

EXAM  
DRILL

## SECTION-C

## ANSWERS

## POETRY

## CHAPTER-1 \_THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

1. (i) (b) Two  
(ii) (d) All of these  
(iii) (c) He was in dilemma about which road to take.  
(iv) (c) Robert Frost  
(v) (a) ab aa b
2. (i) (a) If he would ever come back on the same path and walk on the road he left for another day.  
(ii) (b) Because no one had trodden on either of these roads.  
(iii) (b) The two roads  
(iv) (d) The Road Not Taken  
(v) (a) ab aa b
3. The poet has an opinion that both the roads lay equally before him. They were the same, equally travelled and there was no significant difference between them. Seeing the equally promising roads, the poet got confused. It was difficult for him to decide which road would be more convenient and comfortable. Being one traveller he cannot travel on both the roads. Hence, he wanted to choose the one that would lead him to his intended destination.
4. The poet was not satisfied with the choice, he made if he would be satisfied he would not be telling his story with a deep sigh. From his expressions, it appeared that he was in a great sense of regret as the road or the alternative chosen by him did not yield him satisfactory result. He still regret the decision he had taken long ago. If he had taken the other road, things might be changed and he might have shaped his life in a better way. Hence, the dissatisfaction of his choice is clear from his complaints.

5. The poem 'The Road Not taken' deals with the message of life's choices. In the poem the poet is trying to convey a message that life is a continuous journey full of divergence at every second step. The thing which is most important is that we should keep moving without looking back whether the choices we made in the past were right or wrong. We cannot get everything in life and have to make choices. We must be wise in our decisions and be determined to the choice we have made without being in dilemma about it. One should be confident in his choices so that he would not regret about it in the future.

6. The course of life is not so easy. Life provides many options. But we cannot exercise all the options and cannot choose more than one option at the same time. We have to choose one. The choice we make determines our future and makes all the difference in life. Suppose, if we have to choose between the two roads as the poet had to choose in the poem. One road leads to one path and it becomes difficult to think whether it would be right for us or not and the most difficult is coming back to the starting point.

We should be very confident and wise while making decisions. If we have chosen the right path it will give us the desired results. Good decisions have a great deal of significance. They bring happiness, wealth and prosperity in our life. Once we choose one thing we should stick to it confidently and make efforts to achieve that goal, and should not be in a dilemma. If we had made good decisions in life we would not have to look back and regret about our choices.

## CHAPTER-2\_WIND

1. (i) (d) Both (a) and (b)  
(ii) (c) Friendship of people with the wind  
(iii) (d) both (b) and (c)  
(iv) (b) personification

2. (i) (c) Wind god  
 (ii) (d) All of these  
 (iii) (c) will become friends with us  
 (iv) (c) Wind  
 (v) (c) Subramania Bharati

3. In the line "We praise him every day", 'him' stands for the wind God. The poet wants to say that as the wind is so strong and provides strength and life, we must praise the wind every day. If the wind becomes friends with us, it helps us flourish. Therefore, we should sing its praise every day.

4. The wind disturbs the weaklings such as papers, books, window panes, etc. and it harms the weak people only. It crushes down all the weak houses, crumbling doors and even human beings those who are weak, without showing any mercy or sympathy to them. It does not behave in a friendly way with them. Just like it puts the weak fire out which is powerless and helpless against the force of wind and cannot stand firmly in front of its strength. Whereas, it flourishes and makes the strong fire roar, and behaves like a friend with it. It cannot destroy the strong fire thus accept its might and stop troubling it.

5. The poem gives us a lesson that we should be strong enough to face all the hardships in life. Human beings have to suffer lots of difficulties, sorrows, and failures. Only those who are strong can stand firm against the adversities in life. And the weak people easily surrender themselves in front of the hardships and accept defeat. Human beings can never be devoid of struggles in life. Adversities can never harm strong people, it makes them even more stronger, but weak people are crushed and destroyed by it. Just like the wind blows out the weak fire and make the strong fire to roar and flourish. It becomes friends with the strong fire when it gets to know its might. The wind crushes down all the weak things like papers, books, window panes and even the people who are not strong enough to stand firm against it.

The forces of unfavourable, unhappy circumstances fail to conquer those who have the courage. Such people beat all odds against them and come out victoriously

and move ahead in life. Thus, the poet wants to convey that we should always face the bad times with courage and patience. The poem emphasises on the values of courage, confidence and firm will.

