans realize how they had been harming the earth and treating animals badly.

The poem also warns humans that the earth is not their property only. It belongs to all living beings equally. Corona tells humans to give up their pride, selfishness, and misuse of power. Otherwise, more disasters like Corona will come, and humans may have to live again like in the old cave age.

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

Answer the following questions.

1. Who is the speaker in the poem?

Answer :-

The speaker in the poem is Corona (the coronavirus itself).

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2. Who claim that they are superior to all?

Answer :-

Human beings claim that they are superior to all living creatures.

3. Why has the speaker come to the Earth?

Answer :-

The speaker (Corona) says it has come not by its own wish but because humans invited it through their bad activities like destroying nature, polluting the earth, and living with too much pride. It came to make humans realize their mistakes.

4. What positive changes have occurred on Earth after the speaker's visit?

Answer :-

After Corona came, some positive changes were seen:-

- The sky became clean without dust and smoke.
- The environment became fresh.
- Animals felt free, like humans felt during lockdown.
- Nature and Mother Earth got some rest.

REFERENCE TO THE CONTEXT

1. What does the speaker mean when he says:

But have you ever counted
How many have died so far
Because of you and your wars?

Answer :-

Here, the speaker is Corona (the virus). Corona says that humans blame it for killing many people, but they forget their own mistakes. Humans themselves have killed millions of people through wars, violence, and fighting. The speaker wants to remind humans that their own activities, like wars, are more dangerous and destructive than the virus.

2. Explain the following:

I will depart one day.
But remember There're many others like me.

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They'll come too.

If you don't get rid of your inflated ego,

You'll be back to your cave time That you endured

Long, long, long ago...

Answer :-

These lines mean that the Coronavirus will go away one day, but other problems like it may come if humans keep harming nature and acting selfishly. It warns that if people don't control their ego and take care of the Earth, they might have to live a very hard life like humans did long ago in caves. It teaches that humans must respect nature and live responsibly.

3. What does the speaker mean in the following lines? Explain.

The earth is not your property alone-

it's as much ours as yours.

Answer :-

These lines mean that the Earth does not belong only to humans. All living things animals, plants, and nature have the right to live and share the Earth too. Humans should not think they can do anything they want and must respect all life on the planet.

REFERENCE BEYOND THE TEXT

a. What human behaviours are responsible for the suffering in people's lives ?

Answer :-

Human behaviors that cause suffering in people's lives include:

- **Wars and violence:-** fighting and killing others for power or resources.
- **Pollution:-** harming the environment by creating smoke, garbage, and dirty water.
- **Deforestation and killing animals:-** destroying forests and wildlife for selfish use.
- **Greed and selfishness :-** exploiting others and taking more than needed.
- **Ignoring nature:-** not taking care of Earth's resources like air, water, and soil.

These actions harm both humans and the planet, and can lead to disasters, diseases, and loss of life.

b. How does an epidemic differ from pandemic? briefly explain the impact of corona virus on human life and environment.

Answer :-

Difference between epidemic and pandemic:

- **Epidemic** :- A disease that spreads in a specific region or community.
- **Pandemic** :- A disease that spreads across countries and the whole world.
Corona virus is a **pandemic** because it affected people all over the world.

Impact of Coronavirus:

- **On human life:-** Many people got sick and some died, schools and businesses closed, travel was limited, and people faced stress and economic problems.
- **On the environment:-** Pollution decreased, the sky became cleaner, water became clearer, and animals could roam more freely because human activity reduced during lockdowns.

POEM 2

A RED, RED ROSE

MAIN THEME

The poem is about loving someone deeply and promising to stay true to them forever.

BEFORE READING

1. How do people express love?

Answer :-

People express love in many ways, such as:

- Saying kind words and compliments.
- Giving gifts or flowers.
- Spending time together and helping each other.
- Showing care through actions, like supporting someone in need.

2. What is the symbolic meaning of a rose?

Answer:-

A rose often symbolizes **love, beauty, and passion**.

- A red rose, in particular, represents **deep love and romance**.
- It can also mean admiration and strong feelings for someone special.

3. What images in nature would you use to express love?

Answer:-

Some natural images to express love include:

- **Sunrise or sunset** – showing warmth and beauty.
- **Rivers or oceans** – showing endless and flowing love.
- **Mountains** – showing strength and stability in love.
- **Flowers blooming** – showing freshness and joy in love.
- **Stars or the moon** – showing constant and eternal love.

