

Admission

Summary Writing (Poem)

Textual & Nontextual

Write a summary of the following poem.

Love and Friendship by William Shakespeare

Blow, blow, thou winter wind,
Thou art not so unkind
As man's ingratitude;
Thy tooth is not so keen,
Because thou art not seen,
Although thy breath be rude.
Heigh-ho! sing heigh-ho! unto the green holly:
Most friendship is feigning, most loving mere
folly :
Then heigh-ho, the holly!
This life is most jolly.....

Answer

It is a song taken from William Shakespeare's play As You Like It. Here the poet thinks that human friendship is feigning and hypocritical. It has no depth or significance. So, he glorifies winter wind and invites it to blow. He thinks that winter wind is not as unkind as man's ingratitude. That's why, he prefers winter wind, which has no sensation to human beings.

Write a summary of the following poem.

'Dreams' by D.H. Lawrence

All people dream, but not equally.
Those who dream by night in the dusty recesses
of their mind,
Wake in the morning to find that it was vanity.
But the dreamers of the day are dangerous
people,
For they dream their dreams with open eyes,
And make them come true.

Answer

The poem "Dreams" written by D.H. Lawrence is a short poem about the types of dreams. Here he expresses his valuable thought what he thinks about different kinds of dreams. To the poet everyone's dreams are not the same. People who dream at night while sleeping forget everything in the next morning. This kind of dream comes from the nasty regions of their mind. They take no initiatives to make them come true. They are all hollow inside. But there are some other dreamers who are dangerous. These dangerous dreamers dream during day time. These people dream keeping their eyes open and make them come true.

Write a summary of the following poem.

'Dreams'

by Langston Hughes

Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.
Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.

Answer

"Dreams" is an extremely short poem by Langston Hughes written in free verse. The poet in this poem suggests his readers to hold on tightly to their dreams. According to the poet if dreams die, life will be like a bird with damaged wings that cannot fly. When dreams go away, life is a "barren field" covered with frozen snow.

Write a summary of the following poem.

'The Schoolboy'

by William Blake

I love to rise in a summer morn,
When the birds sing on every tree;
The distant huntsman winds his horn,
And the skylark sings with me :
O what sweet company!
But to go to school in a summer morn,-
O it drives all joy away!
Under a cruel eye outworn,
The little ones spend the day
In sighing and dismay.....

Answer

The poet tells the reader about the innocence and tenderness of childhood. Children naturally love a summer morning, birds' chirping, huntsmen's horns and skylarks' songs. School going children cannot enjoy these because they have to go to school in the morning. They have to pass the school time in sighing and dismay. A traditional school deprives a child of all its innocence and joy.

Write a summary of the following poem.

'The Schoolboy'

by William Blake

Ah then at times I drooping sit,
And spend many an anxious hour;
Nor in my book can I take delight,
Nor sit in learning's bower,
Worn through with the dreary shower.
How can the bird that is born for joy
Sit in a cage and sing?
How can a child, when fears annoy,
But droop his tender wing,
And forget his youthful spring!

Answer

William Blake was a romantic and mystic poet of the late 18th century. Here the poet draws the picture of a schoolboy who wants to live in youthful joy but faces drudgery and annoyance

at school. At a school, a child has to suffer from fear and anxiety. There he/ she drowses and sweats. As a bird born for joy does not love a cage, a child also does not like an unfriendly environment of traditional school at all. A school deprives a child of all childhood dreams and glee.

Write a summary of the following poem.

'The Schoolboy'

by William Blake

O father and mother if buds are nipped,
And blossoms blown away;
And if the tender plants are stripped
Of their joy in the springing day,
By sorrow and care's dismay,□
How shall the summer arise in joy,
Or the summer fruits appear?
Or how shall we gather what griefs destroy,
Or bless the mellowing year,
When the blasts of winter appear?

Answer

The poet addresses the parents to be sympathetic to their children. He tells the parents if buds are nipped and blossoms are blown away, buds and blossoms will die untimely death. Likewise, if children are deprived of their joy and sent to a school of cruel environment, they will lose all their innocence and lead a joyless life. Without summer fruits, summer will not have any joy. Likewise, joyless school life turns a child's joy of summer into the blasts of winter.