### CHAPTER-3\_RAIN ON THE ROOF

1. (i) (c) The tinkling sound of the raindrops falling on the roof  
 (ii) (d) All of these  
 (iii) (a) Himself  
 (iv) (c) Personification  
 (v) (c) Coates Kinney
2. (i) (a) His mother  
 (ii) (a) Her affectionate look when she looks at her children before going to sleep  
 (iii) (b) Poet's mother  
 (iv) (d) Alliteration  
 (v) (d) Rain on the Roof
3. When the poet lies in the bed-chamber in his cottage listening to the soft tinkling sound of the raindrops falling on the wooden roof, his mind is filled with various thoughts and imaginations and brings bright fanciful colours. It also brings many memories of his childhood days and his mother who fondly looks at her children before going to sleep.
4. The poet first describes that the dark clouds appear gloomy and depressed to him. It is making him sad and the raindrops falling appear to him as the tears of clouds. However, in this gloomy situation the only thing that provides him pleasure is lying in his bed with a pillow, in his cottage and listening to the pitter-patter sound of the falling raindrops on the roof while lost in the memories. The poet loves to hear the melodious sound of nature.  
 He considers it a rare happiness when sound of raindrops bring old memories to his mind. Those memories were of long gone days when he was a child, and he lay sleeping in his room along with his siblings and his mother gazed down at them with love.
5. The poet's mother is no more with him but he always remembers her. His mother comes in his memories when he lies down in his bed-chamber listening to the soft

pattering sound of the gentle raindrops falling on the roof. His mind starts recollecting so many memories of his childhood days, among which emerges the memory of his mother.

He remembers how she used to look affectionately at her children before she went to her bed leaving them in their room for the night to meet them again in the morning. As the melodious music of the rain reaches his ears, the loving looks of his mother comes to his mind and they seem clear as if his mother is still alive and is still there with him. The rainy nights remind him of similar night he used to have during his childhood when his mother showered her love on him and his siblings. Therefore, the poet loves the rain because it reminds him of his mother whom he loved a lot.

#### CHAPTER-4 \_THE LAKE ISLE OF INNISFREE

1. (i) (d) Both (a) and (b)  
(ii) (c) The song of the cricket  
(iii) (d) The Lake Isle of Innisfree  
(iv) (c) To the fog of the morning  
(v) (d) The Lake Isle of Innisfree
2. (i) (b) In London  
(ii) (c) Through the very core of his heart  
(iii) (c) The low sounds of the lake water lapping  
(iv) (b) ab ab  
(v) (b) Metaphor
3. Innisfree is a perfect island and it provides the peaceful environment, natural beauty and everything desired by the poet. The three things he wants to do there are - build a small cabin with clay and small sticks, grow nine rows of beans and have a hive for the honeybees.
4. The roadways in London are very busy and noisy, they are dull and grey and full of chaos all around. But Innisfree is full of natural beauty. It is like a dream place for him that actually exists in reality. He finds perfect harmony on the island between the plants and the weather. The poet seems fed up of busy life of the city and wants to go to Innisfree to lead a peaceful life there. He plans to do so many adventurous things there like building a small cabin for himself growing rows of beans and having beehives, enjoying the 'purple glow' of noon, the sounds of birds wings, and of the bees.

5. The poet was deeply attached with 'The Lake Isle of Innisfree' because he had spent his childhood there. He loves the peaceful environment and the natural beauty of the island. In contrast to the environment of the Innisfree, London is surrounded by the sombre monotony of "grey" roadways and pavements and the air is filled with the noise of traffic. Fed up with the dull, monotonous and chaotic life of the city, he decides to go to the Innisfree to get some peace of mind. There, he plans to build a small cabin of mud and twigs. In a life of quiet solitude, to keep himself busy and enthusiastic, he will grow nine rows of beans there and will keep a beehive. The poet reiterates that he will find calm in easy pace of dripping dew in the morning light, and there he will find peace and calm throughout the day. He will enjoy the purple glow of the afternoon, the beating of bee's wings in the evening and the shimmering of stars in the sky at night. Instead of hearing the sounds of vehicles on the roadways, he wants to hear the low sound of lake water lapping by the shore.

