



LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. What challenges are posed by wind in the life of the poet and the common man?

In our lives, wind destructs our daily routine. It hampers and dampens the spirit of life around. According to the poet, rain and wind were deeds of nature that are perceived as the tempest forces which destroy the old and evil inside a man in order to create joy and liberty in his mind. Wind is that difficult natural phenomenon which is very difficult to be predicted accurately just as our problems which can arise from nowhere. It can hit us at any time of our life. It mocks the very being of being alive. For frail people, literally and metaphorically, wind creates barriers. Winds do not let a frail body or a frail mind survive but on the other hand if you are strong, you have the power and the will to survive and fight back, wind can never be a threat to your living being.

2. How does the poet use wind as a symbol in relation to human beings?

Or

Human life is full of hardships. How does the poet reveal it?

Ans: In relation to human beings, the wind has been used by the poet as a symbol of hardships that life is dotted with. Men have to encounter terrible suffering, sorrows, difficulties, and failures. So powerful are these troubles that only very strong people are able to overcome them and move ahead. Weak, infirm and indecisive people surrender in front of hardships and accept defeat. But, strong people with patience, unwavering minds and firm will fight against the hardships and emerge even stronger. Human lives can never be devoid of struggle. One only needs physical and mental strength to overcome the unfavourable circumstances. The winds of troubles cannot harm those who have the power to stand firm. Strong people can turn their difficulties into opportunities and learn lessons from them. They know how to turn tides in their favour.

Q.3. Man cannot overpower the fury of nature like storms or floods. Discuss the destruction caused by a natural element wind in this context. How can we face the fury of nature?

It is a well-known fact that nature knows how to maintain its balance even though the human race continues to believe it can overpower and destroy it. Through this poem wind the poet has given stances of how wind can be destructive. It can cause many destructive events like breaking the shutters of windows, scattering papers and throwing books down from the shelves. It even crushes weak bodies and breaks weakly constructed houses. We can prevent these destructive events from happening by being firm, positive and a friend of nature. If we maintain ecological balance, we can be friends with nature and there can be a harmony between human lives and

natural elements. More over the poet suggests human beings to be strong physically and mentally in order to be friends with nature.

Q.4. Subramania Bharati's poem 'Wind' gives out a strong message that elements can't harm the strong. So, we must be strong. Explain the statement.

'Wind' contains an important message. In it the poet tells the wind to come softly. It scatters the things here and there. Books are thrown down. Pages are torn. It makes fun of the weak things. But it can't harm the strong homes and strong doors. Strong things and strong hearts can't be harmed by it. If we make things strong, the wind can do no harm to us. It will be friendly. On the other hand, the wind makes strong fires roar and flourish. Friendship with the wind will be good. It means that people must be strong in every walk of life. In that case, nothing can harm them. The strongest will be friendly with them.

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. Describe the central idea of the poem.

Ans. The poem "Wind" inspires us to face the challenges thrown at us with grit and firm determination. We should be strong enough to face all the hardships of life with courage. Wind symbolizes problems and obstacles that we all face and go through at some point time in our lives.

2. How does the wind poke fun at weaklings?

Ans. Weaklings pray to the wind to come softly. They pray to the wind god not to break the shutters of their windows. But the wind god does not listen to their prayers. Rather he pokes fun at them. He blows down their houses. He breaks their doors. He breaks their bodies, their lives and even their hearts. He crushes them badly.

3. Why does the poet plead with the wind to blow softly?

Ans: When the wind blows softly, it is harmless and enjoyable but when it blows fiercely, it wreaks havoc. Therefore, the poet wants the wind to be gentle and soft.

4. Explain the line: You brought rain again".

Or

How does the wind bring rain?

Ans: The line highlights the fact that the wind brings rain. He blows the vapour-laden clouds around and causes them to make rain. Sometimes the rain brought about by the wind also causes damage.

5. What does the poet think of the wind god's attitude to the requests of people?

Ans: The poet believes that the wind god is indifferent to the requests of people. Even though people request him to blow gently, he does not pay any heed to their pleas. He is defiant and does not care about the wishes of people. It means that the intensity of the wind is beyond human control.

6. What is the impact of the wind on weak fires and strong fires?

Ans: Weak fires are powerless and helpless against the force of winds and are easily extinguished. But the strong fires when fanned by the wind, rage more furiously and burn with a thundering roar.

7. Why does the poet remark that the friendship of wind is good?

Ans: The poet remarks that the friendship of wind is good because the wind has both kind and wicked aspects. If we are weak, its destructive force causes havoc. But if we are strong, we may harness its power and use it for constructive purposes. As a friend, the wind works for the benefit of mankind.

