

**POEM 1- THE ROAD NOT TAKEN**  
**BY ROBERT FROST**

**Q1] Read the given stanza and answer the questions that follow:**

*Two roads diverged in yellow woods.  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveller, long I stood  
And looked down once as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;*

1. What do the diverged roads signify in the poem?
  - a) The path or choice that was left or was not chosen to tread.
  - b) The pathway.
  - c) Pathway on the roadside.
  - d) A road with two turns.
2. Why was the poet looking at the path?
  - a) To decide whether it was suitable for him.
  - b) To see how long it was.
  - c) To check the road.
  - d) None of the above
3. Choose an option which is not the same as '**met at a point**'
  - a) juncture
  - b) diverged
  - c) converged
  - d) None of the above
4. *And be one traveller, long I stood*- What does given line in the poem show?
  - a) It shows that the poet is in a relaxing mood.
  - b) It shows that the poet is enjoying himself.
  - c) It shows the poets' dilemma.
  - d) It shows that poet was admiring nature.

**Q2] Read the given stanza and answer the questions that follow:**

*I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence;  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I took the one less travelled by,  
And that has made all the difference.*

1. What does the poet's decision of taking less travelled road signify?
  - a) Poet's risk-taking habit.
  - b) Arrogance of the poet.
  - c) Poet's curiosity.
  - d) Poet's negligence.
  
2. Which thing decides a person's future according to this poem?
  - a) The path one chooses to walk
  - b) The path one leaves behind
  - c) The regrets
  - d) The success
  
3. Choose a suitable synonym for the word 'sigh'
  - a) Light breath
  - b) Deep breath
  - c) No breath
  - d) Fast breath
  
4. On the surface, "The Road Not Taken" is about a walk in the woods.  
On a deeper level, what is the poem about?
  - a) The poem is about how other people help us face major decisions.
  - b) The poem is about loving nature and protecting natural habitats.
  - c) The poem is about the conflicts people face when making important choices.
  - d) The poem is about the importance of exercise and enjoying the outdoors.

**Q3] Read the given stanza and answer the questions that follow:**

*And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.*

1. What was the poet doubtful about and why?
2. What does "both" refer to?
3. Trace a word from the extract which means "suspected"

**Q4] Answer the questions given below in about 1-2 lines:**

1. What was the poet's opinion about both the roads?
2. What do the roads represent?
3. Did the poet take his decision haphazardly?

4. What was the poet's dilemma?
5. Describe the conditions of both the roads that lay open before the poet on that morning.

**Q5] Answer the questions given below in about 3-5 lines:**

1. In the poem "The Road Not Taken," what do the woods symbolize?
2. According to the poem, how does the poet feel about his or her decision in the end?
3. What is the theme or the message of the poem 'The Road Not Taken'?
4. How does one way lead on to another? Is it easier to come back to the path we have left for another day?

**Q6] Answer the questions given below on the basis of your understanding of the topic:**

1. Describe the significance of good decisions. In what manner do they support life?
2. Does the poem, 'The Road Not Taken', symbolizes or reveals a meaning or aspect of freedom or responsibility?
3. What is the message of this poem?
  - a) be wise while choosing and taking decision
  - b) two roads are confusing
  - c) road is nothing but a pathway
  - d) All of the above
4. Write the Rhyme Scheme and mood of the poem?
5. Write the poetic devices used in the poem along with their explanation.

**POEM 2- WIND**  
**BY SUBRAMANIA BHARATI**

**Q1] Read the given stanza and answer the questions that follow:**

*Wind, come softly.  
Don't break the shutters of the windows.  
Don't scatter the papers.  
Don't throw down the books on the shelf.*

*There, look what you did — you threw them all down.  
You tore the pages of the books.  
You brought rain again.  
You're very clever at poking fun at weaklings.  
Frail crumbling houses, crumbling doors, crumbling rafters,  
crumbling wood, crumbling bodies, crumbling lives,  
crumbling hearts —  
the wind god winnows and crushes them all.*

1. What does the wind poke fun at?
  - (a) Weak houses and weak doors.
  - (b) Weak rafters and weak wood.
  - (c) Weak hearts and weak bodies.
  - (d) Any living or non-living thing that is weak and crumbling.
2. What does the poet want the wind to do?
  - (a) Don't break the shutters of windows
  - (b) Don't scatter the papers
  - (c) Don't throw down the books
  - (d) All the above
3. Find a word from the poem for "thrown in different directions"
  - (a) scatter
  - (b) thrown
  - (c) blown
  - (d) none
4. What is the effect of the wind on weak fires?
  - (a) Makes them stronger
  - (b) Blow them out
  - (c) Let them burn as before
  - (d) All of the above

