

POETRY FOR EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

PART-II ENGLISH

SUB CODE: 16ELCE2

Lesson-I

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

→WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

I. Two Mark Questions

1. What are the seven stages of life according to Shakespeare?

The seven stages of man's life referred to as the seven ages of Man. Infant, school boy, lover, soldier, justice person, pantaloon and old age

2. What is compared to the stage? Why?

All the men and women are mere characters in the drama (life), which is played on the stage (in the world).

3. Where is the poem all the world's a stage taken from?

The poem 'All the world's a Stage' taken from Shakespeare's play 'As you Like It'. Here **Jacques** is one of the main characters in the play. He gives a long speech about life in Act II, scene VII of the play.

4. How the man enters and exit from the world?

The Man enters into the world by (birth) and exit by (death).

5. What is the first stage?

The man begins his act on the stage as an **infant**. He pukes in the arms of his nurse and cries for the comfort of his mother.

6. What is the complaint of the school going boy?

The second act starts with school going boy. The boy has a shining morning face. He carries his satchel with whining. He unwillingly goes to the school like a creeping snail.

7. What is the last stage?

This is a strange stage of life. Man turns a child once again. In the stage, he forgets almost everything. His memory becomes weak. He loses loses teeth, eye-sight and taste and everything.

II **5 marks**

8. What is the contrast made between the soldier and the justice?

In the Fourth stage, The man becomes a responsible soldier. He swears strange oaths. He has a beard that looks like the leopard. He is ready to take risk of his life to win a good name. He wants to get fame and honor even at the mouth of the canon. He is ready to die. He is a sharp contrast to the justice. The justice leads a lavish life, eating a lot of food and has a round belly with capon lined. He has a beard with formal cut. He is very serious in his looks. He knows what is good and what is wrong. He always says wise things and gives examples.

**“Full of wise saws and modern instances,
And so he plays his part”.**

9. Why is the man in sixth stage called pantaloon?

In the **Sixth stage**, Man shifts from middle age to old age. Now he wears pantaloon with slippers on his feet. There are wrinkles on his face. He becomes weak and thin. He wears spectacle on his nose because of his weak eyesight. The nose is a world too big for his thin body. His big loud manly voice is turned into shrill voice of a child.

**“Into the lean and slippared pantaloon,
With spectacles on nose and pouch on side”**

10. Write a brief account of the different stages in a man’s life according to Shakespeare.

In the first stage, the man begins his act on the stage as an infant. He pukes in the arms of his nurse and cries for the comfort of his mother. The second stage starts with a school going boy. The boy has a shining morning face. He carries his satchel with whining. He unwillingly goes to the school like a creeping snail. In third act, he turns as a lover. He feels that his lover is the only person in the world. He sees dancing in front of his eyes. He writes a song praise of his beloved's eye brows. In fourth act, he becomes a soldier. He takes a strange oath for the nation. In the fifth act, He turns into a justice man. He has a beard of formal cut. He looks everything with wise. In the sixth act, he shifts from middle age to old age. Now he wears pantaloon with sleepers. His manly voice

turns into the shrill voice of child. In seventh stage, he turns into an old age to oldest one. He turns into the child once again. He loses teeth, eye- sight, taste and everything

III. 10 Marks

11. Write an essay Shakespeare's 'All the world's a stage'.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

William Shakespeare was born on April 26, 1564 at Starford- On- Avon village in Warwickshire. He studied at the local grammar school at Stratford. He has written plays, comedies, tragedies, tragicomedies, romantics and historical plays. He was one of the world's greatest dramatist and poets. He has written 154 sonnets.

INTRODUCTION:

All the world's a stage is taken from his romantic comedy 'As you like It'. Here **Jacques** one of the characters delivers a long speech about life. According to him, a man begins his act by being a baby and ends as an old man facing the death in the last act.

THE WORLD IS A STAGE:-

Shakespeare compares the world is a stage. All the men and women are mere characters in the drama (**life**) which is played on the stage (**in the world**). They have their entrance (**birth**) and exit (**death**). This means that all the people take birth and then die after the certain period of time. He plays seven different roles when he enters in to the world. The roles are **infant, school boy, lover, soldier, justice man, old age, again childish age**.

FIRST STAGEL:-

A Man begins his act on the stage as an infant. The nurse (mother) holds the child in her arms. He pukes in the nurse's arms and crying for the comfort.

"At first, the infant,

Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms"

SECOND STAGE:-

The second stage starts with school going boy. He unwillingly takes the responsibility of being a student. His face shines like the fresh morning. He carries his satchel with whining. He goes to the school like a creeping snail.

"And shining morning face

Creeping like a snail”

THIRD STAGE:-

In third act, he turns as a lover. He feels that his lover is the only person in the world. He visualizes that dancing in front of his eyes. He writes the songs praise of his beloved's eye brows.

FOURTH STAGE:-

In the stage, the man becomes a soldier. He has a beard that looks like the leopard. He swears strange oaths. He wants to get fame and honored the mouth of the cannon. He fights for the nation. He is ready to die.

**“Full of strange oaths and
Bearded like the part”**

FIFTH STAGE:-

In the stage, he turns into a justice Man. He has fair round belly. He is very serious in his looks. He has a formal beard cut. He knows what is good and what is wrong. He always says wise things.

SIXTH STAGE:-

The man turns from middle age to old age. Now he wears only pantaloon. He becomes weak and thin. He wears spectacles on his nose because of his weak eyesight. His manly voice is turned into shrill voice of the child.

**“Into the lean and slippered pantaloon,
With spectacles on nose
And pouch on oneseide.”**

LAST STAGE:-

The seventh stage of a man's life is very old age. He is nearing the death. This is the second childishness of the stage. In the age, he forgets almost everything. He loses his teeth, eye-sight, taste and everything. Now; he is like a new-born child.

**“In second childishness and mere Oblivion;
Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste,**

Sans everything”

CONCLUSION:-

Shakespeare has written every word beautifully. He compares the life with stage, just like a movie running in front of your eyes.

LESSON-2

THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

→ ROBERT LEE FROST

I TWO MARKS

1. Where did the poet stand?

The poet stands at the fork of the road. Where he confronts that two roads are diverged and going into the two different directions.

2. Why the poet asks sorry?

The poet wants to go on both roads. But it is not possible to go on both the roads at the same time. So, the poet asks sorry for that.

3. Why is the wood yellow?

The sights of the both roads are covered with yellow wood. Yellow wood denotes the season of autumn season. Autumn also represents for old age and inactivity.

4. Why did the poet take less traveled path?

The poet has taken the less traveled path, that was 'grassy and wanted wear' which demonstrates the desire many of us have for individuality and adventure.

5. What is the significance means of the 'sigh'?

The word sigh is connected with a sense of sadness. Probably, the poet felt sorry for having taken the second road instead of the first road.

6. **What is message of the poem?**

The poet is about taking decisions in life, making choices. Sometimes it is very hard to choose. Our decision might be crucial and change the very course of our life. We should not go on thinking of the road not taken.

7. **What are the two roads symbolize?**

The poet confronted with two roads, symbolizing journey of the life and decisions we make on that journey.

II 5 MARKS

8. **What was the problem faced by Robert Frost while traveling?**

The poet stands at fork of the road. Where he confronts the two roads which are diverged and goes into the yellowwood. The beginning of the road is same but the destination of both of the road is unknown. The poet wants to go on both the roads at once. But it is not possible. So the poet feels sorry for that. Now the poet has to choose one road. First, he takes one road and looks down where it goes. But he could see only first bend of the road because where some bushes hid the way. Then he takes another way and which is less traveled. The second road is as fair as the first one. Both roads are covered with leaves. The paths are equal, pretty and an attractive. So, the poet cannot make up his mind which path has to choose.

“Then took the other, as just as fair

And having perhaps the better claim”

9. **What is the message of the poem ' The Road Not Taken'?**

The poem is about significance of taking decisions in life, making choices. Sometimes it is very hard to choose. Our decision might be crucial and change the very course of our life. The poet significantly talks about making of life decision. If you went on a wrong way, you can come back and lead on another way. But if you went on a wrong way in your life, you can't come back and lead another life. So, we should take a good decision in correct situation.

