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ARSOD ENGLOSH CLASSES

For 12th English

NOTES: SECTION TWO (POEMS)

- 1] Song of the open Road
- 2] Indian Weaver
- **3] The Inchcape Rock**
- 4] Have you earned?
- 5] Father Returning Home
- 6] Money
- 7] She walks in Beauty
- 8] Small Towns And Rivers



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ICE BREAKERS

1] Choose the mode of travel that you would like the most for a journey. Give reasons for your preference.

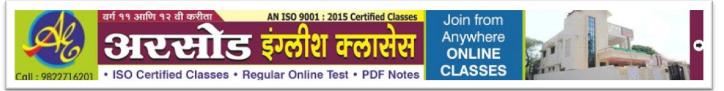
(a) Airways (b) Waterways (c) Railways (d) Roadways

Ans: I would like to prefer Railways because-

- a) It is affordable for everyone than airways and roadways and waterway is not available everywhere.
 - b) For long journey it is very comfortable than roadways.
 - c) Well Equipped with many facilities like toilet, catering, AC & sleeper coach.
 - d) They are free of traffic jams and other hassles.
 - e) They are the most convenient mode of transport for long distance travel.

2] Discuss with your partner, the preparations you would like to make for the journey chosen.

- a) First, I would like to choose the place which I would visit.
- b) I would decide the date, according to the availability of hotel booking and railway reservation.
- c) Make a booking of tickets and lodging of my destination.
- c) Make a well preparation for essential luggage including dresses, medicine kit, money / credit cards, tourist guide, I-card, tickets, water, mobile with charger etc.
- d) Make a planning of visiting places, their best time to see & nearest route of that place.



3] Discuss the ways in which you would overcome the problems/ difficulties you face during your journey.

Ans: a) I would lock my luggage with the chain to prevent its theft.

b) But if I lose my essential documents/mobile phone/ luggage etc. I will visit the nearest police station and report it.

- c) If I suffer from illness, I will visit nearest hospital & follow the doctor's prescription.
- d) In case of shortage of cash, I will use my credit cards & prefer online banking.
- e) Unfortunately, if the weather changes, I will take shelter to nearest lodge or accommodation.

4] During every journey we have to observe certain rules. Discuss your ideas of the journey

without any restrictions. You can begin like this- I would go alone / with selected friends/

Ans: a) I would go with my selected friends.

- b) With my own car, I would like to travel as far as I can, so as to explore new places
- c) I would prefer home-stays, so that I could get to know people from different cultures.
- d) In my journey I would like to wear different dresses without any kind of restrictions.
- e) I would try to visit as much as possible.

f) I would use my mobile phone only in case of emergencies during the travel, so that I could enjoy my journey.

(A1) (i) Pick out the lines showing that the poet is prepared to enjoy every moment of his journey.

Ans: the following lines show that the poet is prepared to enjoy every moment of his

journey.

- 1] Afoot and light-hearted I take to the open road,
- 2] The long brown path before me leading wherever I choose.
- 3] Strong and content I travel the open road.
- 4] Henceforth I whimper no more, postpone no more, need nothing,
- 5] Still here I carry my old delicious burdens.

(ii)By 'old delicious burdens' the poet means-

- 1] the luggage
- 2] the food he carries
- 3] the stress he bears during the travels
- 4] sweet memories of the past

Ans: (c) sweet memories of the past

(iii) The poet is a person who is free from all inhibitions (shy or nervous feeling/संकोच). Discuss how the concept of 'freedom' is expressed in the poem.

Ans: The poet has written the poem with an object to create the idea of freedom in the readers. The spirit of freedom is expressed in the poem through the symbolic reference to the open road, where men come together, ignoring their social status. Freedom implies (**suggests**) the independence to choose one's road.

As the poet **begins** his journey, he is light-hearted and content (**satisfied**) because he has left his ordinary life behind in order to seek adventure. His desire to live a free life is so strong that he doesn't hesitate or postpone setting out on this journey. He has freed himself from the society that surrounded him, as that was not something he desired. However, he does carry the memories of people along the journey, because that satisfies him and makes him complete.



(A2) (i) Following are the activities of the poet related to his journey on the road. Divide them into two parts as 'activities the poet will practise' and 'activities he will not practise'.

(a) Walking along the road though he does not	(e) Carrying the fond memories of the good
know where it reaches	people
(b) Complaining about the discomforts during	(f) Creating contacts with famous and
the journey	influential people
(c) Postponing the journey	(g) Striving to achieve high and bright success
(d) Praying for good fortune	(h) Reflecting and developing his own 'self'
'The activities the poet will practise'	'The activities the poet will not practise'
(e) Carrying the fond memories of the	(a) Walking along the road though he does not know
good neonle	where it reaches

good people	where it reaches
(g) Striving to achieve high and bright	(b) Complaining about the discomforts during the
success	journey
(h) Reflecting and developing his own	(c) Postponing the journey
'self'	(d) Praying for good fortune
	(f) Creating contacts with famous and influential people

(ii) Write down the traits (Qualities) the poet exhibit (show) through following lines.

