

Tx English Literature

Poem - Rain on The Roof

Q.1. What do the following phrases mean to you?

i) Humid shadows

Ans. Shadowy clouds laden with droplets of rainwater.

ii) Starry spheres

Ans. Stars in the sky.

iii) What a bliss.

Ans. Utmost joy experienced by the poet.

iv) A thousand dreamy fancies into busy being start.

Ans. This refers to the various imaginary thoughts and fantasies that are used in the poet's mind.

v) A thousand recollections weave their air threads into woof

Ans. This means that numerous memories intermingle to form a beautiful picture the poet recollects.

Q. 2. What does the poet like to do when it rains?

Ans. When it rains, the poet feels delighted to lie with his head pressed against the pillow of his bed in a room of a rural cottage and listen to the patter of the soft rain on the tiles of the cottage roof.

Q. 3. What is the single major memory that comes to the poet? Who are the darling dreamers he refers to?

Ans. The single major memory that comes to the poet is that of his mother and her fond look. The "darling

dreamers" are the poet and his siblings in their childhood when they were put to sleep by their mother and later on mother used to look at them while they were asleep.

Q.4. Is the poet now a child? Is his mother still alive?

Ans. No, the poet is not a child now. He is a grown up man. He remembers his mother when he is inside his cosy cottage and enjoying the pattern of rain on the roof.

His mother is probably not alive, as he says in lines 17 - 18 that she comes in his memories just like she used to tuck him in his bed to sleep.

Q.5. When you were a young child, did your mother tuck you in,

as the poet's did?

Ans. Yes, my mother used to tuck me in when I was a young child, just like the poet's mother did.

Q.6. Do you like rain? What do you do when it rains steadily or heavily as described in the poem?

Ans. Yes I like rain. When it rains steadily I get into my house and enjoy the weather with my family. It is a wonderful experience. I also enjoy eating some tasty snacks and sometimes would love to drench myself into rain.

Q.7. Does everybody have a cosy bed to lie in when it rains. How do different kinds of people or animals spend time, seek shelter etc. during rain?

Ans.

No, everybody is not fortunate enough to have a cosy bed to lie when it rains. Not everybody gets to enjoy the comfort of cosy homes during rain. I have seen animals seeking shelter under trees and under the tin roofs of small roadside stalls. The people passing by chase away these animals and try to shrink themselves under the limited space of these shops.

Q. 8.

Extract Based Questions.

Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow.

(1)

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!

Q. i) Why does the poet call melancholy darkness weeping?

Ans. The poet calls melancholy darkness weeping because it is raining and it is darkness all around.

Q. ii) What is a great bliss according to poet?

Ans. It is a great bliss, according to the poet, to lie in bed and listen to the sound of raindrops falling on the roof of the cottage.

Q. iii) What does humid shadows mean here?

Ans. Humid shadows means dark rainy clouds.

Q. iv) How does the poet describe the falling of rain?

Ans. The rain falls like melancholy darkness, gently shedding tears in the form of rain.

(2)

What a bliss to press the pillow of a cottage chamber bed. And lie listening to the patter of the soft rain overhead.

Q. i) Why was it bliss to press the pillow?

Ans. It was a bliss to press the

pillow because the raindrops could be heard, which was a blessing after the humid shadows.

Q. ii) Why was the rain soft to listen?

Ans. The raindrops which fell on the roof top sounded like a soft melody to the ears.

Q. iii) Find the word from the extract which means being in heaven.

Ans. The word is bliss.

Q. iv) Where is the poet lying in the above extract?

Ans. The poet was lying in his bed in a room of the cottage.

(3)

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 pattering
Of the rain upon the roof.

Q. i) What appears when the rain falls on the shingles?

Ans. There appears a tinkling sound which creates an echo in the heart.

Q. ii) Why does the mind become busy?

Ans. The mind becomes busy in dreaming a thousand fancies due to the tinkling sound.

Q. iii) Why does the poet's heart echo?

Ans. The poet's heart echoes because of the tinkling sound of raindrops.

on the roof.

Q. (iv) What are the dreamy fancies of the poet in the above lines?

Ans. The dreamy fancies of the poet are his mother's cuddling, her love and affection and fond look.