III 10 Marks

10. Describe the symbolic significance of the poem ' The Road not Taken'?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY:-

ROBERT LEE FROST was born on March 26, 1874 in San Francisco, California. He was an American poet. He worked as a poet and playwright. Frost was named **Poet Laureate of Vermont**. He died on January 29, 1963 (aged 88). Notable works: **North of Boston, A Boys Will**. Notable Awards: Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, Congressional Gold Medal (1960).

FORM:-

The Road Not Taken consists of four stanzas of five lines. The rhyme scheme is **ABAAB**.

INTRODUCTION:-

The poem depicts one man's journey throughout his life, the choices he made and he travelled. Frost can be considered the speaker. Frost is faced between the choice of a moment and a life time manifested in his poem.

THE POET CONFRONTS THE ROAD:-

The poet stands at the fork of the road, which are diverged and are going into the yellow wood. Yellow wood denotes the season of autumn. The trees color is yellow. The leaves are fallen and have spread over the paths. The poet wants to go on both the roads at once. But it's not possible. So, the poet feels sorry for that. The poet can not make up his mind which path is going to choose. Now, The Poet has to choose one road. First, he takes one path and looks down where it goes. But he could see only first bend because where some under growths blocks his view.

**“Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
Sorry I could not travel both”**

THE BEAUTY OF TH SECOND PATH:-

Later, the poet takes second path. Here, he gives the paraphrase ' as fair as the first one. On the day, the poet is the first traveller. The paths are equal in pretty and an attractive. Then the speaker explains that the second path is better.

Because it has not been walked on very much. The poet really could not make up his mind. He admits that both roads are equal after all.

“Then took the other, as just as fair

And having perhaps the better claim”

CRUCIAL DECISION:-

The speaker is the first traveller to this place on that day. He has to find out something new. The paths are covered with leaves, which haven't been turned black by step crushing them. Then, he gives the familiar solutions for this problem. He realizes that his hope is to come back and try another path may be foolish. He knows how one way can lead another way, until you end up very far from where you started.

“Yet knowing how way leads on to way

I doubted if I should ever come back”

THE POET CHOOSED THE LESS TRAVELED PATH:-

The poet tells this with 'sigh'. **Sighs can be Happy, sad or merely reflective.** But he will tell this story in future. The repetition of ' **Two roads diverged**' in the first and the last stanzas remind us the opportunity of choice. The poet has chosen less traveled path which no one else did. But he doesn't say ' the choice' what different makes in his life. A difference means success or utter failure. But Choices are important in our life.

“I took the one less travelled by

And that has made all the difference”

CONCLUSION:-

The poet significantly talks about making of life decision. If you went on a wrong way, you can come back and lead on another way. But if you went on a wrong way in your life, you can't come back and lead another life. So, we should take a good decision in correct situation.

UNIT-II

LESSON – 3

ODE TO THE WEST WIND

→ PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY

I. 2 MARKS

1. How does Shelley address the west wind?

Shelley personifies both the wind and the season. The west wind comes in autumn. So, the poet addresses the west wind as the breath of autumn.

2. How does the poet describe the Mediterranean Sea?

The blue Mediterranean Sea looks like a vast sleepy snake.

3. Why is the west wind call as destroyer and preserver?

The west wind destroys the dead leaves and preserver the seeds to grow in spring. So it is called both destroyer and preserver.

4. What does the poet request the west wind?

The poet requests the west wind to lift him as a wave, a leaf, a cloud. He complains that he has fallen upon the thorns of life and he bleeds.

5. Who was the god of the west wind?

Zephyrus, God of the West wind

6. What does the west wind symbolize?

The west wind represents spirit, the vital breath of the Universe. It serves as the messenger of the god and can indicate the presence of divinity.

7. What is the optimistic quotation of Shelley about life?

'If winter comes, can spring be far behind'

II. 5 Marks

8. How is the ocean disturbed by the west wind?

The west wind shows its power on blue Mediterranean Sea and an Atlantic ocean. The blue Mediterranean sea looks like a vast sleepy snake. Ancient civilizations, dreams of the palace and towers are submerged under the water. The poet imagines that the walls are covered with bright moss and flowers which are very sweet. **Zephyrus, the God of Atlantic Ocean** fear the power of the west wind. The plants which grow under the surface of the sea, feel so much agitated by the power of the west wind.

“The voice, and suddenly grow gray with fear

And tremble and despoil them Oh, hear!”

9. How does the west wind become a personal force on the poet?

The poet says that if he were a dead leaf, cloud, sky and a wave, he could experience the west wind's power and its strength. In his childhood, the poet had the power and strength like the power of the west wind. Now, he has been weakened by the problem and burden of life. He says that he is bleeding as he has fallen on the thorns of life. Now, the poet requests help from the west wind.

“Oh, lift me as a wave, a leaf, a cloud!

I fall upon the thorns of life! I bleed!

10. How does the poet the power of west wind on sky?

The west wind looks like a stream on the sky. The whole sky is covered over with clouds, which are filled with vapours, looks during the night like a vast tomb. The floating clouds are like the dying leaves from the intertwined branches of heaven and ocean. It is the harbinger of rain and storm. The west wind in its howl sings the funeral song, that denotes its cessation and soon the next season will follow with the hail bursting.

“Of vapours, from whose solid atmosphere

Black rain, and fire, and hail will burst: oh, hear!”

III. 10 MARKS:-

11. Write an essay the poem 'Ode to the West wind'?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY:-

Percy Bysshe Shelley was born in England. He was a Romantic poet, dramatist, critic and essayist. His famous works are: Ozymandias, To a Skylark, and The Cloud.

An Ode:-

An ode is an address to the **god, or a person or an object**. This is a long narrative poem. This poem has 5 stanzas and each stanza of 14 lines.

INTRODUCTION:-

In the poem 'Ode to the west wind', Shelley expresses his admiration for the power of west wind which limitless power on the earth, in the sky and over the ocean. The poet addresses the west wind in the poem.

THE WEST WIND POWER ON EARTH:-

The west wind comes in autumn. Shelley has personified the wind and the season. The poet addresses the west wind as the "breath of Autumn". The dead leaves are driven away by the wind like that of the ghosts are sent by the magician. The dead leaves colors are yellow, red, black and pale like some crowds of people affected by the epidemic. The west wind carries some seeds like a chariot and disperses them in many places. The seeds that lay like the corpses in graves during the winter and sprout to life in spring. The earth is now filled with sweet buds like flocks of cattle feeding. The west wind is like a wild spirit forcing its way everywhere. It is both destroyer and preserver.

"O wild West Wind, thou breath of Autumn's being,"

THE WEST WIND POWER IN SKY:-

The west wind looks like a stream in the sky. The whole sky is covered over with clouds, which are filled with vapours, looks during the night like a vast tomb. The floating clouds are like the dying leaves from the intertwined branches of heaven and ocean. It is the harbinger of rain and storm. The west wind in its howl sings the funeral song, that denotes its cessation and soon the next season will follow with the hail bursting.

"Of vapours, from whose solid atmosphere

Black rain, and fire, and hail will burst: oh, hear!"

THE WEST WIND POWER ON OCEAN:-

The west wind shows its power on blue Mediterranean Sea and an Atlantic ocean. The blue Mediterranean sea looks like a vast sleepy snake. Ancient civilizations, dreams of the palace and towers are submerged under the water. The poet imagines that the walls are covered with bright moss and flowers which are very sweet. **Zephyrus, the God of Atlantic Ocean** fears the power of the west wind. The plants which grow under the surface of the sea, feel so much agitated by the power of the west wind.

“The voice, and suddenly grow gray with fear

And tremble and despoil themselves Oh, hear!