(a) Henceforth, I ask for no good fortune-I myself am good fortune:

Ans: Self-confidence

(b) Henceforth, I whimper no more, postpone no more, need nothing-

Ans: Determination and positivity.

(c) I do not want the constellations any nearer-

Ans: Self-assured and independent

(d) I swear it is impossible for me to get rid of them-

Ans: Clear thinking and genuiness.

(e) I am filled with them – I will fill them in return-

Ans: honest and dependence / Promise

(iii) 'Healthy, free, the world before me'.

Express your views regarding the above line.

Ans: In the line **'Healthy, free, the world before me'.** The poet wants to convey that the world that lies ahead in his journey of his life is democratic, healthy (not narrow minded), liberal and free. Means free from the shackles. He says that there is no tension for making his journey happy. Additionally, the journey is in his control. He will choose where he wants to go for his self-development.

(iv) What do you think the poet means by 'I myself am good fortune'?

Ans: The poet means that

1] he is well contained. 2] He does not want anything else. 3] He is satisfied with all he has

(iv) Does the poet want to possess the constellations? Why or why not?

Ans: No the poet does not want to possess them because

1] He knows that he is capable to do anything also

2] They are well where they are and sufficient to those who are belong to them.

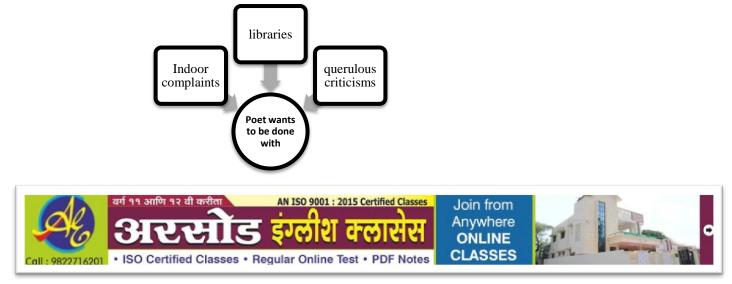
(v) Name any one virtue that you can learn from the line I know well where they are and sufficient to those who are belong to them? Give an example of a real-life situation where you can display that virtue?

Ans: One virtue that can be learnt is self-confidence and determination. That is, once you acquire them, they become characteristic of a person. For example person who has developed the virtue of self-confidence and determination is often referred to as bold, active and confident person because he tends to be self-confident and determined in all circumstances.

(v) The poet takes to open road......



(vi) What are the some of the things that the poet says he is done with as he takes at the open road?



(vii) What can you say about the poet's state of mind?

Ans: The poet's state of mind is cool, happy, confident, adjustable and satisfied with his life.

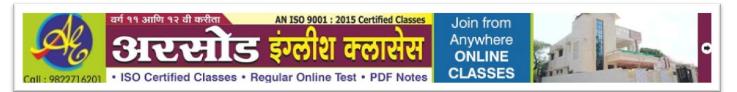
(A3) The poet has used many describing words such as 'healthy' in this poem.

Make a list and classify them as -

- (a) For the world **free**, healthy and sufficient
- (b) For himself strong, light hearted, content,
- (c) For the road open, long brown path

(A4) (i) Read the expression 'old delicious burdens.' A burden cannot be delicious. The poet has used this combination of words to express that he has many sweet memories of the people and places which he would like to remember forever. The poet has used seemingly (apparently/ प्रत्यक्ष स्पष्ट रूप से) contradictory expressions to convey the meaning that his heart is full of sweet memories of good and kind people. Though he wants to be free from any type of attachment, he wants to cherish these sweet memories in his heart forever.

"The expression contains opposite ideas that make it seem absurd (laughable) or unlikely, although it may be true. This is called 'Paradox.""



(iii) Free Verse:

Free Verse is a poetry that does not rhyme or have a regular rhythm. The features of Free Verse are-

It is a literary device that is free from limitations of regular rhythm, does not rhyme with fixed forms, and still it provides an artistic expression. In this way, the poet can give his own shape to a poem as he desires and can use various poetic devices to create the effect he considers suitable for the piece.

As Free Verse gives greater freedom for choosing words and conveying their meanings to readers, it is free from artificiality of a typical poetic expression. This technique is commonly used in modern poetry.

(iv)There are certain words that are repeated in the poem.

For example, 'no more'(Line 7). Find out other similar expressions.

Explain the effect they have created in the poem.