**Q2] Read the given stanza and answer the questions that follow:**

*He won't do what you tell him.  
So, come, let's build strong homes,  
Let's joint the doors firmly.  
Practise to firm the body.  
Make the heart steadfast.  
Do this, and the wind will be friends with us.  
The wind blows out weak fires.  
He makes strong fires roar and flourish.*

*His friendship is good.  
We praise him every day.*

1. We can make friends with the wind god if we are—
  - (a) true.
  - (b) honest.
  - (c) strong.
  - (d) respectful.
2. “*He won’t do what you tell him*” Who is he in this line?
  - (a) God
  - (b) Wind God
  - (c) Wind
  - (d) All of the above
3. What should the people do to save their homes?
  - (a) Use good cement
  - (b) Build strong homes and close the doors firmly
  - (c) Consult a good architect
  - (d) None of the above
4. Choose a suitable synonym for ‘prosper’ from the poem.
  - (a) keep going
  - (b) flourish
  - (c) keep moving
  - (d) proper

**Q3] Answer the questions given below in about 1-2 lines:**

1. Give the central idea of the poem ‘Wind’ in brief.
2. How does wind poke fun at weaklings?
3. Why does the poet plead for wind to blow softly?
4. What does the poet think of the wind god’s attitude to the requests of the people?
5. What does the wind symbolize in this poem?

**Q4] Answer the questions given below in about 3-5 lines:**

1. Which values of life does the poet emphasize in the poem?
2. Why does the poet suggest people to be strong? Write your answer in context of the poem ‘Wind’.
3. What kind of destruction is caused by the violent wind?

**Q5] Answer the questions given below on the basis of your understanding of the topic:**

1. What is the moral of this poem?
  - (a) be firm and strong and never be defeated by any obstacle
  - (b) pray to the wind
  - (c) don't be weak
  - (d) request the wind
2. Which figure of speech has been used in the poem?
  - (a) Alliteration
  - (b) Anaphora and Metaphor
  - (c) Personification
  - (d) All of the above
3. What does the poet mean by the line "*We praise him every day*"?
4. Why does the poet say that the wind God winnows?

**POEM 3- RAIN ON THE ROOF**  
**BY COATES KINNEY**

**Q1] Read the given stanza and answer the questions that follow:**

*When the humid shadows hover  
Over all the starry spheres  
And the melancholy darkness  
Gently weeps in rainy tears,  
What a bliss to press the pillow  
Of a cottage-chamber bed  
And lie listening to the patter  
Of the soft rain overhead!*

1. What does the poet imply by "humid shadows"?
  - a) Shadows in the sun
  - b) Clouds full of rain
  - c) Lightning and thunder
  - d) All of the above
2. What does the phrase 'starry spheres' refers to?

- a) Night time
  - b) Moon and other planets
  - c) Sky filled with numerous stars
  - d) Brightness of the stars
3. Which is the poetic device used in the line- *Gently weeps in rainy tears.*
- a) Alliteration
  - b) Personification
  - c) Anaphora
  - d) Oxymoron
4. What does the poet considers to be 'bliss' in the rainy season?
- a) Enjoying in the rain.
  - b) Lie comfortably in bed.
  - c) Listening to music
  - d) Enjoying the rain and comfort of the home.

**Q2] Read the given stanza and answer the questions that follow:**

*Every tinkle on the shingles  
Has an echo in the heart;  
And a thousand dreamy fancies  
Into busy being start,  
And a thousand recollections  
Weave their air-threads into woof,  
As I listen to the patter  
Of the rain upon the roof.*

1. How does the sound of the rain affect the busy mind of the poet?
- a) He is not able to concentrate.
  - b) He starts imagining and fantasizing things.
  - c) He re-collects the past events and becomes happy.
  - d) He feels distracted and just enjoys without doing any work.
2. Which poetic device is used in the line- "*Of the rain upon the roof.*"
- a) Metaphor
  - b) Repetition
  - c) Alliteration
  - d) Personification
3. What finds an echo in the mind of the poet?
- a) The sound of raindrops
  - b) The music in the neighbourhood
  - c) The thoughts and fantasies

- d) None of the above
- 4. What tinkles on the shingles?
  - a) raindrops
  - b) hailstones
  - c) brass-bells
  - d) silver bangles

**Q3] Read the given stanza and answer the questions that follow:**

*Now in memory comes my mother,  
As she used in years ago,  
To regard the darling dreamers  
Ere she left them till the dawn:  
O! I feel her fond look on me  
As I list to this refrain  
Which is played upon the shingles  
By the patter of the rain.*