SUMMARY OF THE POEM "A RED, RED ROSE"

The poem "A Red, Red Rose" by Robert Burns expresses the speaker's deep and true love for his beloved. He compares his love to a freshly bloomed red rose and a sweet melody, showing that his feelings are beautiful, fresh, and harmonious. The poet promises to love his beloved forever, even if the seas dry up, rocks melt, or life comes to an end. He also assures that he will return to her, no matter how far away he is.

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

Answer the following questions.

1. To which two things does the speaker compare his love in the first stanza?

Answer :-

In the first stanza of "A Red, Red Rose", the speaker compares his love to **two things**:-

1. A Red, Red Rose
2. The melody (A sweetly tune)

2. What does the speaker promise in the second and third stanzas?

Answer :-

In the second and third stanzas of "A Red, Red Rose", the speaker makes two promises :

1. He promises to love his beloved forever, saying he will love her even if all the seas dry up and the rocks melt with the sun. This shows that his love is eternal and unchanging.
2. He promises to return to her, no matter the distance, even if it is ten thousand miles away. This shows his loyalty and devotion.

3. What imagery does he use in his promise, and why?

Answer :-

He uses images of nature, like seas drying up and rocks melting with the sun because he uses this language to show that his love is eternal and unchanging.

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4. In the last stanza, what event is about to happen by mentioning the number of miles?

Answer :-

The speaker is about to go far away from his beloved and Mentioning ten thousand miles shows that even if they are very far apart, he will come back to her.

5. Which image in the poem do you find the most memorable or surprising and why?

Answer :-

The most memorable image is 'Till a' the seas gang dry, and the rocks melt wi' the sun' because it shows love that lasts forever, using extreme and impossible natural events to emphasize strong feelings.

REFERENCE TO THE CONTEXT

1. What can you infer about the speaker's devotion from the line "And I will come again, my love, tho' it were ten thousand miles!"

Answer :-

- The speaker is **very devoted and loyal**.
- He promises to **return to his beloved**, no matter how far away he goes.
- It shows that **distance cannot weaken his love**.

2. What is the theme of the poem?

Answer :-

The theme of the poem is about loving someone deeply and promising to stay true to them forever.

3. Paraphrase the whole poem into simple prose form.

Answer :-

In "A Red, Red Rose", the poet compares his love to a fresh red rose and a sweet song, showing it is beautiful and harmonious. He promises to love his beloved forever, even if seas dry up or rocks melt, and to return to her even if he travels ten thousand miles. The poem expresses true, loyal, and everlasting love using simple words and images from nature.

CLASS 11 ENGLISH-POEMS NOTES

4. literary devices are tools that enable the writers to present their ideas, emotions, and feeling and also help the readers understand those more profound meanings. analyse the poem in terms of the literary devices such as simile, symbolism, imagery, alliteration, and assonance.

Answer :-

The poet uses different literary devices to express love clearly and beautifully:

- **Simile:** Compares love to a rose and a song shows beauty and sweetness.
- **Symbolism:** Rose is for love and passion; seas and rocks is for eternity and strength.
- **Imagery:** Uses nature (rose, seas, rocks, sun) to create mental pictures of love.
- **Alliteration:** Repetition of consonant sounds, e.g., “And fare thee weel, my only Luve”.
- **Assonance:** Repetition of vowel sounds, example “And I will come again, my Luve” makes the poem musical.

5. What is hyperbole? explain its purpose citing examples of hyperbole used in the poem.

Answer :-

Hyperbole is an exaggeration used to show strong feelings or make a point.

Examples from the poem:

- “Till a’ the seas gang dry, and the rocks melt wi’ the sun” exaggerates to show eternal love.
- “Tho’ it were ten thousand miles” exaggerates distance to show devotion and loyalty.

REFERENCE BEYOND THE TEXT

1. What kind of love is expressed in "A Red, Red Rose"?

Answer :-

In “A Red, Red Rose”, the poet shows true and lasting love. He promises to love his beloved forever, stay loyal, and come back to her even if he goes far away. The poem tells us that real love is strong, faithful, and never ends.

CLASS 11 ENGLISH-POEMS NOTES

2. Do you think that love has power? Why do the poets compose poems addressing their beloved?

Answer :-

Yes, love has power because it can make people feel happy, inspired, and strong. It can also connect people deeply and give meaning to life. Poets compose poems for their beloved to express their feelings, show their devotion, and share the beauty of love through words. Writing poems helps them communicate emotions that are too deep for ordinary speech.