THE POET APPEALS TO THE WEST WIND:-

The poet says that if he were a dead leaf, cloud, sky and a wave, he could experience the west wind's power and it's strength. In his childhood, the poet had the power and strength like the power of the west wind. Now, he has been weakened by the problem and burden of life. He says that he is bleeding as he has fallen on the thorns of life. Now, the poet requests help from the west wind.

“Oh, lift me as a wave, a leaf, a cloud!

I fall upon the thorns of life! I bleed!”

CONCLUSION:-

The speaker appeals the west wind to spread his word across the world. So that it brings a change in the old conventional society of his time. It shows his belief that human mind has the power to make positive changes in the world. He believes that his ideas can bring a huge change in the society and he can bring revolution by spreading his word throughout the world.

LESSON-4

LA BELL DAME SANS MERCI

→JOHN KEATS

I. 2 MARKS

1. What is the meaning of 'La Belle Dame Sans Merci'?

'La Belle Dame Sans Merci' is derived from French term. But it's meaning in English, 'A beautiful lady without mercy'.

2. Where is the knight wandering alone?

The knight with arms loitering around the edge of the lake. He is pale. The sedge has withered around the lake and no birds sing.

3. Define the beauty of the fairy lady?

The knight says that he met a beautiful lady in the meadow. She had a long hair, was graceful and had wild eyes. Her foot was slight and walked gently. Her look was like a fairy child.

4. What kind of food fairy lady offered to the knight?

The knight says that the fairy lady offered him **tasty Roots,, Honey, Manna** to eat. Manna is the food that the Jewish scripture says that the Israelites ate when they were wandering around the desert after Moses freed them from slavery in Egypt.

5. What did the knight for the fairy lady?

The knight made the garland, bracelet and belt with fragrant flowers.

6. What does I see a lily on thy brow mean?

The poet sees a lily on the Knight's brow. The knight is feeling feverish. His cheeks look like a fading rose.

7. To whom did the Knight see in his dream?

The knight describes the dream he had: he saw "**kings,**" "**princes,**" and "**warriors, and they were all "death pale."**

8. Who is the speaker in La Belle Dame Sans Merci?

"La Belle Dame Sans Merci" is in the form of a dialogue between two speakers. The first is the unnamed speaker who comes across a sick, sad knight and pesters him with questions for the first three stanzas. Stanzas 4-12 are the knight's response.

II 5 Mark Questions

9. How do describe the Knight's appearance?

The unnamed speaker asked the knight why he was loitering alone around the cold hill. What was trouble him. His look was pale. The sedge had withered around the lake and no birds were singing. His look was depressed and sick. The Squirrel had filled up their storage of food. The crops had harvested already. It was an autumn season. The speaker continues to address this sick, depressed "knight at arms." He talks about the "lily" on the knight's "brow," suggesting that the knight's face is pale like a lily. The Knight's forehead is sweaty with anguish like dew on the rose. His cheek was look like a fading rose. So His look was very sick.

**“O what can ail thee, knight-at-arms,
Alone and palely loitering”**

10. How did the knight meet the fairy lady?

The knight answered that he met a beautiful lady in the meadow. She had a long hair, was graceful. Her eyes were wild. Her foot was slight and moved gently. Her look was like a **fairy child**. Later, the knight made **a garland for her head, bracelets and belt with fragrant flowers**. Then she looked at the knight as if she loved him and moaned sweetly. They both rode on a horseback. At times, she bent sideways off the horse and sang fairy songs. Then the fairy lady offered him **‘Tasty Roots, Honey, Manna’ (heaven food)** to eat. Manna is the food that the Jewish Scripture says that the Israelites ate when they were wandering around the desert after Moses freed them from slavery in Egypt. She exposes her love with him in a strangelanguage. But he doesn't understand the language. Then the fairy lady takes the knight to her **' elfin grot'**. Here, the lady's behavior was totally strange and mysterious. Later, she looks at the knight and cries loudly. The knight kisses her weepy eyes four times.

**“I met a lady in the meads,
Full beautiful- a faery's child”**

11. Describe the dream of the Knight?

The fairy lady lulls the knight to sleep like a baby in her cave. He starts to dream something. The knight describes the dream. In his dream, he saw Kings, princes and warriors. The horror was added with dusk and gloomy. They were all death pale. The pale warriors, princes and kings all cried out in unison that **‘La belle Dame sans Mercy’ (A Beautiful Lady**

without Mercy’).They also had warning to the knight.Their manner of warning terrified him. He woke up. Instead of finding himself in the cave of his lady-love, he found himself by the side of the hill. This was the reason why he was pale and haggard. Frustration in love made him sad, dejected, and pale and haggard-looking. Soon, he woke up from the dream on the side of the hill. The knight finishes his story.

“I saw pale kings and princes too,

Pale warriors, death pale were they all:

They cried, “La belle Dame Sans Mercy”

12. Give the brief summary of the poem ‘La Belle dame sans Mercy’?

The poem narrates a story of a knight's disappointed love with a fairy lady. . Once a knight was wandering alone by the side of the lake with a sad and dejected mood. Someone or the poet asked the knight why he was so pale and haggard. The knight replied that he had met a beautiful lady in the meadows and was fascinated by her looks and beautiful features. She also fell in love with him. They both rode on a horseback, till they reached the cave of the fairy. There the lady expressed her love for him and lulled him to sleep. He saw a dream. In the dream he saw pale kings and warriors. All of them told him that the beautiful lady without mercy had captivated him. Their manner of warning terrified him. He woke up. Instead of finding himself in the cave of his lady-love, he found himself by the side of the hill. This was the reason why he was pale and haggard. Frustration in love made him sad, dejected, pale and haggard-looking.

III 10 Marks

13. Write an appreciation of the poem ' La Belle Dame sans Mercy?

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY:-

John Keats was born on 1795 in Hoop Inn, London. He is a romantic poet. His famous works are: Endymion, Ode to a Nightingale, Ode on a Grecian Urn, Hyperion. He died at the age of 26 in 1821.

INTRODUCTION:-

The poem 'La Belle Dame Sans Merci' was written by Keats in 1819. '**La Belle Dame sans Merci**' is derived from **French term**. But it's meaning in English, '**A beautiful lady without mercy**'. This title is taken from a poem by **ALAIN CHARTIER**; a fifteenth century French poet. The poem is a ballad.

THE KNIGHT'S APPEARANCE:-

The unnamed speaker asked the knight why he was loitering alone around the cold hill. What was trouble him. His look was pale. The sedge had withered around the lake and no birds were singing. His look was depressed and sick. The Squirrel had filled up their storage of food. The crops had harvested already. It was an autumn season. The speaker continues to address this sick, depressed "knight at arms." He talks about the "lily" on the knight's "brow," suggesting that the knight's face is pale like a lily. The Knight's forehead is sweaty with anguish like dew on the rose. His cheek was look like a fading rose. So His look was very sad.

“O what can ail thee, knight-at-arms,

Alone and palely loitering”

KNIGHT MET A BEAUTYFUL LADY:-

The knight answered that he met a beautiful lady in the meadow. She had a long hair, was graceful. Her eyes were wild. Her foot was slight and moved gently. Her look was like a fairy child. Later, the knight made a garland for her head, bracelets and belt with fragrant flowers. Then she looked at the knight as if she loved him and moaned sweetly. Both road on the horseback. At times, she bent sideways off the horse and sang fairy songs. Then the fairy lady offered him 'Tasty Roots, Honey, Manna' (heaven food) to eat. Manna is the food that the Jewish Scripture says that the Israelites ate when they were wandering around the desert after Moses freed them from slavery in Egypt. She exposes her love with him in a strange language. But he doesn't understand the language. Then the fairy lady takes the knight to her 'elfin grot'. Here, the lady's behavior was totally strange and mysterious. Later, she looks at the knight and cries loudly. The knight kisses her weepy eyes four times.

