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ENGLISH – X Std
UNITWISE POEM APPRECIATION Q&A

| PART | SECTION | MARKS ALLOTTED FOR EACH QUESTION | TOTAL NO OF QUESTIONS ASKED | NO OF TO BE ANSWERED | QUESTION NO ALLOTTED | TOTAL MARKS |
|------|---------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| II | II | 2M | 4Q | 3Q | 19-22 | 6M |

Part II
Section II

Read the following sets of poetic lines and answer any THREE of the following
3X2=6

1.LIFE

1. *Let me but live my life from year to year,
With forward face and unreluctant soul;*

a) Whom does the word 'me' refer to?

The word 'me' refers to the poet, Henry Van Dyke

b) What kind of life does the poet want to lead?

The poet wants to lead a joyful life.

2. *Not hurrying to, nor turning from the goal;
Not mourning for the things that disappear*

a) Why do you think the poet is not in a hurry?

I think he wants to live a life by enjoying every moment. So he is not in a hurry.

b) What should one not mourn for?

One should not mourn for the things that lost in the past.

3. *In the dim past, nor holding back in fear
From what the future veils; but with a whole
And happy heart, that pays its toll
To Youth and Age, and travels on with cheer.*

a) What does the poet mean by the phrase 'in the dim past'?

The phrase 'in the dim past' means unhappy or unpleasant past experiences.

b) Is the poet afraid of future?

No, the poet is not afraid of future.

c) How can one travel on with cheer?

One can travel on with cheer by retaining the pleasures of childhood.

4. *So let the way wind up the hill or down,
O'er rough or smooth, the journey will be joy:
Still seeking what I sought when but a boy,
New friendship, high adventure, and a crown,*

a) How is the way of life?

The way of life sometimes goes up or goes down.

b) How should be the journey of life?

The journey of life should be joyful.

c) What did the poet seek as a boy?

As a boy, the poet sought new friendship, high adventure, and a crown.

5. *My heart will keep the courage of the quest,
And hope the road's last turn will be the best.*

a) What kind of quest does the poet seek here?

The poet seeks 'Courageous' quest.

b) What is the poet's hope?

The poet hopes that last turn in his life's journey will be the best.

2.The Grumble Family

1. *There's a family nobody likes to meet;
They live, it is said, on Complaining Street*

a) Where does the family live?

The family lives in Complaining Street.

b) Why do you think the street is named as 'Complaining Street'?

I think the street people would be complaining about anything and everything.

2. *They growl at that and they growl at this;
Whatever comes, there is something amiss;*

a) What does the word 'growl' mean here?

The word 'growl' means , make a low guttural sound.

b) Why do they find everything amiss?

They find everything amiss , because they are dissatisfied with everything.

3. *Nothing goes right with the folks you meet
Down on that gloomy Complaining Street.*

a) What is the opinion about the folks you meet down the street?

The folks you meet down the street that 'nothing goes right'.

b) What does the word 'gloomy' mean here?

The word 'gloomy' means depressing or frightening.

4. *The worst thing is that if anyone stays
Among them too long, he will learn their ways;*

a) What is the worst thing that can happen if anyone stays with them?

If anyone stays with them they will learn their ways of grumbling.

b) What are the ways of the Grumble family?

The ways of the Grumble family are that they are never satisfied with anything and they are always complaining and finding fault in everything.

5. *And so it were wisest to keep our feet
From wandering into Complaining Street;*

a) What is the wisest thing that the poet suggests?

The wisest thing that the poet suggest is to keep our feet away from going into the complaining street.

b) What does the phrase 'to keep our feet from wandering' refer to?

The phrase 'to keep our feet from wandering' refers to avoid stepping into the complaining street.

6. *Let us learn to walk with a smile and a song,
No matter if things do sometimes go wrong;*

a) What does the poet expect everyone to learn?

The poet expects everyone to learn walk with a smile and a song.

b) What should we do when things go wrong sometimes?

We should not bother ourselves , when things go wrong sometimes.

3.I am Every Woman

1. *The summer of life she's ready to see in spring.*

She says, "Spring will come again, my dear Let me care for the ones who're near."

a) What does the word summer mean here?

The word summer means here adversity or difficulties.

b) How does she take life ?

She takes her life with optimistic approach.

c) What does she mean by "spring will come again"?

