

Poetry 2nd Year (Intermediate)

1. Goodbye Party For Miss Pushpa T S (Nissim Ezekiel)

2. Annotate ANY two of the following in about 100 words each [2×4=8Marks]

- a] We are meeting today; to wish her bon voyage.
- b] I don't mean only external sweetness, but internal sweetness.
- c] That is showing; Good spirit. I am always; appreciating the good spirit.
- d] Pushpa Miss is never saying no; Whatever I or anybody is asking; she is always saying yes

4. Answer any two of the following questions in about 100 words each.

[2×4=8Marks]

- a] Do you agree that the poem "Goodbye Party For Miss Pushpa T S" is a farewell address? Justify your response.
- b] How does the speaker describe Miss Pushpa in the poem?
- c] What is the central idea of the poem Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa T S?
- d] Does the poem bring out the sweetness of Miss Pushpa? Justify your answer.

Introduction – These lines are taken from the poem "Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa T.S" written by "Nissim Ezekiel"

About the Poet: Nissim Ezekiel was educated in Mumbai and London. He was one of the most famous Indo – Anglian poets. The Indian Contemporary Scenes, human relationships, love, and spiritual values are the themes of his poetry. He was a versatile poet with a great Sense of humor and wit.

Explanation: The speaker announces the purpose of the gathering as their friend is about to leave. They want to wish her a good journey. He addresses his colleagues as friends and Miss Pushpa as his sister. The speaker moves to remind the crowd of Miss Pushpa's "sweetness" and says that Pushpa is a sweet person, ever smiling. The poet exhibits the display of flattery and gets sidetracked. He explains that she is the daughter of a famous advocate. He says that she is popular with women as well as men.

He praises her for doing everything he asks of her. Her response is always "just now only and I will do it? The speaker believes this is indicative of good spirit"

Additionally, Miss Pushpa never says no, whatever he or anybody is asking. She is always saying yes. Finally, the speaker informs that it is time for others to speak, and then afterwards Miss Pushpa will do summing up.

Conclusion: Thus, the poem has all the qualities to be described as a farewell address. The inconsistencies in life and language are matters of humor in this poem. The speaker's language reminds us of Babu's English. The poem touches upon the use of English by Indians and the speaker's attitude to comment on post-colonial Indian fascination to go abroad.

OR

Introduction – These lines are taken from the poem "Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa T.S" written by "Nissim Ezekiel "

About the Poet: Nissim Ezekiel was educated in Mumbai and London. He was one of the most famous Indo – Anglian poets. He was a versatile poet with a great Sense of humor and wit.

Context: The Present Poem Goodbye Party for Miss Pushpa T.S is a farewell Speech for Miss Pushpa, who is leaving the country. The Speaker who is the organizer of the Party describes The virtues of Miss Pushpa...

Explanation: The speaker announces the purpose of the gathering as their friend is about to leave the country. He treats Miss Pushpa as his sister. He says that Miss Pushpa is a very sweet lady and she is very helpful. She is always cheerful and comes from a noble family. Her father was a reputed advocate. The speaker appreciates her concern for friends. He praises her nature. He invites other friends to speak about her.

Conclusion: Thus the poem has all the qualities to be described as a farewell address. Thus the speaker's language reminds us of Babu's English.

2. On The Grasshopper And Cricket (John Keats)

2. Annotate ANY Two of the following question in about 100 words each
[2×4=8Marks]

- a) The poetry of earth is never dead.
- b) He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed.
- c) On a lone winter evening when the frost
Has wrought a silence, from the stone there shrills
The Cricket's song, in warmth, increasing ever,
- d) And seems to one in drowsiness half lost;
The Grasshopper's among some grassy hills.

4. Answer ANY Two of the following question in about 100 words each
[2×4=8Marks]

- a) What is the theme of the poem " On The GrassHopper And The Cricket"?
- b) According to Kids, When does one hear a Cricket's song?
- c) When does a GrassHopper sings?
- d) Discuss the common feature between the Grasshopper and the Cricket?