“I met a lady in the meads,

Full beautiful- a faery's child”

THE KNIGHT'S HORROR DREAM:-

The fairy lady lulls the knight to sleep like a baby in her cave. He starts to dream something. The knight describes the dream. In his dream, he saw Kings, princes and warriors. The horror was added with dusk and gloomy. They were all death pale. The pale warriors, princes and kings all cried out in unison that '**La belle Dame sans Mercy**' (A Beautiful Lady without Mercy'). They also had warning to the knight. Their manner of warning terrified him. He woke up. Instead of finding himself in the cave of his lady-love, he found himself by the side of the hill. This was the reason why he was pale and haggard. Frustration in love made him sad, dejected, and pale and haggard-looking. Soon, he woke up from the dream on the side of the hill. The knight finishes his story.

"I saw pale kings and princes

Pale warriors, death pale were they all:

They cried, "La belle Dame sans Mercy"

CONCLUSION:-

This beauty full ballad has been given many different meanings from different critics. Yet it is one of the medieval romance and chivalry.

UNIT-III

LESSON-5

ULYSSES- ALFRED TENNYSON

I **2 Marks:**

II. Who is Ulysses in the poem Ulysses?

In the Tennyson poem, "Ulysses" refers to the Greek hero who had to battle through adversaries of all types in order to return home to Ithaca after his exploits in the Trojan War.

III. What Ulysses means?

Ulysses symbolizes that arch in life, that no one can reach every goal, or every sight in life. Even though this personality of curiosity and purposefulness exist in all mankind, the purpose of showing his strive to succeed symbolizes great leaders today.

IV. What is the purpose of Ulysses?

In Ulysses, a poem written by Alfred Tennyson, the main character is on a quest to seek fulfillment in his life. Ulysses had before been on journeys fighting monsters and sailing unknown seas. He now sits at home being bored and wants some excitement. For example, Ulysses feels old and yearns for desire.

V. What way of life is symbolized by Ulysses?

Ulysses symbolizes the explorer and impulsive way of life. He can't settle down despite the fact that he loves his family, because he can't live without traveling and acquiring knowledge of the world. He is something of a nomad with a curious spirit.

VI. What is Ulysses attitude towards his experiences?

He says he leads a dull life without adventure or risk. He is proud of his accomplishments and past experiences.

II 5 MARKS

VII. Explain the dissatisfy life of Ulysses in Ithaca?

Ulysses has returned from the Trojan War. After his adventure life, he feels life idle in Ithaca. He feels that his home and country have become dull. The subjects have no aims and live like animals. They find pleasure in hoarding, feeding and thinking. They don't think about greatness of Ulysses. He feels that his desire is like that of a drunkard. He is unable to control his quest for travelling. He wants to enjoy life to the fullest extent. He feels that his desire is like that of a drunkard. An addict to drinks finds excitement with the last drop. Likewise, Ulysses wants to enjoy adventures in his old age. He does not want his desire to rest.

“I cannot rest from travel: I will drink

Life to the less; all times I have enjoyed”

VIII. Describe the arch image.

Ulysses mentions the arch image to bring out his desire for adventures. He tells that some people feel Content with what they have seen but some people want to go beyond the arch to enjoy more in life. Ulysses is one among them. The arch is compared to the horizon. He feels that there are unvisited parts of the world beyond the horizon. Life is full of adventures and everyone should enjoy it.

“How dull it is to pause, to make an end,

To ruse unburnished, not to shine in use!”

IX. Write about the character of ‘Telemachus’?

Ulysses introduces his son Telemachus and assures that his son will rule the country in his absence. He confidently says that his son is wise and patient to soften violence in the nation. He is faithful and treats people with love and affection. He surely will shine as a good king.

“This is my son, mine own Telemachus,

When I am gone. He works his work, I mind.”

III

10 Marks

X. Write an essay on Ulysses Desire for adventure.

Author biography:-

Alfred lord Tennyson was born on August 6, 1809 in Lincolnshire, England. His famous works are: In Memoriam, The Lotus Eaters, Dora, Maud and Idylls of the king. Ulysses was published in 1842.

Introduction:-

Ulysses has returned from the Trojan War. After his adventure life, he feels life idle in Ithaca. He feels that his home and country have become dull. The subjects have no aims and live like animals. They find pleasure in hoarding, feeding and thinking. They don't think about greatness of Ulysses. He feels that

his desire is like that of a drunkard. He is unable to control his quest for travelling. He wants to enjoy life to the fullest extent. He feels that his desire is like that of a drunkard. An addict to drinks finds the excitement with the last drop. Likewise, Ulysses wants to enjoy adventures in his old age. He does not want his desire to rest.

“I cannot rest from travel: I will drink

Life to the less; all times I have enjoyed”

The adventure of Ulysses:-

Ulysses had performed adventures both on land and sea. He achieved greatness with his companions. He never feared to go into the sea. He has faced even storms courageously. He claims that every family has a member with his name. He has traveled to many places, he knows about various cities, their civilizations, weather conditions and their governments. He recalls about his victory in Trojan War. The battlefield and the palace echoed with the sounds of soldiers. He was excited with their sound.

“Much have I seen and known: cities of men

And manners, climates, councils, governments”

Ulysses used Arch Image:-

Ulysses mentions the arch image to bring out his desire for adventures. He tells that some people feel Content with what they have seen but some people want to go beyond the arch to enjoy more in life. Ulysses is one among them. The arch is compared to the horizon. He feels that there are unvisited parts of the world beyond the horizon. Life is full of adventures and everyone should enjoy it.

“How dull it is to pause, to make an end,

To ruse unburnished, not to shine in use!”

Thirst for travel:-

Ulysses feels that though there are many lives in the world, they are too little for fulfilling desires. He wanted to live his life fullest. So, he doesn't want to waste his life. Death is an eternal silence. So every moment in life is precious. He tells that like his grey hair, his spirit has also greyed. He wants to continue his voyage even in his old age.

**“And this gray spirit yearning in desire
To follow knowledge, like a sinking star,”**

Ulysses son Telemachus:-

Ulysses introduces his son Telemachus and assures that his son will rule the country in his absence. He confidently says that his son is wise and patient to soften violence in the nation. He is faithful and treats people with love and affection. He surely will shine as a good king.

**“This is my son, mine own Telemachus,
When I am gone. He works his work, I mind.”**

Preparation for the voyage:-

Ulysses says that ships are ready for the voyage. The weather is good and the sea is dark in night. The Mariners who accompany with Ulysses are hard working. They are as old as Ulysses. They will never be affected by any prejudices or natural calamities. Ulysses insists to work briskly till death comes to them.

“Death closes all; but something ere the end,”

The voyage:-

Ulysses starts his journey when the lighthouse is blinking. Ulysses describes about his aims and desires to the sailors. The ancient Greeks believed that the sun would disappear in the west to take bath. It would disappear in the East the next morning. Ulysses wants to reach the baths of the sun and the stars. He also says that the great people like Achilles went to Happy Isles after their death. He wants to go to Happy Isles to meet Achilles who was killed in the Trojan War. He encourages his fellow sailors **“to strive, to seek, to find and not to yield”**.

Conclusion:-

All the sailors including Ulysses have lost strength due to old age. Yet, they want to be adventurous with the strength left out. Though time and fate weakened them, they have will power to work hard to attain their goals.

LESSON-6

MY LAST DUCHESS

→ ROBERT BROWNING

I. 2 MARKS

1. Who is painted the portrait of the last Duchess?

The Duke shows him the **portrait of the last Duchess**, former wife of the Duke and the Duchess of Ferrara, which hangs on the wall. The Duke praises the painting for looking so lifelike and then remarks the painter, **Fra Pandolf**, worked hard in one day.

2. What type of poem is My Last Duchess?

The poem 'My Last Duchess' wrote by Robert Browning. It was written in 1842. This poem composed in 28 rhyming couplets of iambic pentameter, AABCCDD.

3. What has happened to the last Duchess?

The duke was possessive with the Duchess and wanted her to look and smile at him. So he didn't want to stop and correct her. He gave commands and made her to stop her smile. This gives the reader a suspicion that the Duchess might have been killed on the order of the Duke.