Write a summary of the following poem.

The Traffic Police

Amidst killer speeds I stand
Facing the traffic, stretching my hand.
I am seen on kid's books and as cartoons
everywhere
Educating people and asking them to beware
Of the erratic traffic and the signboards
Seen on almost all the roads.
So that you're safe I see each one of you
But my sweat, my plight on the road sees who?

Be it sunny or rainy,
For your safety I must be
Vigil and agile, on the middle
Standing erect, as fit as a fiddle.
.....

Answer

A traffic police is a very dutiful and hard working person. He stands amid the speedy movement of vehicles on the road. He does this risky and sweating job for the public safety. But people do not understand and properly evaluate his work. The poet wants to honour the traffic police, who makes an important role in the society inspite of being deprived.

Write a summary of the following poem.

'Out, Out'

by Robert Frost

The buzz saw snarled and rattled in the yard
And made dust and dropped stove-length sticks
of wood,
Sweet-scented stuff when the breeze drew across
it. And from there those that lifted eyes could
count
Five mountain ranges one behind the other
Under the sunset far into Vermont.
And the saw snarled and rattled, snarled and
rattled,
As it ran light, or had to bear a
load.....

Answer :

The poem "Out, Out" depicts the social realities of Robert Frost's time. At first we see that the saw is a machine making animal noises "snarling" and "rattling". The first few lines narrate the setting of the poem. When the wind blows, the dust is a sweet scented stuff. If a person were to look around the scene, he would encounter the beauty of Vermont and the five mountains. The saw continues running and making sounds.

Write a summary of the following poem.

'Out, Out'

by Robert Frost

Call it a day, I wish they might have said
To please the boy by giving him the half hour
That a boy counts so much when saved from
work.

His sister stood beside him in her apron
To tell them 'Supper.' At the word, the saw,
As if to prove saws knew what supper meant,
Leaped out at the boy's hand, or seemed to
leap. He must have given the hand. However it
was,

Neither refused the meeting, But the hand!
The boy's first outcry was a rueful
laugh,.....

Answer

The above lines are an exquisite piece of literary work that provides social realities. The day was almost over. The narrator wishes that the boy could have stopped half an hour early so that he could do what boys like to do. The boy's sister came with the supper. Right then the saw acted as though it knew what supper means. The boy did not pay attention and put his hand into the saw and the saw completed its supper

Write a summary of the following poem.

'Out, Out'

by Robert Frost

....."Don't let him cut my hand off.....

The doctor, when he comes. Don't let him,
sister!"

So. But the hand was gone already.
The doctor put him in the dark of ether.
He lay and puffed his lips out with his breath.
And then-the watcher at his pulse took fright.
No one believed. They listened at his heart.
Little-less-nothing!-and that ended it.
No more to build on there, And they, since they
Were not the one dead, turned to their affairs.

Answer

Unfortunately this little boy had been doing a job that is for the adults. He was too small to use such dangerous piece of equipment. He cried out and requested his sister not to let the doctor cut off his hand. But the hand was already gone. The doctor gave him anesthesia. The boy was having trouble in breathing. Slowly, the boy's breathing lessened. The boy died but life goes on. Since the people who were a part of his life could do nothing, they went on with their works.

Write a summary of the following poem.

I Have Seen Bengal's Face

Translation of Jibanananda Das

"Banglar Mukh Ami Dekhiachhi" by Fakrul Alam

Because I have seen Bengal's face I will seek no more;

The world has not anything more beautiful to show me.

Waking up in darkness, gazing at the fig-tree, I behold

Dawn's swallows roosting under huge umbrella-like leaves. I look around me

And discover a leafy dome-Jam, Kanthal, Bat, Hijal and Aswatha trees

All in a hush, shadowing clumps of cactus and zedoary bushes.

When long, long ago, Chand came in his honeycombed boat

To a blue Hijal, Bat and Tamal shade near the Champa, he too sighted

Bengal's incomparable beauty. One day, alas. In the Ganguri,

On a raft, as the waning moon sank on the river's sandbanks,

Behula too saw countless aswaths bats besides golden rice fields

And heard the thrush's soft song. One day, arriving in Amara,

Where gods held court, when she danced like a desolate wagtail,

Bengal's rivers, fields, flowers, wailed like strings of bells on her feet.