She means that 'good days will come again!'

2. *Strong is she in her faith and belief.*

"Persistence is the key to everything," says she.

a) What is she strong about?

She is strong in her faith and belief.

b) How does she deal with the adversities in life?

She deals the adversities in life with Persistence.

3. *Despite the sighs and groans and moans,*

She's strong in her faith, firm in her belief!

a) Is she complaining about the problems of life?

No, she is not complaining about the problems of life.

b) Pick out the words that show her grit.

The words that show her grit are 'Strong' and 'firm'.

4. *Don't ever try to saw her pride, her self-respect.*

She knows how to thaw you, saw you – so beware!

a) What do the words thaw and saw mean here?

The words thaw and saw mean , tackle and deal with cruelty.

b) What is the tone of the author?

The tone of the author is threatening.

5. *She's today's woman. Today's woman dear.*

Love her, respect her, keep her near...

a) Is the poet talking about the women of the previous generation

No, the poet is talking about the today's woman.

b) How should a woman be treated?

A woman should be treated with love and respect.

4.The Ant and the Cricket

1. *A silly young cricket accustomed to sing*

Through the warm, sunny months of gay summer and spring.

a) What was the routine of the cricket?

The routine of the cricket was to sing and dance all through the warm sunny months..

b) Name the seasons mentioned here.

The seasons mentioned here are Summer and Spring

2. *Began to complain when he found that, at home,*

His cupboard was empty, and winter was come.

a) Who does he refer to?

He refers to the Cricket.

b) Why was his cupboard empty?

His cupboard was empty , because he did not save any food or grain.

3. *Not a crumb to be found*

On the snow-covered ground;

a) What couldn't he find on the ground?

He couldn't find even a single piece of bread on the ground.

b) Why was the ground covered with snow?

The ground was covered with snow , because it was 'winter'season .

4. *At last by starvation and famine made bold,*

All dripping with wet, and all trembling with cold,

a) What made the cricket bold?

Starvation and famine made the cricket bold.

b) Why did the cricket drip and tremble?

The cricket dripped and trembled, as it was wet and cold.

5. *Away he set off to a miserly ant,*

To keep if, to keep him alive, he would grant

Him shelter from rain,

And a mouthful of grain.

a) Whom did the cricket want to meet? Why?

The cricket wanted to meet the miserly ant for food or grain and shelter.

b) What would keep him alive?

A mouthful of grain and shelter from rain would keep him alive.

6. *But we ants never borrow;*

we ants never lend.

a) Why do you think ants neither borrow nor lend?

Ants neither borrow nor lend, because they work hard and plan for their future.

b) Who says these lines to whom?

The Ant says these lines to the Cricket.

7. *“ Not !!*

My heart was so light
That I sang day and night,
For all nature looked gay.”

a) Who does ‘I’ refer to?

‘I’ refers to the Cricket.

b) What was the nature of the cricket? How do you know?

The cricket was lazy and silly . We know this ,since it had not saved anything for its future.

8. *Thus ending, he hastily lifted the wicket,
And out of the door turned the poor little cricket,*

a) The ant refused to help the cricket. Why?

The ant refused to help the cricket, because he did not like the lazy attitude of the Cricket.

b) Explain the second line.

The ant opened its door and sent away the poor little cricket without giving him anything.

5. THE SECRET OF THE MACHINES

1. *We were taken from the ore-bed and the mine,
We were melted in the furnace and the pit*

a) Who does ‘we’ refer to in first stanza?

‘We’ refers to the Machines.

b) Who are the speakers and listeners of this poem ?

Machines are the speakers and human beings are the listeners.

c) What metals are obtained from ores and mines?

Iron,Gold,Zinc,Copper,Lead, and Silver.

2. *We were cast and wrought and hammered to design,
We were cut and filed and tooled and gauged to fit.*

a) How are they made to fit?

They are made to fit by cutting ,filing,tooling and gauging

b) Mention a few machines which are hammered to design.

The lever ,the inclined plane ,the wedge, the axle and clad the pulley.

3. *Some water, coal, and oil is all we ask,
And a thousandth of an inch to give us play:*

a) Who does we refer to ?

We refers to machines

b) What do they ask for?

They ask for some water ,coal and oil.

c) Mention the names of a few machines that run on water, coal or oil.