4. Who is the narrator in My Last Duchess?

The poem's narrator is the Duke of Ferrara, who comments dispassionately on the portrait his late wife hanging on the wall, remarking the Duchess's innocence and character.

5. What does the sculpture of Neptune taming the seahorse represent?

The Duke shows a statue of the Sea- God, Neptune taming a Sea Horse made by Claus of Innsbruck. He tells that he loved the majestic statue of Neptune. He means that he would tame his future wife like the Neptune who tames the sea horse.

6. What does the poem My Last Duchess mean?

Throughout the poem, the Duke reveals his belief that women are objects to be controlled, possessed and discarded.

7. What is the main message in My Last Duchess?

“My Last Duchess” is all about power: the political and social power wielded by the speaker (Duke) and his attempt to control the domestic sphere (his marriage) in the same way.

8. What is the Duke’s name?

Alfonso, the Duke of Ferrara. This poem was a 16th century event. The Duke speaker of the poem.

9. . What is the Duchess’s name?

The Duchess’s name Lucretia de Medici who was 15 years old girl when she was married the Duke. But at the age of seventeen, the Duchess disappeared mysteriously.

II. 5 MARKS

10. Write the character sketch Duke of Ferrara?

Alfonso, the Duke of Ferrara. The duke speaker of the poem. The speaker (the Duke of Ferrara) addresses the messenger who comes to negotiate the second wedding of the Duke with the master's daughter. The Duke takes the messenger through the palace and shows him the art gallery. He shows him the portrait of the last duchess, former wife, the Duchess of Ferrara, which hangs on the wall. The duke was possessive with the Duchess and wanted her to look and smile at him. So he didn't want to stop and correct her. He gave commands and made her to stop her smile. This gives the reader a suspicion that the Duchess might have been

killed on the order of the Duke. The Duke shows a statue of the Sea- God, Neptune taming a Sea Horse made by Claus of Innsbruck. He tells that he loved the majestic statue of Neptune. He means that he would tame his future wife like the Neptune who tames the sea horse. Throughout the poem, the Duke reveals his belief that women are objects to be controlled, possessed and discarded.

XI. Write the character sketch of the Duchess?

The Duchess's name **Lucretia de Medici** who was 15 years old girl when she was married the Duke. But at the age of seventeen, the Duchess disappeared mysteriously. The Duke tells the character of the Duchess. The messenger guesses that the happiness on her face may be due to the comment given by the painter. The duke says that the duchess was easily influenced. He complains that she expresses the same joy over the valuable gift given by the Duke and the cheery given by some officious fool. She was thankful to everyone who pleased her. She enjoyed everything like a beautiful sunset and a white male. Her kindly behavior was reason for the ego of the Duke. He feels that she had no special respect for his family tradition of nine hundred years. He wanted her to maintain the dignity of his family. The duke complains that he was not satisfied by her simplicity. He was quite intolerant towards the duchess who was friendly with everyone. He thinks that her behaviour was beneath his dignity. He wanted her to preserve the honour of his ancient family. He was possessive with the Duchess and wanted her to look and smile at him. So he didn't want to stop and correct her. He gave commands and made her to stop her smile. This gives the reader a suspicion that the Duchess might have been killed on the order of the Duke.

XII. Describe the portrait of the Last Duchess?

The speaker (the Duke of Ferrara) addresses the messenger who comes to negotiate the second wedding of the Duke with the master's daughter. The Duke takes the messenger through the palace and shows him the art gallery. He shows him the portrait of the last duchess, former wife, the Duchess of Ferrara, which hangs on the wall. The Duke praises the painting for looking so lifelike and then remarks the painter, Fra Pandolf, worked hard in one day. The duke asks the guest to sit comfortably and enjoy the beauty of the portrait. He shows it only selective visitors. The visitors who saw the picture might have wanted to ask about the happiness on the faces of the duchess. But they had no courage to ask about it

XIII. Write an essay the poem 'My Last Duchess'?

Setting of the poem:-

Browning's My Last Duchess is an exemplary dramatic monologue for which Browning is best known. The drama that this poem represents is set in 'Ferrara', the capital of a province in Italy that was famous for its 'high' culture during the Renaissance. This setting also hints at the fact that the poem's story is historical: a real incident of this kind had happened. The Duke had murdered his seventeen-year-old wife after three years of marriage, and married another girl. The main character and speaker of the poem is Duke Alfonso II of Ferrara. The other person listening to him (his addressee) is the envoy (marriage agent) sent by the Count of another place called Tyrol.

Introduction:-

"My Last Duchess" is a dramatic monologue written by Victorian poet Robert Browning in 1842. In the poem, the Duke of Ferrara uses a painting of his former wife as a conversation piece. The Duke speaks about his former wife's perceived inadequacies to a representative of the family of his bride-to-be, revealing his obsession with controlling others in the process. Browning uses this compelling psychological portrait of a despicable character to critique the objectification of women and abuses of power. Alfonso, the Duke of Ferrara. This poem was a 16th century event. The duke speaker of the poem. The Duchess's name Lucretia de Medici who was 15 years old girl when she was married the Duke. But at the age of seventeen, the Duchess disappeared mysteriously. This gives the reader a suspicion that the Duchess might have been killed on the order of the Duke

The portrait of the duchess:-

The speaker (the Duke of Ferrara) addresses the messenger who comes to negotiate the second wedding of the Duke with the master's daughter. The Duke takes the messenger through the palace and shows him the art gallery. He shows him the portrait of the last duchess, former wife, the Duchess of Ferrara, which hangs on the wall. The Duke praises the painting for looking so lifelike and then remarks the painter, Fra Pandolf, worked hard in one day. The duke asks the guest to sit comfortably and enjoy the beauty of the portrait. He shows it only selective visitors. The visitors who saw the picture might have wanted to ask about the happiness on the faces of the duchess. But they had no courage to ask about it.

"FERRARA

**That's my last Duchess painted on the wall,
Looking as if she were alive."**

The character of the Duchess:-

The Duke tells the character of the Duchess. The messenger guesses that the happiness on her face may be due to the comment given by the painter. The duke says that the duchess was easily influenced. He complains that she expresses the same joy over the valuable gift given by the Duke and the cheery given by some officious fool. She was thankful to everyone who pleased her. She enjoyed everything like a beautiful sunset and a white male. Her kindly behavior was reason for the ego of the Duke. He feels that she had no special respect for his family tradition of nine hundred years. He wanted her to maintain the dignity of his family.

"Too easily impressed; she like whate'er

She looked on, and her looks went everywhere."

The murder of the Duchess:-

The duke complains that he was not satisfied by her simplicity. He was quite intolerant towards the duchess who was friendly with everyone. He thinks that her behaviour was beneath his dignity. He wanted her to preserve the honour of his ancient family. He was possessive with the Duchess and wanted her to look and smile at him. So he didn't want to stop and correct her. He gave commands and made her to stop her smile. This gives the reader a suspicion that the Duchess might have been killed on the order of the Duke.

"This grew; I gave commands;

Then all smiles stopped together. There she stands"

Statue of the Neptune:-

The Duke takes the messenger downstairs where companions of the messenger are waiting. Before going down, he shows a statue of the sea-god Neptune taming a sea horse made by Claus of Innsbruck. He tells that he loved the majestic statue of Neptune. He means that he would tame his future wife like the Neptune who takes the sea horse.

"Taming a sea-horse, thought a rarity,

Which Claus of Innsbruck cast in bronze for me."

Conclusion:-

Robert Browning presents the character of the Duke of Ferrara through his dramatic monologue. His dominance is portrayed by his praise for the statue of Neptune. This is a signal to the messenger that he will tame his future wife, however strong she might be. Throughout the poem, the Duke reveals his belief that women are objects to be controlled, possessed and discarded.