8. What kind of destruction can be caused by violent wind?

Ans: The wind, through its violent force, can play havoc in the world. It causes huge damage to life and property. Buildings collapse, window shutters are broken, papers are scattered and books are thrown down. The wind causes clouds to make heavy showers which create many problems for the poor and weak people. When the violent wind blows, the fragile, unsteady houses crumble down, doors come off their hinges, rafters fall down, and the wooden panels collapse. The small flames of fires are also extinguished by the wind. The god of wind suppresses and destroys weak people and structures. Proud of his power, he causes large-scale destruction.

Read the extracts 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.*

(a) How does a violent wind disturb and damage things?

Ans: A violent wind breaks the window shutters and scatters the papers. It also throws down the books on the shelf.

(b) What request does the poet make to the wind?

Ans: The poet requests the wind to blow gently and not to cause any damage or destruction.

(c) Which poetic device has been used in these lines?

Ans: The poetic device used in these lines is 'anaphora' as the imperative 'Don't' is repeated in three consecutive lines.

(d) What effect does this device create?

Ans: The imperative repetition of the word 'Don't' at the beginning of three consecutive lines expresses the poet's strong urge to the wind to be gentle and kind. It also creates a unique rhythm in the poem.

(II)

*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.*

(a) Whom does the poet address as 'you'?

Ans: The poet addresses the wind that has been blowing fiercely as 'you'.

(b) What does 'them' refer to?

Ans: 'Them' refers to the books on the shelf.

(c) How have the pages of the books been torn?

Ans: The wind has blown so fiercely that the books placed on the shelf have fallen down and their pages have been torn when they fluttered because of the wind.

(d) How does the wind bring rain?

Ans: Wind accumulates and shakes up vapour-laden clouds to cause rain.

(e) How does the wind deal with the weaklings?

Ans: The wind harms and terrifies the weaklings with its fierce power and thus mocks their weakness.

(III)

*Frail crumbling houses, crumbling doors, crumbling rafters,
crumbling wood, crumbling bodies, crumbling lives,
crumbling hearts-
the wind god winnows and crushes them all.*

(a) Why are the houses, doors, rafters etc. crumbling?

Ans: The houses, doors, rafters etc. are crumbling because they are weak and cannot stand the onslaught of the destructive wind.

(b) Explain the expression: "crumbling lives, crumbling hearts".

Ans: Many lives are lost when wind wreaks havoc. The lives of the survivors are shattered too because their loved ones are dead and their homes and property are destroyed. They are left with no hope in life.

(c) Why has the wind been called 'god'?

Ans: Wind has been called 'god' because, like 'god', he uses his power to remove and crush the undesirable, weak things.

(d) What does the wind god do?

Ans: The wind god, using its force winnows and crushes everything and everybody that comes in its contact.

(e) Which poetic device has been used in the first three lines?

Ans: The poetic device used in these lines is anaphora i.e. the repetition of certain words. The word 'crumbling' has been repeatedly used to emphasise the destruction caused by the wind.

(IV)

*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.*

(a) Who is 'he' in the first line?

Ans: 'He' in the first line refers to the wind god.

(b) According to the poet, what preparations should be made to face the fury of the wind?

Ans: According to the poet, we should build strong homes and close the doors firmly to face the fury of the wind as he attacks and destroys the weaklings only.

(c) What is his attitude towards people?

Ans: He does not pay any heed to the requests and wishes of people and keeps blowing violently and causing destruction.

(d) Why should the houses and doors be made strong?

Ans: The houses and doors should be made strong to withstand the onslaught of the violent wind.

(e) What is the poet's advice to people?

Ans: The poet advises people to strengthen their bodies as well as hearts to face the hardships that come their way. They should equip themselves with physical & mental strength, grit and determination so that they can remain unruffled and unharmed in difficult times.

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Choose the correct answer:

1. What does the wind do?

- (A) It throws down all the books on the shelf
- (B) It tears the pages of the books.
- (C) It brings the rain again.
- (D) All the above.**

2. 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.**

3. The wind god winnows—

- (A) Anything that is big and strong.
- (B) Anything that is weak and crumbling.**
- (C) Anything that is in this world.
- (D) Anything that is not natural.

4. We can make friends with the wind god if we are—

- (A) true.
- (B) honest.
- (C) strong.**
- (D) respectful.

5. What is the central idea of this poem?

- (A) We should make friends with the wind god.
- (B) If we are strong, even gods will be on our side.**
- (C) God helps the weak and the needy.
- (D) We should love all creatures of God.

Don't break the shutters of the windows

Don't scatter the papers.

Don't throw down the books on the shelf.

6. In the above lines the poetic device used is

- A. **Anaphora**
- B. Personification
- C. Metaphor
- D. Simile

7. Strong fires roar and flourish

In the above lines the figure of speech used is

- A. Anaphora
- B. Personification
- C. Metaphor
- D. **Alliteration**

8. ‘crumbling wood, crumbling bodies, crumbling lives’

In the above lines the figure of speech used is

- A. Anaphora
- B. Personification
- C. **Repetition**
- D. Alliteration

9. The poem ‘Wind’ contain _____ quatrains.

- A. one
- B. five
- C. **four**
- D. six