3. Poetry is the expression of feeling and emotions. Explain.

Answer :-

Poetry is the expression of feelings and emotions because it allows writers to share what is in their heart using words, rhythm, and imagery. Through poems, poets can show love, happiness, sadness, anger, or devotion in a way that touches readers. Unlike ordinary writing, poetry makes emotions more vivid and powerful, helping readers feel the poet's thoughts and experiences.

POEM 3

ALL The World's a stage

MAIN THEME

Shakespeare says that life is like a drama or play, and every person is like an actor. Just as actors come on stage, act their part, and then leave, people are born, live their life in different stages, and finally die.

He divides human life into seven stages :- baby, schoolboy, lover, soldier, judge, old man, and finally a helpless stage like childhood again.

BEFORE READING

Answer these questions.

1. How does life begin?

Answer :-

Life begins with birth, when a person comes into the world as a baby. The first stage of life is infancy, where the child is weak, cries, and depends on others for everything.

2. Do you think that the whole world is a stage?

Answer :-

Yes, the whole world can be seen as a stage. Just like actors perform on a stage, people also come into the world, live for some time, and then leave after playing their roles.

3. Are we the actors in the world? What roles can a person play in his/her life?

Answer :-

Yes, we are like actors in this world. In life, a person plays many roles such as:-

- A child in the family
- A student in school
- A friend/lover in youth
- A worker or soldier serving society
- A parent or guide to others
- Finally an old person depending on others again

SUMMARY OF THE POEM "ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE"

In this poem, Shakespeare compares the whole world to a stage and all human beings to actors. People come into the world, play different roles in life, and then leave, just like actors enter and exit the stage.

He describes seven stages of life: first as an infant, crying and depending on others; then a schoolboy, unwilling to go to school; next a lover, full of emotions; after that a soldier, brave but short-tempered; then a judge, full of wisdom and experience; later an old man, weak and shrinking; and finally the last stage, called second childhood, when a person becomes helpless again and loses strength, memory, and senses.

The poem shows that life is temporary. People change roles as they grow, and at the end, they leave the world.

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT.

Answer the following questions.

1. Why does the poet compare the world with a stage?

Answer :-

The poet compares the world with a stage because life is like a drama. People are like actors who come, play their roles, and then leave the stage when their part is over.

2. What is the first stage in a human's life? In what sense can it be a troubling stage?

Answer :-

The first stage is babyhood. It can be troubling because the baby cannot talk, walk, or do anything on its own. It only cries, needs help for everything, and makes trouble for the nurse or parents.

3. Describe the second stage of life based on the poem.

Answer :-

The second stage is schoolboy life. At this stage, a child goes to school unwillingly. He carries his bag, looks fresh in the morning, but moves slowly like a snail because he does not want to study.

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4. Why is the last stage called childhood?

Answer :-

The last stage is called second childhood because an old person becomes weak and helpless again, just like a baby. He loses teeth, memory, strength, and even taste depending on others for everything.

5. In what sense are we the players in the world stage?

Answer :-

We are like players because throughout life we act in different roles as children, students, lovers, workers, parents, and finally old people. Each stage is like a part in the big drama of life.

REFERENCE TO THE CONTEXT

1. Explain the following lines:

All the world's a stage,

And all the men and women merely players.

Answer :-

In these lines, Shakespeare says that the whole world is like a big stage, and all the people living in it are just like actors in a play. Every person comes into the world, plays different roles in life (like child, student, worker, parent, old person), and then leaves when their time is over. the poet wants us to understand that life is temporary, and we are not permanent owners of the world. We only come here for a short time to play our parts.

2. Explain the following lines briefly with reference to the context.

They have their exits and their entrances;

And one man in his time plays many parts,

Answer :-

These lines are from Shakespeare's poem All the World's a Stage. The poet is comparing life to a drama. By "exits and entrances," he means birth and death people come into the world (entrance) and leave it (exit) just like actors do on a stage. The second line means that during his lifetime, a person does not stay the same but acts many different roles like a child, student, lover, worker, parent, and finally an old person.

CLASS 11 ENGLISH-POEMS NOTES

3. Read the given lines and answer the questions that follow.

Then the whining schoolboy, with his satchel
And shining morning face, creeping like snail
Unwilling to school

- i. Which stage of life is being referred to here by the poet?
- ii. Which figure of speech has been employed in the second line?
- iii. Who is compared to the snail?
- iv. Does the boy go to the school willingly?