XIV. Describe the “My Last Duchess” Themes?

The Objectification of Women

“My Last Duchess” is a dramatic monologue in which the Duke of Ferrara tells the messenger of his potential wife’s family about his previous wife, the “last” duchess of the poem's title. Using a painting of that former duchess as a conversation piece, he describes what he saw as her unfaithfulness, frivolity, and stubbornness, and implies that he prefers her as a painting rather than as a living woman. Throughout the poem, the duke reveals his belief that women are objects to be controlled, possessed, and discarded. In many ways, this reflects the thinking of Browning’s own era, when Victorian social norms denied women the right to be fully independent human beings. Through this portrayal of the duke, Browning critiques such a viewpoint, presenting sexism and objectification as dehumanizing processes that rob women of their full humanity.

The duke’s treatment of the painting reflects his treatment of women as objects to be owned. His description of the painting as a “piece” and a “wonder” portray it as a work of art rather than a testament to a former love. By repeating the name of the painter (the famous “Fra Pandolf”) three times in the first 16 lines of the poem, he again implies that he values the painting because of its status as an object that shows off his (that is, the duke's) wealth and clout. The painting is meant to aggrandize the duke rather than honor the woman it portrays.

This is made even clearer by the fact that the duke has placed this painting in a public area of his palace so he can proudly display it to guests, whom he invites to “sit and look at her” much like a museum curator would direct visitors

to a famous work of art in a gallery. Such an attitude is reflected yet again when he tells the messenger that the Count's "fair daughter's self [... is his] object": he intends to make his new bride another one of his possessions. Women, in the duke's mind, are simply ornamental objects for men rather than actual people in their own right.

Ultimately, the poem heavily implies that the duke was so vexed by the idea that his former wife had an inner life of her own that he had the "last duchess" killed. Of course, the duke avoids explicitly confessing to assassinating his wife, and Browning himself allegedly once said in an interview that the duke may have simply had her sent to a convent. Regardless, the outcome is the same: there is no "last duchess" present in the poem to speak for herself and give her side of the story. The poem thus underscores how objectifying women ultimately silences them, robbing them of their voices and autonomy.

UNIT-IV

LESSON-7

A PRAYER FOR MY DAUGHTER

→WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS

XV. 2 MARKS

1. When was written "A Prayer for My Daughter?"

"A Prayer for My Daughter" is a personal poem by William Butler Yeats. This poem composed in 1919 and appeared in 1921. It was written during the World War-I.it reflects the post-war agitation that was prevalent during that time.

2. What is the theme of the poem 'A Prayer for My Daughter'?

This poem portrays how a father prays for the daughter's future happiness and welfare.

3. Who was a Maud Gonne?

Maud Gonne was a beautiful women and former lover of W.B. Yeats. She refused to marry Yeats and instead married John Macbride. She was actively involved in Irish politics and Irish revolutionary movement.

4. Why does Yeats blame Helen?

Helen, a paragon of beauty, wife of Menelaus, king of Sparta. She felt her life with Menelaus dull and monotonous. So she eloped with Paris, Prince of Troy, deserting her husband. By her senseless act, she brought on the Trojan War.

5. Write the character of the goddess of love, Aphrodite in the poem?

Venus (Aphrodite) Goddess of Beauty and Love. She chose to marry the lame-legged heavenly blacksmith Vulcan (Hephaestus). It is strange how exquisitely beautiful women often choose 'a crazy salad' (an undeserving husband) to go 'with their meat' (rich food or their great beauty). 6.

6. What are the laurel tree qualities?

The laurel tree is giving fruits, sheltering birds and providing shade to people when it grows up. It gives qualities of goodness, good health and prosperity. It is also a symbol of growth and kindness.

7. What is the name of the daughter of W.B. Yeats?

Anne Butler Yeats

II 5 MARKS

8. What are the qualities of laurel tree and linnet bird?

The laurel tree is giving fruits, sheltering birds and providing shade to people when it grows up. It gives qualities of goodness, good health and prosperity. It is also a symbol of growth and kindness. The laurel tree is not only symbolizes inner life, but also stands for constancy in place and for the life of tradition. So, he wishes that his daughter's life should be rooted in one place and tradition like a laurel tree. The bird linnet is a symbol of sweetness. Her feelings should be like the sweet song of the linnet that spreads joy everyone around her with her sweetness as the linnet with its sweet songs.

9. Describe the historical character of Helen and Aphrodite?

Helen, a paragon of beauty, wife of Menelaus, king of Sparta. She felt her life with Menelaus dull and monotonous. So she eloped with Paris, Prince of Troy, deserting her husband. By her senseless act, she brought on the Trojan War. Venus (Aphrodite) Goddess of Beauty and Love. She chose to marry the lame-legged heavenly blacksmith Vulcan (Hephaestus). It is strange how exquisitely beautiful women often choose 'a crazy salad' (an undeserving husband) to go 'with their meat' (rich food or their great beauty).

III 10 MARKS

10. SUMMARISE YEATS PRAYER FOR MY DAUGHTER.

Introduction:-

A prayer for my daughter is an intensely personal poem. Written in 1919, a few weeks after Yeats daughter Anne was born, this poem speaks about the anxiety felt for the well-being of his daughter as also about the anxiety shared by all fathers all over the world torn by war and greed. He thinks how his daughter will face the coarse and vulgar world. He imagines the war drums which forecast the struggle for survival. He thinks that the cruelty of man is more dangerous than the murderous innocence of the sea. He believes that she can protect herself by cultivating virtues of nobility and courtesy. He prays that his daughter should have beauty but not vanity.

“I have walked and prayed for this young child an hour”

The Storm howls outside and inside:-

The poet expresses deep concern for his infant daughter who sleeps in a cradle. The roof-levelling strong wind is blowing outside. She is well covered and protected from the onslaughts of violent wind. He paces up and down and prays for the well-being of his daughter. The strong wind makes the poet gloomy. He thinks how his daughter will face the coarse and vulgar world. He imagines the war drums which forecast the struggle for survival. He thinks that the cruelty of man is more dangerous than the murderous innocence of the sea.

The poet prayers for the courteous behavior:

She must protect herself by a shield. The shield stands for qualities and virtues. So the poet wants his daughter to be virtuous and good. The poet prays that his daughter should have beauty and not vanity. Thus, the poet wants his daughter to inculcate the virtues of courtesy and humility. The hearts of people can be won by courtesy. Even those who are not very beautiful can win the hearts of others by showing courtesy. Virtues in a woman are more important than physical beauty.

The dangerous of Beauty:-

Helen, the most beautiful woman, eloped with Prince Paris of Troy and this resulted in the destruction of Troy. Similarly, Aphrodite (Venus) married Hephaestus, the lame blacksmith of the gods, unwisely and betrayed him later on. Maud Gonne (the poet's beloved) married a worthless man MacBride and remained unhappy. The poet wants his daughter to have happy and innocent thoughts in her mind. She should scatter her happiness all round. Her soul should flourish like a flourishing tree which gives comforts to all.

Arrogance- the worst hatred of the mind:-

He considers hatred as the worst of all evils. So he prays that his daughter should be free from this evil. If the person does not entertain hatred, no misfortunes can possibly ruin his happiness. Then he thinks that intellectual hatred is the worst kind of hatred. It is the worst flaw in a person's character. So he wants his daughter to shun strong or stubborn opinions on any subject – political or otherwise. The poet says that Maud Gonne, an extremely beautiful woman, wasted her aristocratic traditions in political arguments. If hatred is replaced by innocence, it can bring happiness to all. It will give inner peace.

Custom and Tradition:-

He wants his daughter to have happy and innocent thoughts in her mind. She should scatter her happiness all around. Her soul should

flourish like a flourishing tree. He wants his daughter to be free from hatred and to shun strong or stubborn opinion on any subject – political or otherwise. He wants innocence to replace hatred. It will give inner peace to his daughter. He wishes his daughter to get married in a good aristocratic family and lead a happy life.

Conclusion:-

Yeats concludes that the social behaviour belongs very largely to a woman.