#### CHAPTER-5 \_A LEGEND OF THE NORTHLAND

1. (i) (a) Winter  
(ii) (b) The days are too short and the nights are too long.  
(iii) (c) They look like bear's cubs.  
(iv) (a) To the sledges  
(v) (b) Anaphora
2. (i) (a) A very little cake  
(ii) (a) She thought it was too big to give away.  
(iii) (b) She kneaded another smaller cake.  
(iv) (a) As big as the first one  
(v) (d) Alliteration
3. The poet calls it a curious or a strange story. The poem is a legend of an old lady. She made St. Peter angry to curse her to be a bird. The story is a popular ballad. It may not be true. But the change of the lady to a bird is quite strange.
4. The story of the greedy old woman has become a part of the folklore of the Northland. Every country school boy knows it. The story has been passed on orally from St. Peter's times to the coming generations.

5. The theme of the poem 'The Legend of the Northland' is that greed and selfishness can destroy a person completely and it can bring wrath to even a saint.

The poem is about the legend of an old lady who lived in the Northland long long ago. One day she was baking cakes while a saint, named st. Peter chanced to come at her door. He was hungry and tired. He asked the lady to give him a cake to eat as he was feeling weakness due to the day's fasting. The selfish lady tried to bake small cakes but every time they seemed her too big to be given away. Finally she baked one that was as thin as a wafer. But that too she did not give to the saint and put it back on the shelf. St. Peter became angry. He said that she was too selfish to live as a human or to have food and shelter. Thus, he cursed her and changed her into a bird who had to search for food the whole day.

6. Saint Peter was hungry, tired and fainting due to the day's fasting. He chanced to reach at the house of an old lady and asked her to give him a piece of cake. The lady was so selfish, she behaved miserly and didn't give even a very small piece of cake and kept changing the size of the cake. When the lady refused to give anything, Saint Peter got annoyed and felt that she did not deserve to live in human form. Therefore, he cursed her and changed her into a woodpecker.

7. The little lady had to bake the cake again and again because she was so miser and selfish to give away even smallest piece of cake. When Saint Peter, who had been feeling weak as he had not eaten anything the whole day asked the little lady to give him a cake. She laid down to bake the cake. But when the cake was baked, it seemed to her much too big to be given away. So she kneaded another one which is a little smaller. But that too seemed as big as the earlier one so she didn't give it to the saint. Then she took another small bit of dough and rolled and rolled it thin as a wafer but could not part even with that. She was surprised that her cakes that seemed small when she ate them herself appeared too large to be given away. Thus, driven by greed and selfishness, the women repeatedly baked the bake for saint Peter.

## CHAPTER-6\_NO MEN ARE FOREIGN

1. (i) (c) To hate others  
(ii) (d) Both (a) and (c)  
(iii) (d) Both (a) and (b)  
(iv) (b) It will be defiled.  
(v) (d) No Men Are Foreign
2. (i) (d) Both (b) and (c)  
(ii) (c) Ourselves  
(iii) (c) By spreading hatred and jealousy  
(iv) (b) Defile  
(v) (a) James Kirkup
3. According to the poet, the eyes of everyone are similar in a way that people whom we consider strange or foreigner also wake up and sleep in the same manner every day like we do. Even though the colour and shape of their eyes is different from us they perform a similar function.
4. We hate our brothers when some selfish people ask us to do that. We hate them by waging war against them, by treating them differently. No, it is not right to hate them, though they belong to different races, countries and cultures but they are not foreigners or strangers. We all are brothers as we share the same land, air and water.
5. The poet asks us to remember that we should never forget that our ideas, thoughts, emotions and experiences are similar to those whom we consider 'foreign' or 'strange'. He wants us to remember that all human beings are identical in nature and phases of human life are the same in all over the world. If there is a war going on, we all suffer the same pain, the same hunger. We have eyes that are different in colour and shape but perform the same function. Thus we should not consider anyone strange and any country foreign.
6. We all are alike in a way that we all need the same air to breathe, the same sun to get sunlight and warmth and the same water for many purposes. Above all we all are living on the same earth. Beneath the superficial surface of our bodies, we all have the same heart, mind and soul. No matter in which country or region we are living in, we all share the same routine. Like we get up

in the morning take a bath, have breakfast and go to work. We all sleep at night and wake up in the morning. People may have adapted to different conditions and situations, but we are all one in the spirit. We all are able to sustain our lives during peace time and would starve to death if wars disrupt on earth. We all suffer the same pain and long for the same love.