1. What does the poet imply by “the darling dreamers”?
  - a) He implies his dreams and imaginations.
  - b) He implies the people close to him.
  - c) He implies the children in the family.
  - d) He implies his dreams and ambitions.
2. What haunts the poet in the poem?
  - (a) his friends
  - (b) sounds of rainfall
  - (c) his mother’s memory
  - (d) none of the above
3. Which memories of the poet are revived with the pitter patter sound of rainfall?
  - a) college days
  - b) young age
  - c) office days
  - d) childhood memories
4. What does the poet feel when he listens to the refrain?
  - a) His mother’s wise teachings
  - b) His mother’s affectionate smile
  - c) His mother’s kind heart
  - d) His mother’s fond look at him

**Q4] Answer the questions given below in about 1-2 lines:**

1. What was the blessing for the poet?



2. Describe the night sky as described by the poet in the first stanza.
3. Describe poet's feeling after hearing the raindrops falling on the roof.
4. What were the memories re-collected by the poet about his dead mother?
5. List the words used for describing sounds by the poet.

**Q5] Answer the questions given below in about 3-5 lines:**

1. What is the effect of the sound of rain on the mind of the poet?
2. What did the poet dream of while listening to the rain?
3. Write the central theme of the poem 'Rain on the Roof'.
4. What is the single major memory that comes to the poet?

**Q6] Answer the questions given below on the basis of your understanding of the topic:**

1. How is the mood of the poet contrasted with the mood of darkness?
2. What virtue do you find in the sound of the rain? Explain with reference to the poem 'Rain on the Roof'.
3. What is the rhyme scheme of the poem?
  - a) abcbdefe
  - b) aabbccdd
  - c) abbccdde
  - d) aaabbbab
4. Which of these words is the use of the literary device of **Onomatopoeia**?
  - a) Bliss
  - b) Shadows
  - c) Shingles
  - d) Patter

**POEM 5- A LEGEND OF THE NORTHLAND**  
**BY PHOEBE CARY**

**Q1] Read the given stanza and answer the questions that follow:**

*Once, when the good Saint Peter  
Lived in the world below,  
And walked about it, preaching,  
Just as he did, you know,  
He came to the door of a cottage,  
In travelling round the earth,  
Where a little woman was making cakes,*

*And baking them on the hearth;  
And being faint with fasting,  
For the day was almost done,  
He asked her, from her store of cakes,  
To give him a single one.*

1. What did Saint ask the old lady for?
  - a) for shelter
  - b) for a piece of cake
  - c) for a mango
  - d) for alms
2. What is the main moral of the story?
  - a) We should not be greedy.
  - b) We should share our things with others
  - c) Both A and B
  - d) None of these
3. Who was the preacher of the poem?
  - a) Saint Peter
  - b) Saint John
  - c) Saint Jesus
  - d) Saint Bishop
4. Identify the image given with regard to the poem:
  - a) Fire-pot
  - b) Hearth
  - c) Chimney
  - d) Born-fire



**Q2] Read the given stanza and answer the questions that follow:**

*And he said, "You are far too selfish  
To dwell in a human form,  
To have both food and shelter,  
And fire to keep you warm.  
Now, you shall build as the birds do,  
And shall get your scanty food  
By boring, and boring, and boring,*

*All day in the hard, dry wood.”  
Then up she went through the chimney,  
Never speaking a word,  
And out of the top flew a woodpecker,  
For she was changed to a bird.*

1. Identify the important expression that has been taken from the poem.
  - a) Greedy woman
  - b) They tell them the curious story
  - c) Saint peter cursed the woman
  - d) black as coal
2. The saint cursed the greedy woman that made her a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) Peacock
  - b) Woodpecker
  - c) Crow
  - d) Nightingale
3. What did the saint say about the woman?
  - a) the saint said about her that she was kind.
  - b) the saint said about her that she was selfish.
  - c) the saint said about her that she was generous.
  - d) the saint said about her that she was lucky.
4. This poem is a.....
  - a) Sonnet
  - b) Ballad
  - c) Song
  - d) Blank verse

**Q3] Answer the questions given below in about 1-2 lines:**

1. What is a legend? Why is this is called a legend?
2. Why does the poet say that the hours of the day are few?
3. ‘And the children look like bear’s cubs.’ What have the children been compared to? Why?
4. What does the poet tell us about the story she is about to narrate? Why does she want to tell the tale?
5. Why was Saint Peter tired and hungry?

**Q4] Answer the questions given below in about 3-5 lines:**

1. Describe Northland as done by the poet?
2. What is the message of the poem?
3. Briefly narrate the legend of the old woman and St Peter?