Answer :-

- i. **Ans :-** The second stage of life schoolboy stage is being referred to.
- ii. **Ans :-** The figure of speech is simile, because the boy is compared to a snail using the word “like.”
- iii. **Ans :-** The schoolboy is compared to the snail.
- iv. **Ans :-** No, the boy goes to school unwillingly, slowly and lazily, just like a snail.

4. Simile and metaphor are the two major poetic devices used in this poem. Explain citing example of each.

Answer :-

In the poem, Poet uses simile when he compares the schoolboy to a snail in the line “creeping like snail,” and he uses metaphor when he compares the world to a stage in the line “All the world’s a stage.”

5. Which style does the poet use to express his emotions about how he thinks that the world is a stage and all the people living in it are mere players?

Answer :-

The poet uses a dramatic and narrative style. He explains life in the form of a drama, dividing it into seven stages, and presents people as actors performing different roles.

6. What is the theme of this poem?

Answer:-

The theme of the poem is like life is temporary and everyone has to pass through different stages before death, just like actors in a play.

REFERENCE BEYOND THE TEXT

1. Describe the various stage of human's life picturised in the poem "All the world's a stage."

Answer :-

Shakespeare divides human life into seven stages:-

- **Infant** – cries and depends on others.
- **Schoolboy** – goes to school unwillingly, slow like a snail.
- **Lover** – full of emotions, sighing and writing love poems.
- **Soldier** – brave, jealous of honor, always ready for fight.
- **Judge** – wise, experienced, with a calm and serious mind.
- **Old man** – weak, shrinking, losing strength and vitality.
- **Second childhood** – completely helpless like a baby, loses teeth, memory, and senses.

2. Is Shakespeare's comparison of human's life with a drama stage apt? How?

Answer :-

Yes, it is apt because life is temporary and people perform different roles at different stages, just like actors in a play who enter, perform, and exit the stage. Each person's life passes through many roles before it ends, making the comparison very suitable.

POEM 4

Who are you, little i?

MAIN THEME

The poem is about remembering a childhood moment, and how children find beauty in simple things like nature and sunset.

BEFORE READING

1. Have you ever looked out through a window and take pleasure in what you saw? if so, what did you look at?

Answer :-

Yes, I have looked out through a window and enjoyed what I saw. One day, I was sitting near the window during the evening, and I saw a beautiful sunset. The sky was full of orange, pink, and purple colors. Birds were flying, and the trees were moving gently in the wind. It made me feel very calm and happy. I just kept watching it quietly and felt close to nature.

2. Which beautiful scenes do you think would make you want to look out through the window?

Answer :-

I think I would love to look out the window at beautiful scenes like a colorful sunset, a rainbow after rain, or mountains covered in snow. I also enjoy watching the rain falling, trees moving in the wind, or birds flying in the sky. These scenes make me feel peaceful and happy, and I can spend a long time just watching them quietly.

3. Do you write the pronoun "I" capital or small in writing?

Answer :-

We always write the pronoun "I" with a capital letter in normal writing. It is a rule in English grammar. but in the poem, the poet uses a small "i" to show that the child is small, humble, and innocent.

SUMMARY OF THE POEM "WHO ARE YOU, LITTLE I?"

The poem is a short and beautiful memory from the poet's childhood. The poet talks about himself as a little child, around five or six years old, looking out from a high window. He is watching the golden sunset in November. The child feels that if the day must end and turn into night, this sunset is a beautiful way for it to happen. The poem shows the child's innocent feelings and his ability to find beauty and peace in nature. It also expresses how children see the world with wonder and simplicity.

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

Answer the following questions.

1. Who can be the speaker of this poem?

Answer :-

The speaker is the poet himself as an adult, who is remembering a moment from his childhood.

2. What is "little i" doing?

Answer :-

"Little i" is a small child, around five or six years old, looking out of a high window at the beautiful golden sunset in November.

3. What can be the relationship between "little i" and the speaker of the poem?

Answer :-

"Little i" is the younger version of the speaker. The speaker is remembering himself as a child and talking to that younger self.

4. What is the speaker remembering from his childhood days in the poem?

Answer :-

The speaker is remembering a peaceful and beautiful moment from his childhood when he was watching a sunset from a window.