Introduction: These lines are taken from the poem "On the Grasshopper and Cricket" written by "John Keats"

About the Poet: John Keats was an English Romantic Poet. He devoted his life to the Perfection of poetry. His odes Such as "Ode on a Grecian Urn", Ode to a Nightingale are among his most famous works.

Context- The Poem On the Grasshopper and Cricket was inspired by Nature's beauty, which is a popular theme of the Poetry of Romantic Poets. The first part talks about the grasshopper, while the second part is devoted to cricket.

Explanation – The poet expresses his feelings regarding Nature's Song and says that the poetry of earth never ceases. The Grasshopper and Cricket are used as symbols. Seasons may come and go, but Nature never fails to inspire us with its songs.

During the Summer heat, birds stop Singing, because of the hot and harsh sun and hide under the shade of the cooling trees, what gives us comfort and pleasure is the poetry or music of nature. The grasshopper's songs represent Nature's poetry.

Nature is brimming with elements that help living things flourish. Grasshopper sings endlessly, but when tired, rests under some pleasant weed to freshen itself so that it can provide relief to the entire nature. The grasshopper sings tirelessly, bringing relief to all those who have grown restless due to the hot sun. As result, even in the intense heat, natural elements such as the “cooling tree” and “pleasant tree” can be discovered.

During extreme winter the birds stop singing. There is a death-like silence in which nature seems to have got enveloped. Frost spreads its blanket over all elements of nature. Despite that, a shrill sound comes from under the stones, it's the Cricket who is singing. The 'warmth' of the cricket's song balances out the extreme cold during the winter month. People hear the song and to many, it seems as if the grasshopper was singing from the grass hills and has the same soothing effect that the grasshopper's song did during the Summers. They are recovered from their drowsy sleep to listen to the endless music of nature. The warmth of the cricket's song balances out the extreme cold during the winter months.

Conclusion: Thus, in the poem John Keats depicts the beauty of nature. The poetry of earth is never dead, which becomes the central image or the metaphor that would be invoked in the entire poem.

OR

Introduction: These lines are taken from the poem “On the Grasshopper and Cricket” written by “John Keats”

About the Poet: John Keats was an English Romantic Poet. He devoted his life to the Perfection of poetry.

Explanation: The poet expresses his feelings regarding Nature's song. When birds stop singing in extreme heat, the earth is filled with the songs of a grasshopper. Grasshopper sings endlessly, but when tired, rests under some pleasant weed. During winter there is a deathly silence. Frost Spreads its blanket over nature. Regardless, a shrill sound comes from beneath stones, and it is the cricket takes up the responsibility of singing the glory of nature in winter. The cricket's song restores warmth.

Conclusion: Thus these small creature prove to the world that the poetry of the earth never stops. Grasshopper and Cricket are used as symbols to say Nature is optimist.

3. Hiroshima Child by Nazim Hikmet

2. Annotate ANY Two of the following question in about 100 words each [2×4=8Marks]

- a) I knock and yet remain unseen
- b) I'm seven now as I was then When children die they do not grow
- c) I ask for nothing for myself; For I am dead
- d) All that I need is that for peace You fight today you fight today

4. Answer ANY Two of the following question in about 100 words each [2×4=8Marks]

- a) What is the theme of the poem Hiroshima Child?
- b) Why does the poet appeal for peace through a dead child?
- c) Describe the feelings of the child when she knew that she was dead at the age of seven.
- d) 'I ask for nothing for myself.' Why do you think the child asked nothing for herself?

Introduction: These lines are taken from the Poem "Hiroshima Child", written by "Nazim Hikmet".

About the Poet: Nazim Hikmet was a Turkish poet, playwright, and novelist. His political beliefs made him spend much of his adult life in prison or exile. When he was seventeen, his first poem was published. His poetry has been translated into more than fifty languages. He is recognized as one of the greatest poets of the 20th Century.

Context: Hiroshima Child is about a Seven-year-old child who died in the Hiroshima bomb attack during World War II. She begs people to fight for peace.

Explanation: The speaker of this Poem is a seven-year-old Hiroshima girl. She died when an atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima during World War II. The Soul of the girl knocks on every door to warn them about the adverse effects of war.