Steam Engine ,Generator, Washing Machine , and Container Ships.

d) Which of the following do the machines want to prove the second line?

a. Once Machines are fed with fuel, they take a very long time to start.

b. Once Machines are fed with fuel, they start quickly.

4. We can pull and haul and push and lift and drive,
We can print and plough and weave and heat and light

a) Who does 'we' refer to ?

'We' refers to the Machines .

b) Mention a few machines used for pulling, pushing, lifting, driving, printing, ploughing, reading, and writing etc.

Farm Tractor , Crane , Fork Lift , Trucks , printer and Bulldozer.

4. *And now, if you will set us to our task,*

We will serve you four and twenty hours a day!

a) Who does the pronoun 'you' refer to here?

The pronoun 'You' refers to the human beings.

b) Whose task is referred to as 'our task' here?

Task of the Machines is referred here.

c) Do the machines serve us twenty four hours a day?

Yes , the machines serve us twenty four hours a day.

d) Who will serve us for a whole day?

Machines will serve us for a whole day.

e) Can the machine do any task without human being?

No. The machine cannot do any task without human being.

6.No Men Are Foreign

1. *Beneath all uniforms, a single body breathes Like ours:*

the land our brothers walk upon

Is earth like this, in which we all shall lie.

a) What is found beneath all uniforms?

The same human body that breathes is found beneath all uniforms .

b) What is same for every one of us?

The earth we walk upon is the same for all of us.

c) Where are we all going to lie finally?

We are all going to lie finally beneath the earth.

2. *They, too, aware of sun and air and water,*

Are fed by peaceful harvests, by war's long winter starv'd.

a) What is common for all of us?

The Sun , air and water is common for all of us.

b) How are we fed?

We are fed by peaceful harvests.

c) Mention the season referred here?

Winter is the season referred here.

3. *Their hands are ours, and in their lines we read*

A labour not different from our own.

a) Who does 'their' refer to?

'Their' refers to all the people from other countries.

b) What does the poet mean by 'lines we read'?

'Lines we read' means that show hard work done by the hands.

c) What does not differ?

Labour does not differ. Hardwork is the same for all human beings.

4. *Let us remember, whenever we are told*

To hate our brothers, it is ourselves

That we shall dispossess, betray, condemn.

a) Who tells us to hate our brothers?

War tells us to hate our brothers.

b) What happens when we hate our brothers?

When we hate our brothers, we hate ourselves.

c) What do we do to ourselves?

We dispossess, betray, and condemn ourselves, when we hate ourselves.

5. *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.

a) What outrages the innocence?

The fire and dust, caused during a war outrage the innocence.

b) Who are not foreign?

The people who belong to earth are not foreign.

c) What is not strange?

Other countries on earth are not strange.

7.The House on Elm Street

1. *It sat alone.*

What happened there is still today unknown.

It is a very mysterious place,

And inside you can tell it has a ton of space,

But at the same time it is bare to the bone.

a) What does 'It' refer to?

'It' refers to the house.

b. Pick out the line that indicates the size of the house?

'And inside you can tell it has a ton of space'. This line that indicates the size of the house

2. *I drive past the house almost every day.*

The house seems to be a bit brighter.

On this warm summer day in May.

It plays with your mind.

a) To whom does 'I' refer to?

'I' refers to the poet Nadia Bush.

b) Pick out the alliterated words in the 2nd line.

The house seems to **be** a **bit** **b**righter.

3. *It never grows leaves,*

Not in the winter, spring, summer or fall.

It just sits there never getting small or ever growing tall

a) What does 'it' refer to?

'It' refers to the tree.

b) In what way the tree is a mystery?

Usually a tree has leaves. But this tree is without leaves in all the season .Further it doesn't grow .

4. *Rumors are constantly being made,*

And each day the house just begins to fade.

What happened inside that house?

a) Does the house remain the same every day?

The house doesn't remain the same every day , it begins to fade each day.

b) How does the poet consider the house to be a mystery?

The poet considers the house to be a mystery , because nobody knows what happened inside that house.

5. *What happened inside that house?*

I really don't know

I guess it will always be a mystery

a) Does the poet know what happened in the house?

No , the poet doesn't know what happened in the house.

b) What is the mystery about the house?

No one knows and understands what is happening inside the house.This is the mystery about the house.

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