CLASS 11 ENGLISH-POEMS NOTES

5. What attitude does the speaker seem to have toward the child in the poem?

Answer :-

The speaker feels love, respect, and admiration for the child. He sees the child as innocent, sensitive, and able to find beauty in small things.

REFERENCE TO THE CONTEXT

1. Why do you think Cummings has placed a semicolon between the words window and at?

Answer :-

The semicolon shows a pause. It separates the child looking out the window from what he is looking at the sunset. It also adds rhythm and emphasizes the peaceful moment.

2. If the speaker is the child grown up, why does he ask, “who are you”?

Answer :-

The speaker is surprised by how innocent and thoughtful he was as a child. He is asking “who are you?” because the child seems like a different person now.

3. In this poem, an adult reflects on the childhood experience. Based on that, what might be the theme of the lines: “(and feeling: that if day / has to become night / this is a beautiful way)”?

Answer :-

These lines mean that even though things must end (like day turning into night), they can end beautifully. It's about accepting change with peace and finding beauty in it.

4. What is the rhyme scheme used in the poem?

Answer :-

There is no fixed rhyme scheme. The poem is written in free verse, which means it does not follow any regular pattern of rhyme or rhythm.

CLASS 11 ENGLISH-POEMS NOTES

5. Explain the pun in “little i” that is related to what he is doing.

Answer :-

The “little i” means both the small child and the lowercase letter “i”. It shows that the child feels small and humble while observing the big, beautiful world.

6. How does Cummings’s use of lowercase letters affect your understanding of the poem? Explain.

Answer :-

Using lowercase letters, especially for “i,” makes the speaker seem humble and innocent. It helps show the smallness and purity of a child’s view of the world.

REFERENCE BEYOND THE TEXT

1. How does nature inspire the speaker in “who are you, little i”? Explain.

Answer :-

Nature, especially the beautiful sunset, inspires the speaker to remember his childhood and feel a deep sense of peace. It reminds him that endings can be beautiful.

2. Recall a childhood moment when you felt closely connected with nature. Describe the time and place as well as your feelings and thoughts about it.

Answer :-

I remember once sitting under a big tree during the rainy season, watching raindrops fall on the leaves. I felt calm and peaceful. The sound of the rain and the fresh smell of the earth made me feel very close to nature. I realized how beautiful and simple life can be.

3. Interpret the poem in any way you like.

Answer :-

This poem shows how children see the world with wonder and beauty. The poet is looking back at his younger self, who could see something special in a sunset. It teaches us to appreciate small moments and remember the beauty of being a child.

POEM 5

The Gift in Wartime

MAIN THEME

The main theme of the poem is the pain of losing a loved one in war. It shows how war destroys love, happiness, and youth, leaving behind only grief, loneliness, and memories. It also expresses the hope of meeting again in another life.

BEFORE READING

1. Have you ever experienced the death of someone close to you? If yes, how did you feel?

Answer :-

Yes, I have. It made me very sad and lonely. I felt empty and missed the person a lot because life was not the same without them.

2. Is war always destructive?

Answer :-

Yes, war is always destructive. It kills people, destroys families, brings pain, and damages homes and societies. Even if some people win in war, everyone still suffers loss.

3. Using a cause-and-effect chart like the one given here, describe the immediate effects that person's death had on you and others.

Answer :-

Cause: Death of a close person

Effects:

- Family members felt deep sadness.
- I cried and felt lonely.
- Daily life was disturbed.
- Everyone missed the person.
- It created emotional pain for a long time.

SUMMARY OF THE POEM "THE GIFT IN WARTIME"

In the poem, the speaker talks to her dead lover who died in war. She offers him roses, her wedding gown, and memories of their love. She remembers her youth that ended with his death. She describes the medals he earned but also the blood, sadness, and pain war brought. She feels empty because he gave her only silence, no smile, no tenderness, and a lifeless body. In the end, she promises to meet him in their next life and keep a piece of shrapnel as a token of their love.

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1. Who is the speaker addressing and why can that person not hear or understand what she is saying?

Answer :-

The speaker is addressing her dead lover/husband who died in war. He cannot hear or understand her because he is no longer alive.

2. What can you infer about the speaker's feelings for the person addressed as "you"?

Answer :-

The speaker deeply loves him and misses him. She feels sadness, pain, and emptiness after his death.