Since then, the child has felt neither growth nor hunger. She realizes that she is no more in flesh but a soul and cannot be seen or heard. Nobody pays attention to her as she is invisible.

The child adds that the concern is for other live children, not for self. The Child Seeks neither food nor fruit. She requests people not to fight as she was the victim of war. She begs them to fight for peace. The child wants the world not only to sympathize but empathize with children who suffer in the name of the war, even though, they have nothing to do with the war or the holocaust. War brings devastation, tragedy, horror, destruction, and loss of life.

She makes an appeal, to let the children grow in peace. Children should be allowed to Play, laugh, grow, glow, and live.

Conclusion: The tone of the Poem is sad and expresses the true feelings of a small girl but there is also hope for peace. Finally, this poem is very touching.

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About the Poet: Nazim Hikmet was a Turkish poet, playwright, and novelist. His poetry has been translated into more than fifty languages.

Context: Hiroshima Child is about a Seven-year-old child who died in the Hiroshima bomb attack during World War II. She begs people to fight for peace.

Explanation: The speaker is seven year old girl who died in a Hiroshima bomb blast. The soul of the girl knocks on every door. No one hears or sees the child as she is dead since then, the child has felt neither growth nor hunger , nor any wants. The child continues to be in the same state. The child visits every home, seeks neither food nor things. But nobody pays attention to her as she is invisible, she appeals to everyone is “Fight For Peace”. Let every child play, grow, and laugh.

Conclusion: Finally this poem is very touching.

4. Awake (Sarojini Naidu)

2. Annotate ANY TWO of the following in about 100 words each. [2×4=8Marks]

- a) Who kneel in thy presence to serve and adore thee!
- b) Awaken and sever the woes that enthrall us.
- c) Ne'er shall we fail thee, forsake thee of flatter; Whose heart are thy home thy shield and thine altar.
- d) Hearken, O Queen and O goddess, we hail thee!

4. Answer any two of the following questions in about 100 words each. [2×4=8Marks]

- a) Substantiate the critical comment that the poem Awake is a patriotic lyric.
- b) What do the children implore the mother in the poem Awake?
- c) How do Indians plan to set their mother again at the forefront of glory?
- d) What do the children of all creeds promise their mothers separately and collectively?

Introduction: These lines are taken from the poem "Awake" written by Sarojini Naidu.

About the poet: Sarojini Naidu, the Nightingale of India. As a writer, she is both prolific and profound. The Golden Threshold (1905), The Bird of Time (1912), and The Sceptred Flute (1928), etc are some of her great works. She is a poet, politician, orator, and administrator, and so on. She is the first woman to be the Governor of a state in independent India.

Context: The Poem Awake, by Sarojini Naidu, is a patriotic song. It is a soul-stirring plea for action and unity. Sarojini Naidu recited this poem at meetings in Bombay and Lahore. And the effect was far beyond expectation.

Explanation: The poem awake appears as an address to Mother India. First, the nation is personified as our mother, All Indians become her children.

The poetess visualizes all children praying to the mother. They entreated her to give them a chance to serve her and Glory. She says under British rule our motherland lost her moral dignity. The darkness of the night of slavery will end and a bright and cheerful morning of freedom is imminent. The Waves of bondage are to be cut. Mother India should gain its glory again and grow and glow. Now she must rise up and break the change of slavery which trouble her children. The poetess says that her children are sincere and love her very much. They have a great devotion to the motherland. They have inherited her Pride, and moral and spiritual strength. They want to preserve these qualities. they will never fail to protect her. Their hearts are the home of the mother. They are her shield with which they would protect her. They will sing the tale of her glory, the echo of which will reach even to the stars in the high skies. The

people of different religions and communities in India are prepared to serve their motherland with their intense love, devotion and sincerity. The Hindus convince her that they will offer flowers at her feet of God and Goddesses. They will offer flowers to Mother India. the Parsees, with the fire of hope burning in their hearts. The Muslims assure they will save her with the sword of God. The Christians assure their devotion and Faith. People of all faiths pledge to come together to defend and guard their mother, queen and goddess.