Answer

Jibanananda Das here describes the beauty as well as lost glory of Bengal. The poet wants to see a glorious Bengal, a country that had high glory in the antiquity. That was a Bengal of Chand Saudagar and Behula. Besides, the natural landscape of Bengal makes it a beautiful country. That's why, having been born in this country, the poet wishes to see no more country of the world. He expresses both his pride and sorrow concerning this country.

Write a summary of the following poem.

'The Lake Isle of Innisfree'

by W.B. Yeats

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,
And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made;

Nine bean rows will I have there, a hive for the honey bee

And live alone in the bee loud glade.

And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow

Dropping from the veils of the morning to wherethe cricket sings;

There midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow,
And evening full of the linnet'swings.....

Answer

W.B. Yeats is a modernist poet. He was born in a world of turmoil and frustration. The world was inflicted by mechanisation, hatred and war. Especially people were tired of the mechanised and prosaic town-life. In the cities, people lost all human compassions and conscience. That's why, the poet has expressed his own dream to go to the lake island Innisfree, a village, where he will have a peaceful life. There he will live amid bean rows, bee hives, crickets' songs and linnet's wings. He will get relieved of the drudgery of city life and find real peace.

Write a summary of the following poem.

'September 1, 1939'

by W. H. Auden

I sit on one of the dives
On Fifty-second Street
Uncertain and afraid
As the clever hopes expire.
Of a low dishonest decade:
Waves of anger and fear
Circulate over the bright
And darkened lands of the earth,
Obsessing our private lives;
The unmentionable odour of death
Offends the September night.

Answer

In the poem, "September 1, 1939," the poet W.H. Auden describes the brutality of impending World War II. On September 1, 1939, he was in a dive bar in New York City. Here he expresses his mental fear regarding the war. Here he describes what the war will bring. Because of the war all the good hopes are gone. There is anger and fear all around. The bright future will be destroyed and the earth will turn into a dark land. Private lives will be disrupted and there will be unmentionable odour of death with the outbreak of the war.

Write a summary of the following poem.

'She Walks in Beauty'

by Lord Byron

She walks in beauty, like the night
Of cloudless climes and starry skies;
And all that's best of dark and bright
Meet in her aspect and her eyes :
Thus mellowed to that tender light
Which heaven to gaudy day denies.

Answer

"She Walks in Beauty" is written by Lord Byron. The poem is about an unnamed woman. She is really very beautiful. The poet here compares

her to lots of beautiful things but the things are 'dark like night' and 'starry skies'. The poet compares the beauty of the woman to the cloudless night which has lots of stars. According to the poet "all that's best of dark and bright" are parts of her aspects and eyes. Byron again says that she has a perfect balance of beauty.

Write a summary of the following poem.

'I Died For Beauty'

by Emily Dickinson

I died for beauty, but was scarce
Adjusted in the tomb,
When one who died for truth was lain
In an adjoining room.
He questioned softly why I failed?
'For beauty,' I replied.
'And I for truth- the two are one;
We brethren are,' he said.
And so, as kinsmen met a-night,
We talked between the rooms,
Until the moss had reached our lips,
And covered up our names.

Answer

The speaker says that she died for beauty. She is not alone. There lay a man next to her who died for truth. The man asked her why she died and the reply was that she died for beauty. And the man told that he for truth. The man declared that Truth and Beauty are the same and so he and the speaker are "brethren". The speaker says that they met at night, "as kinsmen", and talked between their tombs until the moss reached their lips and covered up the names on their tombstones.

Explain the following line.

"Water, water, every where

Nor any drop to drink."

by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Answer:

The given lines are taken from the poem 'The Rime of the Ancient Mariner' written by Samuel Taylor Coleridge. To present a paradoxical situation, the writer made these lines. The writer went on a horrible bon voyage in a deep sea. At one time, he had no water for drinking though there was unlimited water around him. But, that water was not pure rather salty. Hence, the writer made this paradoxical statement.



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