



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

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| Class: VII | Department: ENGLISH | Date of Submission: JUNE, 2021 |
| Answer Key | Topic: On the Grasshopper and the Cricket (Poem) | Note: To be written in English Prose notebook. |

Textual Exercise:



I. Answer the following questions.

1. Whose voice do you hear on summer afternoons? Where does he go when he is tired?

Ans: We hear the Grasshopper's voice on summer afternoons. The Grasshopper goes to rest under some pleasant weed when he is tired.

2. Which insect takes over from the Grasshopper in winter?

Ans: The Cricket takes over the Grasshopper in winter.

3. Explain what the speaker means when he says, 'The poetry of earth is ceasing never'.

Ans: By the line that, 'The poetry of earth is ceasing never', the poet means that, the song of nature is never silent. When one of the insects gets tired and retires, the other is always there to take his place – the Grasshopper and the Cricket in this poem, respectively.

4. Why does the Cricket's song sound like the Grasshopper's?

Ans: The Cricket's song sounds like the Grasshopper's because one can hardly tell the difference when he is drowsy during winter.

II. Explain these lines with reference to the context.

- a. When all the birds are faint with the hot sun,
And hide in cooling trees, a voice will run.

Ans: The above lines mean that when all the birds are tired during the summer, faint due to the scorching heat and hide in the cooling trees. Then the voice of the Grasshopper can be heard
from the meadows.

- b. On a lone winter evening, when the frost
Has wrought a silence, from the stove there shrills
The Cricket's song, in warmth increasing ever.

Ans: The above lines mean that, during a chilly winter night when there is silence all over, one can hear the Cricket's chirping which gives a feeling of warmth in the air.

Now you can do the activity match the following.



III. Additional Questions:

1. What happens to birds during summer?

Ans: The birds become faint and quiet under the hot sun.

2. Where do the birds hide to avoid the heat of the sun?

Ans: The birds hide themselves under the shade of the trees in order to protect themselves from the heat of the sun.

3. Which words or phrases suggest a sense of relief from the heat of summer in stanza 1?

Ans: 'Cooling trees' and 'pleasant weeds' offer a sense of relief from the heat of summer in stanza 1.

4. Who are half lost in drowsiness and why?

Ans: During winter, people get half lost in drowsiness because of the weather that spreads a chilling numbness.

5. Who does the cricket's song resemble to people lost in drowsiness?

Ans: The grasshopper

6. What happens during winter?

Ans: During winter, hardly anyone steps out and there is silence everywhere.

7. Why does the cricket's song spread warmth?

Ans: The cricket's song pours a soothing balm, when everything around is encompassed with death like silence.

8. Discuss the common features between the grasshopper and the cricket?

Ans: Both the grasshopper and the cricket are the representative voices of nature's music or poetry. The grasshopper's song balances the extreme heat during the summer by providing music that is comforting and pleasing. The cricket does the same during winter.



IV. Read the extracts given below and the answer the following questions:

Q1:

The poetry of earth is never dead:

When all the birds are faint with the hot sun,

and hide in cooling trees, a voice will run

From hedge to hedge about the new-mown mead,

1. Whose voice would run from hedge to hedge?

- (a) The grasshopper
- (b) The cricket
- (c) The poet
- (d) The nature

Ans. (a) The grasshopper

2. Name the poet.

- (a) William Blake
- (b) John Keats
- (c) P B Shelley
- (d) Edward Lear

Ans. John Keats

3. The grasshopper's song is representative of which season?

- (a) spring
- (b) summer
- (c) autumn
- (d) winter

Ans: summer



Q2:

*On a lone winter evening when the frost
Has wrought a silence, from the stove there shrills
The cricket's song, in warmth increasing ever,
And seems to one in drowsiness half lost;
The Grasshopper's among some grassy hills.*

1. Whose voice is heard from the stoves?

- (a) The grasshopper
- (b) The cricket
- (c) The poet
- (d) The nature

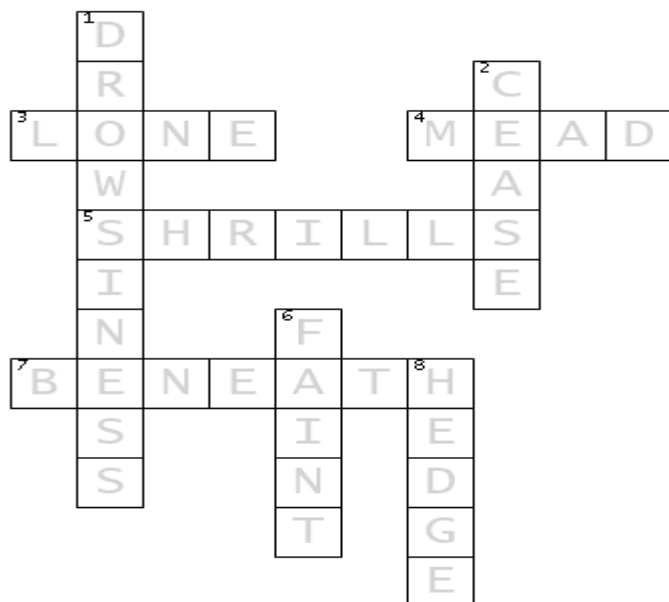
Ans. (b) The cricket

2. Which element of nature has been personified in these lines?

- (a) Winter
- (b) Frost
- (c) Silence
- (d) wrought

Ans. (b) Frost

V. Criss Cross Puzzle



Use the clues to fill in the words above.

Words can go across or down.

Letters are shared when the words intersect.

ACROSS

- 3. having no companions
- 4. meadow
- 5. sharp and high-pitched tone
- 7. underneath

DOWN

1. sleepiness
2. stop
6. feeling weak
8. Fence

VI. Criss Cross Puzzle

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| sonnet | 14 lines |
| octave | 8 lines |
| sestet | 6 lines |
| quatrain | 4 lines |
| couplet | 2 lines |