**Q5] Answer the questions given below on the basis of your understanding of the topic:**

1. The dramatic narrative is a form of poem which have story inside it. Is "The legend of the Northland" comes under it? True or False?
2. Which of the following literary device has been used in this poem?
  - a) Irony
  - b) Alliteration
  - c) Personification
  - d) All of the above
3. Quote examples of alliteration used in the poem.
  - a) Tell the tales to you
  - b) Faint with fasting
  - c) Cakes that seem too small
  - d) All of the above
4. Describe the theme of the poem 'A legend of the Northland'?

**POEM 6- NO MEN ARE FOREIGN  
BY JAMES KIRKUP**

**Q1] Read the given stanza and choose the option which is the most appropriate for the questions that follow:**

***They, too, aware of sun and air and water,  
Are fed by peaceful harvests, by war's long winter starv'd.  
Their hands are ours, and in their lines we read  
A labour not different from our own.***

- 1. How did the poet prove that there are no foreign countries?**
  - a) With the help of people
  - b) With the same way of living
  - c) With the help of nature
  - d) With the help of countries
- 2. 'A labour not different from our own 'means:**
  - a) Foreigners labour differently
  - b) They do labour as we do
  - c) Forms of work is different
  - d) None of these
- 3. What is the rhyming scheme of the given stanza?**
  - a) aabb

- b) abab
- c) abcc
- d) Free verse

**4. According to the poet James Kirkup, belonging to a different country doesn't make one**

- a) Violent
- b) Different
- c) Carefree
- d) Indifferent

**Q2] Read the given stanza and choose the option which is the most appropriate for the questions that follow:**

*It is the human earth that we defile.  
Our hells of fire and dust outrage the innocence  
Of air that is everywhere our own,  
Remember, no men are foreign, and no countries strange.*

**1. What should be discouraged according to the poem?**

- a) The practice of love and brotherhood
- b) Equality
- c) Ill practice of hatred and discrimination
- d) None of the above

**2. It is the human earth that we defile. What does the poet communicate through this line?**

- a) It is the human earth that we belong to.
- b) It is the human earth that we should respect.
- c) It is the human earth that we pollute.
- d) It is the human earth that anchors the trees.

**3. How is the innocence of air destroyed by the humans?**

- a) The humans cause pollution which destroys the air of innocence.
- b) The humans practice deforestation which destroys the air of innocence.
- c) The humans fight with each other which destroys the air of innocence.
- d) The humans discriminate which destroys the air of innocence.

**4. Choose the option which is the antonym of 'strange'**

- a) Unusual
- b) Odd
- c) Ordinary
- d) Weird

**Q3] Answer the following questions in short:**

1. "Beneath all uniforms...." What kind of uniforms do you think the poet is talking about?
2. Whom does the poet refers to as our brothers and why?
3. How does the poet suggest that we all are the same?
4. Why does the poet call harvests as 'peaceful' and war as 'winter'?

**Q4] Answer the following questions in detail:**

1. How are we responsible for war? Explain with reference to the poem, No Men are Foreign.
2. The land our brothers walk upon. In earth like this we shall lie. What does the poet mean by the above lines?
3. Many great people tell us to live cordially with each other. But we tend to fight over trivial issues. Why can't we live harmoniously? What makes us fight and hurt each other?
4. Justify the title taking in consideration the thoughts of the poet.

**POEM 8- ON KILLING A TREE BY GIEVE PATEL**

**Q1] Read the given stanza and choose the option which is the most appropriate for the questions that follow:**

*So hack and chop  
But this alone won't do it.  
Not so much pain will do it.  
The bleeding bark will heal  
And from close to the ground  
Will rise curled green twigs,  
Miniature boughs  
Which if unchecked will expand again  
To former size.*

1. **According to the poet, how does nature (here, the tree) renew itself after an attack by man?**
  - a) After cutting the tree, it will start growing leaves.
  - b) It will start growing after rainwater feeds the roots
  - c) The different parts of the tree like bark, twigs will grow to their former size if left unchecked.
  - d) The tree will start spreading its roots to create a stronger core.
2. **In spite of being cut, the tree will grow again. The lines to show it heals are:**
  - a) And from close to the ground, Will rise curled green twigs.
  - b) The most sensitive, hidden, for years inside the earth.
  - c) Out from the earth-cave, And the strength of the tree exposed

d) Both 'a' and 'b'

**3. What is the rhyme scheme of the given stanza?**

- a) Abbcddcdee
- b) Aabccdddee
- c) Aabbccdde
- d) Free verse

**4. Contrast between the 'bleeding bark' and 'green twigs' is-**

- a) It symbolises the growth of the tree.
- b) It symbolises destruction and life.
- c) It symbolises structure of the tree.
- d) It symbolises the importance of the tree.