LESSON-8

JOURNEY OF THE MAGI

→THOMAS STEARNS ELIOT

I 2 MARKS

1. What does Journey of the Magi mean?

Journey of the Magi is a poem that explores the journey the wise men took when following the star to Bethlehem where the Christ child was born. It is a metaphorical poem, representing birth and death, renewal and spiritual rebirth.

2. What is the background of the poem Journey of the Magi?

"The Journey of the Magi" is a document of Eliot's burgeoning Christian faith, which finds its first full expression in Ash Wednesday. Although Eliot believes in the Incarnation, he remains physically present in a sinful world, the fallen world, the world of the here and now in which we all live.

3. Where did the Magi travel from?

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.

4. Who are the 3 Kings?

There is an Armenian tradition identifying the "Magi of Bethlehem" as Balthasar of Arabia, Melchior of Persia, and Gaspar of India.

5. What type of poem is Journey of the Magi?

Journey of the Magi is a free verse poem of 43 lines, made up of 3 stanzas. There is no set rhyme scheme or meter (meter in British English) and the lines are of varied length. When words are close together in a line and start with the same consonant they're said to be alliterative.

6. How did the Magi know about Jesus?

Matthew's account suggests that the Magi knew from the star that the "king of the Jews" had been born before they arrived in Jerusalem. They present Jesus with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, and as verse 11 describes: "they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him".

7. What is the old dispensation?

Theology, the divine ordering of the affairs of the world. an appointment, arrangement, or favor, as by God. a divinely appointed order or age: the old Mosaic, or Jewish, dispensation; the new gospel, or Christian, dispensation.

8. .What was the inn like where Jesus was born?

The Gospels of both Matthew and Luke place the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. The Gospel of Luke states that Mary gave birth to Jesus and placed him in a manger "because there was no place for them in the inn".

9. What was the inn like where Jesus was born?

The Gospels of both Matthew and Luke place the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. The Gospel of Luke states that Mary gave birth to Jesus and placed him in a manger "because there was no place for them in the inn".

II 5 MARKS

11. Describe the magi's Journey.

Three wise men (Magi) are identified as kings. They saw bright star. It announced the birth of Jesus Christ. They started on a journey. To see and pay homage to the new- born baby. The long journey Jerusalem was rough. they had to cross the many hills. they could not find any shelter. For anything and everything they had to pay heavy price. they mostly undertook their journey during night time to avoid sheltering. The night journey gave them warmth.

12. How does magus find their destination?

At dawn the magi reached a valley of temperate climate. They saw water, vegetation, a stream, three trees and white horse. These are given some suggestion to the magus. The crosses symbolize the destination was near. The running stream symbolizes the new life that Jesus will bring. The three trees symbolize the crucifixion of Jesus. The white horse symbolizes the entry of Christ into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.

III 10 MARK

INTRODUCTION:-

Journey of the magi contains deep religious experience. The theme of the poem is an episode in the Gospel of St. Mathew. . This is a symbolic poem

THREE WISE MEN:-

There is an Armenian tradition identifying the "Magi of Bethlehem" as Balthazar of Arabia, Melchior of Persia, and Gaspar of India. "The Journey of the Magi" is a document of Eliot's burgeoning Christian faith, which finds its first full expression in Ash Wednesday. Although Eliot believes in the Incarnation, he

remains physically present in a sinful world, the fallen world, the world of the here and now in which we all live.

THE JOURNEY OF THE MAGI:-

Three wise men (Magi) are identified as kings. They saw bright star. It announced the birth of Jesus Christ. They started on a journey. To see and pay homage to the new-born baby. The long journey Jerusalem was rough. They had to cross the many hills. They could not find any shelter. For anything and everything they had to pay heavy price. They mostly undertook their journey during night time to avoid sheltering. The night journey gave them warmth.

SYMBOLISM:-

At dawn the magi reached a valley of temperate climate. They saw water, vegetation, a stream, three trees and white horse. These are given some suggestion to the magus. The crosses symbolize the destination was near. The running stream symbolizes the new life that Jesus will bring. The three trees symbolize the crucifixion of Jesus. The white horse symbolizes the entry of Christ into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.

THE NEW EXPERIENCE:-

All this happened long ago, says the narrator of one of the wise men. But he wanted to ask this: were they led all way for Birth or Death? OF COURSE THERE WAS A Birth (that of Jesus). Infant Jesus himself, the symbol of a new religion. They let go of their old religious values and adopt ones. A number of births and deaths may be necessary before all doubts and perplexities are removed as new faith is firmly established.

CONCLUSION:-

Journey of the Magi is a poem that explores the journey the wise men took when following the star to Bethlehem where the Christ child was born. It is a metaphorical poem, representing birth and death, renewal and spiritual rebirth.

UNIT-5

LESSON-9

THE UNKNOWN CITIZEN

JS/07 M 378 ->W.H. AUDEN

i. 2 MARKS

1. What is the purpose of the Unknown Citizen?

“The Unknown Citizen” by W.H. Auden describes, through the form of a dystopian report, the life of an unknown man. By describing the "average citizen" through the eyes of various government organizations, the poem criticizes standardization.

2. What is the theme of the Unknown Citizen?

The poem is a bitter satire against modern forms of government whose only aim is that all its citizens conform to its sterile norms. The 'unknown' citizen who is only given a number - JS/07 M 378 - sacrifices his unique personality by abiding by the norms of the state to 'serve the Greater Community.

3. What is the irony in the unknown citizen?

There is verbal irony in the poem "The Unknown Citizen." It is a comparison between a regular citizen, who goes about his business daily and leads a very quiet life, and the Unknown Soldier, who received various monuments from the Allied Powers of WWI.

4. Who is speaking in the unknown citizen?

The speaker of W. H. Auden's poem “The Unknown Citizen” praises a nameless citizen who to the state was a “saint,” but Auden satirizes the speaker and his values by making it clear that the citizen, by devoting himself entirely to serving the “Greater Community,” had lost his identity

5. What is the setting of the Unknown Citizen?

The setting of the poem is a cemetery with a marble monument over the Tomb of the Unknown Citizen. No such tomb exists, but many countries have tombs memorializing soldiers killed in combat whose identity could not be established, often because of disfiguring wounds.

6. What is the purpose of the poem The Unknown Citizen?

Interpretation. "The Unknown Citizen" by W.H. Auden describes, through the form of a dystopian report, the life of an unknown man. By describing the "average citizen" through the eyes of various government organizations, the poem criticizes standardization and the modern state's relationship with its citizens.

7. How are the last two lines significant in the unknown citizen?

How are the last two lines significant in "The Unknown Citizen?" They explain how statistics can accurately portray one's life. They illustrate how happy and satisfied the man was in life. They suggest anyone can be happy if they follow the man'.

8. What does the Bureau of Statistics say about the unknown citizen?

According to the Bureau of Statistics, the unknown citizen was a model worker who served the greater community well. ... According to the Bureau, the unknown citizen was socially popular, fully insured, and resistant to extreme or unpopular convictions.

9. How does the state identify the unknown citizen in the poems subtitle?

In the poem's subtitle, the unknown citizen is identified as serial number, JS/07/M/378. These numbers and letters suggest that he is just one more citizen in the state, whom is not a bit more important than the rest. This indicates that he gets no special treatment and that everybody is the same.

1. MARK

10. Describe the element in the poem' the unknown citizen'.

At the end of the poem the poet asks two questions. Was he free? Was he happy? No government statistics can ever answer these kinds of questions. By asking these questions, the poet is drawing our attention to the question of freedom and happiness. And ironically, the poet suggests that the modern man is slave to routine and he is incapable of understanding such concepts freedom and happiness. Therefore, such a question in this context would be 'absurd'. Thus, this poem The Unknown Citizen is a bitter attack on modern society-its indifference towards individuality and identity. The only way for an individual to survive in a regimented society is to conform, obey and live in perpetual mental slavery. Such a creature is this 'unknown citizen' who is utterly devoid of any urge for self-assertion. Such a modern man is a slave to the routine, is incapable of understanding such concepts as freedom and happiness.

