



CLASS IX
ENGLISH LITERATURE READER (POETRY)
CHAPTER 4
SILVER
(WALTER DE LA MARE)

SOLUTIONS

A. Based on your understanding of the poem answer the following. Tick(✓) the correct answer.

- I. In the poem the moon is described as a lady wearing**
- a. colourful dress.
 - b. golden dress.
 - c. silvery white dress.
 - d. silvery pink dress.
- Ans: c) silvery white dress.**

- II. 'Of doves in silver feathered sleep'**
'Silver feathered sleep' means
- a. the doves are turned silver by moonlight.
 - b. the doves are dreaming of silver.
 - c. doves are by nature silver coloured.
 - d. the cote is silver coloured.
- Ans: a) the doves are turned silver by moonlight.**

- III. The moon, in the poem is described as**
- a. inclined on a bed.
 - b. walking hurriedly.
 - c. staying unmoved.
 - d. walking slowly.
- Ans: d) walking slowly.**

B. Answer the following questions in a sentence each:

- I. What does 'silver shoon' refer to in the poem?**
Ans: 'silver shoon' refers to the silvery brightness of the moon.
- II. 'One by one the casements catch' What do the casements catch?**
Ans: The casements catch the moon beams beneath the silvery thatch.



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III. Describe the effect of the moonlight on the dog.

Ans: When the moon beam touches the sleeping dog it turns his paws into silver.

IV. How does the poet describe the harvest mouse? What turns its claws and eyes silver?

Ans: The poet describes the scurrying harvest mouse with silver claws and eyes. The moon beam turns its claws and eyes silver.

V. Explain 'moveless fish'.

Ans: The poet calls the fish as moveless. It means that the fish can't move in gleamy water.

C. Answer the following questions briefly:

I. Describe the way the moon walks.

Ans: The moon walks slowly and silently in the night with her silver shoon. She takes her time to look at everything on earth. The moon sheds its beam to all the creatures of the earth and turn into silver.

II. What are the effects of the moonlight on the dog?

Ans: The dog is sleeping 'like a log' in his kennel, without his knowledge, the moon touches him and turn his paws into silver. This is a magical moment made by the mundane nature.

III. Why is the cote shadowy while the doves are white and silvery?

Ans: The poet, Walter De La Mare describes the visual effects created by the full moon. When the full moon beam castes on the cote, it became dark and shadowy. Whereas the light colour like dove continue to shine by magical silvery effect created by the moonlight.



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