When we hate others, fight with them, raise arms against them, it is ourselves, that we dispossess, betray and condemn. By waging wars we defile the same earth on which we are living and pollute the same air we are breathing. Thus, despite different living conditions, we all are alike and one in spirit.

### CHAPTER-7 \_ THE DUCK AND THE KANGAROO

1. (i) (c) Getting roo-matiz  
(ii) (a) Kangaroo  
(iii) (c) Taking the Duck along with him.  
(iv) (c) Because the Duck's feet were wet and cold.  
(v) (b) The Duck and the Kangaroo
2. (i) (d) All of these  
(ii) (d) All of these  
(iii) (c) That his web-feet should not get wet and cold.  
(iv) (d) All of these  
(v) (b) Edward Lear
3. To remove Kangaroo's objection he bought four pairs of worsted socks so that his cold and wet feet could be covered and protected from the cold. He also bought a cloak to keep the cold out. In addition, he planned to smoke a cigar daily to get some warmth.
4. 'I' bought the four pairs of worsted socks so that her wet and cold feet could be covered and protected from the cold. She decided to do that so that she would ride on Kangaroo's back without any difficulty and would do no harm to him.
5. The Duck says that he had bought four pairs of worst (wool) socks that fit his webbed feet nicely and keep them warm. He would also smoke a cigar every day and wear a cloak to keep warm. He doesn't want to cause any trouble to his friend during the ride and took many measures to avoid causing trouble.

6. Through the poem 'The Duck and the Kangaroo' the poet tells us that we can get any difficult work done by us if we have the virtues of patience, politeness and obedience. In the poem, the Duck requests the Kangaroo to let him ride on his back as he was fed up with the nasty pond and wanted to see the world. The Kangaroo asked him to give him some time to think about it. It is his politeness that he accepted ducks's request and agreed to fulfill his wish. He politely told him that he is afraid that he might get rheumatism because of the wet and cold feet of the duck. The obedient duck pondered over it and bought four pairs of worsted socks, a cloak to keep himself warm and he also decided to smoke a cigar too. He assured the Kangaroo that he would say nothing but 'Quack'. Thus, the Kangaroo agreed and let him ride on his tail and they went for a pleasure tour to the world.

The poem teaches us that those who are generous in acknowledging and appreciating the capabilities of others also gain from it. Patience, politeness, obedience and admiration are some qualities that makes others happy and comfortable. They help win many good friends and make life worthwhile and enjoyable.

### CHAPTER-8 \_ ON KILLING A TREE

1. (i) (c) Chopping, hacking  
(ii) (d) All of these  
(iii) (a) Tree's bleeding bark  
(iv) (b) Metaphor  
(v) (b) Gieve Patel
2. (i) (d) Roots  
(ii) (b) Its roots should be pulled out entirely from earth-cave.  
(iii) (c) By hiding its sensitive roots inside for years and years  
(iv) (b) Alliteration  
(v) (d) both (b) and (c)
3. 'Anchoring Earth' means that the earth supports the tree firmly. It gives it a firm grip and keeps it from falling. A tree stands secure and stable with the support of the earth. As long as the roots are firmly held by the earth it cannot be killed or destroyed.

4. When the blow of knives does not kill a tree, its bleeding bark will begin to heal its pain gradually and the curled green twigs will grow from the boughs and it will soon be as big as it was earlier. Actually, the strength of a tree lies in its roots. When they are not uprooted, they will expand and grow into a complete tree.

5. The source of a tree is its roots. It is the roots that consume nutrients from the crust of the earth and provide strength to it. If we pull out the roots and they are exposed to sun, the tree will start dying. Hence, the tree will gradually start to die as the roots are out they will not get strength from the earth and soon start to dry out, wither out and the tree will be killed.

6. Through the poem 'On Killing a Tree' the poet has portrayed a vivid and brutal picture of what is involved in killing a tree. The poet tells us that killing a tree is a difficult and time consuming process. A simple jab of knife cannot do it. A tree grows out slowly consuming on earth's crust, it gets the nourishment from the nutrients found in the earth, along with years of sunlight, air, and water.