**Q2] Read the given stanza and choose the option which is the most appropriate for the questions that follow:**

*No,  
The root is to be pulled out —  
Out of the anchoring earth;  
It is to be roped, tied,  
And pulled out — snapped out  
On Killing a Tree  
Or pulled out entirely,  
Out from the earth-cave,  
And the strength of the tree exposed  
The source, white and wet,  
The most sensitive, hidden  
For years inside the earth.*

**1. The strength of the tree is exposed' what does this line convey?**

- a) The roots of the tree taken out of the earth
- b) The roots are withered
- c) The tree is withered
- d) All of the above

**2. How do the trees die?**

- a) When they don't get water
- b) When they don't get manure
- c) When their roots are uprooted
- d) When we cut it with knife or jab

**3. Sam is a woodcutter. He blows his axe and cuts a branch from a Mango tree. Which words narrate the tree's condition exactly?**

- a) Broken twigs
- b) Uprooted tree
- c) Grown-up branches
- d) Bleeding bark

**4. ASSERTION: The poet describes the process of killing a tree through this poem.**

**REASON: The poet uses irony to convey the message of importance of trees to the readers.**

- a) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A
- b) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A
- c) Both A and R are incorrect.
- d) A is correct but R is incorrect
- e) A is incorrect but R is correct

**Q3] Answer the following questions in short:**

1. Why has the tree's hide being called as leprous by the poet?
2. What is the role of hacking and chopping in the killing of a tree?
3. Define 'anchoring earth' and 'earth cave' as used by the poet in the poem.
4. Which are the two important stages of killing a tree?

**Q4] Answer the following questions in detail:**

1. Describe the relationship that the tree has with the earth according to the poet.
2. What does the root of the tree looks like when it is pulled out? What happens when it is kept exposed for a long time?
3. Imagine yourself to be on the place of a tree. Describe how you would feel when you are hacked, chopped and pulled out. Focus on the condition of the tree when it is inching towards the end.

### **POEM 9- THE SNAKE TRYING BY W.W.E ROSS**

**Q1] Read the given stanza and choose the option which is the most appropriate for the questions that follow:**

*The snake trying  
to escape the pursuing stick,  
with sudden curvings of thin  
long body. How beautiful  
and graceful are his shapes!  
He glides through the water away  
from the stroke. O let him go  
over the water  
into the reeds to hide*



***without hurt. Small and green  
he is harmless even to children.***

**1. The meaning of Reeds is:**

- a) Marsh plants with thin stems
- b) Marsh plants with thick stems
- c) Water or Marsh plants with thick roots
- d) Marsh plants with thin roots

**2. What is the theme of the poem 'The Snake Trying'?**

- a) The poem inspires the readers to cultivate a sympathetic and loving attitude towards all living beings.
- b) The poet inculcates in reader a sense of justice that it is unfair to hurt innocent snake without any provocation.
- c) The poem is a plea to all human beings to preserve the diversity of nature.
- d) All of the above.

**3. 'The snake is trying to escape the pursuing stick.**

**Identify the poetic device used by the poet.**

- a) Alliteration
- b) Metaphor
- c) Transferred epithet
- d) Simile

**4. What is the message conveyed by the poet of the poem 'The Snake Trying'?**

- a) All the creatures of nature have equal right to have peaceful life.
- b) All the creatures should be treated with kindness and compassion.
- c) To maintain an ecological balance, there should be a harmonious co-existence between human beings and animals.
- d) All of the above.

**Q3] Answer the following questions in short:**

- 1. What do you learn about the person attacking the snake?
- 2. What does the poet mean when he says 'O Let him go'?
- 3. What impression do you form of the poet in this poem?
- 4. Is the snake in the poem 'The Snake Trying' a victim or a threat?

**Q3] Answer the following questions in brief with reference to the given stanza:**

***Along the sand  
he lay until observed  
and chased away, and now***

***he vanishes in the ripples  
among the green slim reeds.***

- (a) Where was the snake before somebody saw it and chased it away?
- (b) Where does the snake disappear?
- (c) What impression do you form of the snake as an animal?
- (d) What impression do you form of the pursuer?

**Q4] Answer the following questions in detail:**

1. Why does the man want to kill the snake? How does the snake protect itself?
2. How does the attitude of the poet towards the snake absolutely differ to that of the man with the stick?
3. How is the poem 'The Snake Trying' an inspirational poem?
4. Snakes are not harmful for human beings and we should avoid killing them. Explain with reference to the poem.