3. What is the speaker's attitude toward war?

Answer :-

The speaker hates war. She shows war as something that takes away love, youth, and happiness, leaving behind only grief and loss.

4. In what ways do you think this person's fate has affected the speaker?

Answer :-

His death has completely changed her life. She lost her love, her youth, her dreams, and her happiness. She feels broken and lonely.

CLASS 11 ENGLISH-POEMS NOTES

5. What does the speaker promise at the end of the poem? Why do you think the speaker does this?

Answer :-

She promises to meet him in their next life and keep a piece of shrapnel as a token to recognize him. She does this because she still loves him and hopes for reunion, even after death.

REFERENCE TO THE CONTEXT

1. What is the theme of the poem?

Answer :-

The main theme is the pain and suffering caused by war. It also shows love, loss, grief, and the hope of meeting again in another life.

2. What imagery from the poem made the greatest impression on you? Why?

Answer :-

“You give me your lips with no smile your motionless body.”

This is powerful because it shows death very clearly and makes the reader feel the deep sadness of losing a loved one.

3. Which figurative language is used in the poem? Explain with examples.

Answer :-

The poem uses:

- **Imagery:** “The smell of blood from your war dress” (appeals to the senses).
- **Metaphor:** “I offer you clouds” (her sadness and tears).
- **Apostrophe:** The whole poem talks to a dead person as if he could hear.

4. What does the speaker “offer” in this poem? What does the person addressed as “you” give in return?

Answer :-

The speaker offers her love, youth, and memories. The dead lover gives her only silence, pain, and his lifeless body.

CLASS 11 ENGLISH-POEMS NOTES

5. An apostrophe is a literary device in which a writer or speaker addresses an absent person or an abstract idea in such a way as if it were present and can understand.

Discuss the poem in relation to apostrophe.

Answer :-

This poem is a perfect example of apostrophe. The speaker talks directly to her dead lover as if he were alive and listening. She expresses her feelings of love, grief, and longing to him, even though he cannot respond.

REFERENCE BEYOND THE TEXT

1. One way to get relief from grief is to write or talk about it. In your opinion, how might the speaker in this poem have benefitted from saying what she did? Explain.

Answer :-

Writing this poem helped the speaker express her pain and loss. Instead of keeping the sadness inside, she shared it in words. This might have given her emotional relief and helped her feel closer to her dead lover.

2. Write an essay on the effects of war.

Answer :-

War causes destruction and suffering. It takes away lives of soldiers and leaves families broken. It destroys peace, homes, and dreams. People lose their loved ones, and society suffers from poverty and trauma. War only brings sadness, pain, and hatred instead of solving problems. The poem shows that behind every dead soldier, there is a family suffering. Therefore, the effects of war are always negative and painful.

CLASS 11 ENGLISH-POEMS NOTES

Important Questions (Poem Section – NEB Class 11 English)

From **The Gift in Wartime** (Tran Mong Tu)

1. What is the main theme of the poem *The Gift in Wartime*?
2. To whom is the poem addressed? Why can he not respond?
3. What does the speaker offer to her lover?
4. What does the dead soldier give in return?
5. How does the speaker feel about war?
6. Explain the use of apostrophe in the poem.
7. What promise does the speaker make at the end of the poem?
8. Write a short summary of the poem.

From **Corona Says** (Vijaya Kumar Pandey)

1. Who is speaking in the poem *Corona Says*?
2. What is the main message of the poem?
3. How does Corona criticize human beings?
4. Why does the poet say that “Nature is not happy with human beings”?
5. What lesson should people learn from this poem?

From **All the World's a Stage** (William Shakespeare)

1. What does Shakespeare compare the world to?
2. How many stages of human life are described in the poem? Name them.
3. Describe the stage of life called “the lover.”
4. What happens in the last stage of life according to Shakespeare?
5. What is the central idea/theme of the poem?

From **Who are you, little i?** (E. E. Cummings)

1. Who is the speaker in the poem?
2. Who is “little i” in the poem?
3. What does “little i” see before going to bed?
4. What message does the poem give about childhood and life?
5. What is the theme of the poem?

CLASS 11 ENGLISH-POEMS NOTES

From **A Red, Red Rose** (Robert Burns)

1. To whom is the poem addressed?
2. What does the poet compare his love to?
3. What does the poet mean when he says, “I will love thee till the seas gang dry”?
4. What promise does the poet make at the end of the poem?
5. Write the central idea of the poem.

GTNotes