If we stab it simply with a knife the tree will not be killed. Only the bark which is hurt starts to ooze out a sap which is considered as bleeding. The bleeding bark will be healed soon and green twigs will start to grow and the new boughs will again grow to its former size. Then the poet goes on to say that how a tree should be killed completely. The roots which is the strength of a tree needs to be pulled out and exposed to the heat of the sun if a tree is to be killed completely. Once the roots are exposed to the sunlight, and is devoid of air and water. It will start becoming brown and dry. The tree will be choked and scorched and then the process of killing a tree will be completed.

The poet tried to make us aware of the brutality of human beings. Man is presented as a killer of the environment who thinks of all possible ways to get rid of trees, which represented nature. The poet ironically discussed the whole process of killing a tree. He says that it is not an easy task as the tree has grown after consuming on earth for so many years.

### CHAPTER-9 \_ THE SNAKE TRYING

1. (i) (d) Both (a) and (b)
- (ii) (d) All of these
- (iii) (d) Both (b) and (c)
- (iv) (a) The poet
- (v) (c) W.W.E. Ross

2. (i) (b) Snake
- (ii) (b) On the sand
- (iii) (b) In the ripples among the reeds
- (iv) (b) Green
- (v) (d) W.W.E. Ross

3. The snake is small and green in colour. Curvings of its long beautiful body seems appealing to the poet. It has graceful and beautiful shape. So are its movements. It is a graceful snake and not harmful even to the children. The harmless, graceful and beautiful snake attracts the poet's attention and sympathy.

4. The poet appeals to not kill the snake as according to his opinion not all snakes are harmful. And the snake is not always harmful, unless it is provoked or hunted. The beautiful snake described in the poem is not harmful even to the children. Therefore, the poet wishes that it should not be hurt and reach its place safely.

5. Human beings should be sensitive and tolerant towards other creatures since all the animals are not dangerous or harmful to human beings. Human beings have a tendency of killing animals that seems dangerous to them. Sometimes, they kill them only if they are frightened of them. The man in the poem also thinks that the snake is poisonous and hence it is better to kill it. He chases the snake with a stick. The snake is trying to escape at a great pace so that the man cannot reach and kill it. The snake moves through the water and goes in to the green reeds to save himself from the pursuing stick.

The poet appeals that the snake is not dangerous it is harmless even to the children. He is pleading to let the snake go.

Through the poem, he tries to make people aware that all snakes are not harmful. He is trying to prevent

human beings from being cruel to animals. He appeals to them to maintain ecological balance and not to harm any species, in this poem he focused on snakes. Since all the snakes are not poisonous, they are harmless and do not attack human beings until they are provoked or hurt. Hence, they should be left on their own.

### **CHAPTER-10\_A SLUMBER DID MY SPIRIT SEAL**

- 1.** (i) (c) Human Fears of poet  
(ii) (c) She was dead.  
(iii) (c) Poet's beloved  
(iv) (c) It sealed poet's spirit.  
(v) (b) William Wordsworth

**2.** The time will not effect the poet's beloved any longer as she is dead now and has become immortal. The poet believes that immortality would never be effected by time or the physical world. Thus, she too cannot be effected by such things. She cannot hear or see, and has gone beyond the physical world. His beloved is beyond the touch of earthly years, she has no human fears. She has become a permanent part of the earth's diurnal course.

**3.** The phrase earth's diurnal course means the daily rotation of the earth on its axis which causes day and night. The poet believes that as his beloved Lucy is dead now, she has become an inseparable part of the earth. She will assimilate into the earth and is rotating along with it just like other objects like rock, stone, and the trees. She has become one with the nature.

**4.** The poet's soul got sealed with slumber due to the sudden and unexpected death of his beloved. Earlier he did not have any realisation of the truth and had never thought that one day his beloved would be taken away from him. Her death was so sudden that his mind as well as his body seemed to be closed off. He felt as if he were in deep sleep. He cannot feel any emotions now as his spirit seemed to be sealed. His beloved is no more and she will not be affected by the earthly years now. No human fears can touch her, she will suffer no pain. She cannot hear or see anything. She feels no movement or force. She has become an inseparable part of nature. She will become one with the nature. She will assimilate into the earth's diurnal course and will rotate along with the earth. One day she will become one with the earth.