Conclusion : The poem stands out for its strong nationalistic feelings. This lyric of just eighteen lines is also remarkable for its many literary devices like personification, imagery, rhetoric and rhythm. Thus, the poem is very impressive with its theme and form.

OR

Introduction: These lines are taken from the poem Awake written by Sarojini Naidu.

About the poet: Sarojini Naidu, the Nightingale of India. She is a poet, politician, orator, and administrator, and so on. She is the first woman to be the Governor of a state in independent India.

Context: The Poem Awake, by Sarojini Naidu, is a patriotic song. It is a request for action and unity. Sarojini Naidu recited this poem at meetings in Bombay and Lahore. And the effect was far beyond expectation.

Explanation: The poem Awake appears as a address to Mother India, all Indian become her children. The poet visualizes all children praying to her mother. But. It is a touching call to all Indians for unity and action. The woes of bondage are to be cut. Mother India should gain its glory again and grow and glow. One should remember the pride and power India all in once. People of all faiths Hindus, Parsees, Muslims, Christians pledge to come together to defend and guard their mother, queen and goddess.

Conclusion: Thus, the poem stands out for its strong nationalistic feelings.

5. Fear (Khalil-Gibran)

2. Annotate ANY TWO of the following in about 100 words each. [2×4=8Marks]

- a) It is said that before entering the sea a river trembles with fear.
- b) And in front of her, she sees an ocean so vast, that to enter there seems nothing more than to disappear forever.
- c) The river cannot go back. Nobody can go back. To go back is impossible in existence.
- d) it's not about disappearing into the ocean, but of becoming the ocean.

4. Answer any two of the following questions in about 100 words each. [2×4=8Marks]

- a) What is the central idea of the poem Fear?
- b) What does 'nobody can go back' mean in the poem Fear? Explain from your point of view.
- c) How can one overcome fear? Explain.
- d) What does the line "The river needs to take the risk of entering the ocean" mean? Discuss.

Introduction: These lines are taken from the Poem 'Fear' written by Khali Gibran.

About the Poet: Khalil Gibran is a Lebanese – American writer. He became famous for his book "The Prophet", which is a collection of Philosophical essays. He wrote both in Arabic and English.

Context: The poem 'Fear', expresses a philosophical understanding of overcoming fear. The speaker thinks of the image of a river flowing into the sea.

Explanation: The poem 'Fear' gives us a glimpse of how a river feels. When it travels through mountains and plains to merge with an ocean. He talks about her fear directly. The speaker discusses the fear that human beings encounter too. The river may have traveled difficult paths before entering the ocean, yet it trembles with fear at the sight of the vastness of the ocean.

And in front of her, she sees an ocean so vast, that to enter there seems nothing

more than to disappear forever. The fear takes hold of its thoughts. It seems that nothing can come out of it other than her losing itself. Still, that is the only option left for it. The river cannot go back. Nobody go back. To go back is impossible in existence. Thus, it has to strive forward as it is time to face its greatest fear. Its not about disappearing into the ocean, but of becoming the ocean. You call it risk but that is truth.

The speaker discusses the fear that human beings encounter too. Even for a man there is always the fear of the unknown and being lost in it. The speaker suggests that people need to accept the fact that there is no other option but to move forward and meet the world. One can conquer fear only by taking risks and striving ahead without looking back at the past. The speaker says the end of the journey is an act of merging with the supreme soul of where we all originate.

Conclusion: Thus, the poem touches on a variety of themes. The fear of anxiety of losing oneself, and the Journey of life, till death are among the poem's major themes and to overcome fear.

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About the Poet: Khalil Gibran is a Lebanese – American writer. He wrote both in Arabic and English.

Context: The poem 'Fear', expresses an understanding of overcoming fear. The speaker thinks of the image of a river flowing into the sea.

Explanation: The poet talks about how a river feels when it travels through mountains and plains to merge with an ocean. He talks about her fear directly. He compares human beings to river. Even for a man their is always fear of the unknown and being lost in it. Their is a desire to revisit the past and to go back that is impossible in existence. The poet suggests that people need to accept the fact, that their is no other options but to move forward and meet the world. As a result, people must take risk and believe in themselves.

Conclusion: The message of the poem is overcoming fear.