Ans: Such repetition is seen in lines 5 to 8 with words **open road**, **'henceforth'** and **'good-fortune'** and in lines 13 to 20 with the personal pronoun 'I'. Repetition, as a figure of speech,

(v)The use of personal pronoun 'I' is evident and prominent in this poem. Give reasons.

Ans: The pronoun 'I' of the poem could not be merely the wanderer, it could be Whitman himself, the reader, and everyone or he is "a type of the all human race.

(vi) Find and explain the figures of speech

1) Afoot and light-hearted I take to the **open road.**

Metaphor because here open road is indirectly compared to the road of life.

Symbolism because here open road symbolizes freedom.

2) The long brown path before me leading wherever I choose......

Ans: Alliteration because' a letter or a sound of 'L and b' have been repeated for the poetic effect.

3) Henceforth I ask not good- fortune, I myself am good- fortune.....

Ans: Repetition because the words 'good –fortune' have been repeated for the poetic effect.

4) I carry them, men and women, I carry them with me wherever I go.....

Ans: Repetition because the word 'carry' has been repeated for the poetic effect.

5) I carry them, men and women, I carry them with me wherever I go.....

Ans: Antithesis because the opposite words, men and women have been used

6) Done with indoor complaints, libraries, querulous criticism.....

Ans: Alliteration because' a sound of 'K' has been repeated for the poetic effect.

Tautology because the words 'Complaint and Querulous' express same meanings.

7) Still here I carry my old **delicious burdens**.....

Ans: Metaphor because here burdens (old sweet memories) are indirectly compared to something delicious.

8) Strong and content I travel the open road.

Ans: Inversion because the words are not in a correct prose order. The correct prose order is – I travel

the open road strong and content.

9) I am fill'd with them, and I will fill them in return

Ans: Repetition because the word 'fill' has been repeated for the poetic effect.

10) Afoot and light-hearted I take to the open road.

Ans: Inversion because the words are not in a correct prose order. The correct prose order is **–I take to** the open road afoot and light hearted

the open road afoot and light hearted.

11) Done with indoor complaints, libraries, querulous criticisms.

Ans: Metaphor because here libraries are indirectly compared to education/ Knowledge of books.

Alliteration because' a sound of 'c' has been repeated for the poetic effect.

Climax because the words/ Ideas are arranged in their ascending order of importance.

12) Henceforth I whimper no more, postpone no more, need nothing,

Ans: Alliteration because' a sound of 'n' has been repeated for the poetic effect.

Climax because the words are arranged in their ascending order of importance

13) I know they are very well where they are,

I know they suffice for those who belong to them.

Ans: Anaphora because here I know has been repeated at the beginning of the sentences

14) Still here I carry my old **delicious burdens**.....

Ans: Oxymoron because here two opposite ideas have been put together.

Paradox because here two opposite ideas have been put together which can't be possible.

15) I do not want the constellations (a group of stars) any nearer

Ans: Metaphor because here constellations are indirectly compared to the people who guide other.



(A5) (i) Poetic Appreciation

4 Marks

Write a poetic appreciation of the poem 'Song of the Open Road'

Ans:

About the poem / poet: The poem 'Song of the Open Road' is narrative poem which centers on the quest for freedom, It has been taken from 'Leaves of Grass' written by Walt Whitman who was an American poet, essayist and journalist. Whitman is among the most influential poets in the American canon and is often called 'The Father of Free Verse.'. This poem is a beautiful blend of human feelings.

Title of the poem: The title of the poem is significant and appropriate because the road signifies mobility and freedom.

Poetic Style and theme: The poem, 'Song of the Open Road' is separated into four separate stanzas. With the exception of the first stanza, which contains only three lines and the other stanzas contain four lines. The poem utilizes free verse, means it has no regular rhyme. It has unique arrangements of words and different lengths. It is told from the first-person point of view. Walt Whitman strongly advocates importance of free life, optimism & Freedom which is the major themes of this poem.

Poetic devices: The poem is written in free verse. The poet uses here simple poetic devices such as Alliteration, Repetition, Antithesis, Inversion, Paradox, Tautology, Metaphors etc. He employs Metaphor comparing road to 'the road of life. The poet makes use of symbols like constellation and brown road. He also uses many phrases like light hearted, querulous criticism etc.

Special features: The poem is written in very simple and effective language. Which is easy to understand and it creates an impact on the readers. It is written in first person narration. As it is written in free verse, it doesn't have rhyme scheme. The use of brackets in fourth stanza is a typical feature of the poem that makes the stanza more remarkable.

Message/other: It is a didactic poem (moral giving poem) which teaches us that we should be optimistic and happy. It motivates and encourages us to enjoy freedom. I like this poem because it gives us a new attitude to look at life and should not live the routines of ordinary life.