11. Describe the government report of the unknown citizen.

The Unknown Citizen, has no name; he has only a number, to whom the monument has been built and has been found to be without any fault. He was a saint not because he searched for God but because he served the government perfectly. He did not get dismissed from his job. He was a member of the Union and paid all his dues to the union. A report by the Union shows that it was a balance union and did not take extreme views on anything. The social psychology workers found that he was popular among his fellow workers and had a drink with them now and then. He also bought a newspaper every day. He reached to the advertisements normally.

13. Describe the effect of mechanization.

Many European governments of that time resorted to dictatorship of some kind or another and the individualism of general citizen was at stake. The average citizen was made absolutely conformist. He had been distorted into a totally dictated harmless mechanism. Everything about him could be understood in some kind of statistical formula put out by the government or its agencies. He had surrendered his individuality and was often identified by a number rather than personality features which were of course common to all citizens. The poet now asks the important

questions. Was this man free? Was he happy? No government statistics can ever answer these kinds of questions.

III 10 MARKS

14. CONSIDER THE POEM 'THE UNKNOWN CITIZEN' AS A CRITICISM OF CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY?

INTRODUCTION:-

The Unknown Citizen, first published in the Listener on August 1939, and later included in the Collected Shorter Poems, 1950, is a satire, not on the citizen, but on the way in which the average man in the street is controlled by the conventions of bureaucracy and the Welfare State which ignore the need for a man to be free and happy.

In this poem Auden shows that poverty and totalitarian regimes are not the only enemies of freedom. Human freedom is restricted in subtle ways in the so-called free capitalist states as well. The average modern man in a mercantile society is ridden heavily by the more of technocratic, bureaucratic and other regimented establishments.

GOVERNMENT REPORT OF THE UNKNOWN CITIZEN:

The Unknown Citizen, has no name; he has only a number JS/07 M 378 -, to whom the monument has been built and has been found to be without any fault. He was a saint not because he searched for God but because he served the government perfectly. He did not get dismissed from his job. He was a member of the Union and paid all his dues to the union. A report by the Union shows that it was a balance union and did not take extreme views on anything. The social psychology workers found that he was popular among his fellow workers and had a drink with them now and then. He also bought a newspaper every day. He reached to the advertisements normally.

THE UNKNOWN CITIZEN'S PERSONAL VARIATION

He had good health and although he went to the hospital once, he came out quite cured. The citizen was sensible about buying things on an installment basis. He had everything a modern man needed at home. Moreover, this ideal citizen was found to be sensible in his view. When

there was peace, he supported it. But when there was war, he was ready to fight. He didn't hold his personal views on anything. He had the right number of children and he did not quarrel with the education they got.

THE LIFE OF MECHANIZATION

Many European governments of that time resorted to dictatorship of some kind or another and the individualism of general citizen was at stake. The average citizen was made absolutely conformist. He had been distorted into a totally dictated harmless mechanism. Everything about him could be understood in some kind of statistical formula put out by the government or its agencies. He had surrendered his individuality and was often identified by a number rather than personality features which were of course common to all citizens. The poet now asks the important questions. Was this man free? Was he happy? No government statistics can ever answer these kinds of questions.

THE UNKNOWN CITIZEN

In the phrase 'The Unknown' the word 'unknown' means ordinary, obscure. So the whole phrase means 'those ordinary, obscure soldiers as citizens of the state who laid down their lives for defending their motherland wanted name and fame, but remained unknown. The title of Auden's poem parodies this. Thus 'The Unknown Citizen' means the ordinary average citizen in the modern industrialized urban society. He has no individuality and identity. He has no desire for self-assertion. He likes to remain unknown.

SATIRE IN THE POEM

At the end of the poem the poet asks two questions. Was he free? Was he happy? No government statistics can ever answer these kinds of questions. By asking these questions, the poet is drawing our attention to the question of freedom and happiness. And ironically, the poet suggests that the modern man is slave to routine and he is incapable of understanding such concepts freedom and happiness. Therefore, such a question in this context would be 'absurd'. Thus, this poem The Unknown Citizen is a bitter attack on modern society-its indifference towards individuality and identity. The only way for an individual to survive in a regimented society is to conform, obey and live in perpetual mental slavery. Such a creature is this 'unknown citizen' who is utterly devoid of

any urge for self-assertion. Such a modern man is a slave to the routine, is incapable of understanding such concepts as freedom and happiness.

CONCLUSION:-

The sub-title of the poem vividly shows that it is a memorial poem written for the occasion of the erection of a national monument by the state to the ideal citizen. The irony lies in here that this so called ideal citizen is a valueless, colorless entity, nothing more than the mechanical part of a highly mechanized society. He is made a representative of the mass society and had no distinctive qualities by which one could identify him.

LESSON-10

NIGHT OF THE SCORPION

→NISSIM EZEKIEL

1. **What is the theme of the poem night of the scorpion?**

The Night of the Scorpion by Nissim Ezeikiel is a poem which focuses on the episode from the life of an Indian family. The theme of the poem "The Night of the Scorpion" is the effort of the father and the peasants to save the mother from the effect of the poison of scorpion.

2. **What do you understand by the night of the scorpion?**

"Night of the Scorpion" is a poem by Nissim Ezekiel included the Anthology. It starts in a house at night where it is raining and a scorpion, in order to take some shelter, comes to the house. This poem is about how the scorpion stung the poets mother and the mother's love for her children.

3. **What type of poem is Night of the Scorpion?**

The Night of the Scorpion is a eight stanza poem, each stanza of which contains between three and eighteen lines. This is one of Ezekiel's first poems, it was first anthologized in Collected

Poems (1952-1988) The poem is free verse, meaning it does not contain a rhyme scheme ...

4. **What made the scorpion hide behind the sack of rice?**

The heavy rain and storm outside the house have made the scorpion to hide behind sack of rice.

5. **What does the poem night of the scorpion say about a mother?**

The poem reveals that mothers, all across the world are so caring, protective about their children that they don't hesitate even risking their own lives for the sake of their children and family members. They sacrifice everything for the safety of their children.

6. **Why did the mother thank God?**

In the poem, the mother is a typical Indian mother who has selfless love for her children. When she is relieved she thanks god to protect her children.

7. **What is the central idea of the poem night of the scorpion?**

The Night of the Scorpion by NissimEzeikal is a poem which focuses on the episode from the life of an Indian family. The theme of the poem "The Night of the Scorpion" is the effort of the father and the peasants to save the mother from the effect of the poison.

8. **Why is the tail called diabolic?**

'Diabolic' means something that is extremely cruel and evil. The scorpion's tail is referred to as 'diabolic' because it inflicted a painful and venomous sting.

9. **What was the mother's reaction to the scorpion bite?**

Due to rain, a scorpion entered the poet's house. It stung the poet's mother and crawled under a sack of rice. The poison was spreading through the body of the mother. The scorpion may have foreseen that the villagers will search for it and kill it.

10. **Why did the villagers pray for the Scorpion to be Paralysed?**

The villagers prayed for the scorpion to be paralyzed as this would help the mother feel some relief. The villagers were orthodox and superstitious people. ... They prayed that the scorpion would be paralyzed so that the pain of the mother would be soothed.

11. **What did the villagers pray for the mother while suffering the pain of a scorpion bite?**

The poet goes back to the night when his mother is bitten by a scorpion. By hearing this incident the villagers came into the poet's house like swarms of flies to console the family. They prayed to God countless times to immobilize the evil creature.

12. **What is the popular superstition associated with the scorpion?**

Firstly they believed that with the movement of the scorpion, the movement of the poison should be there in the blood of the mother. So they want 'to paralyse the Evil one' by praying 'the name of God a hundred times'. "May be the sins of your previous birth/ be burned away tonight, they said

13. **How did the peasants search for the Scorpion?**

The peasants or villages came into their hut "like swarms of flies" to sympathize with the family. The neighbours buzzed the name of god hoping to paralyse the scorpion as they believed that if the mother moved the poison would spread. They searched for the scorpion with candles and lanterns.

15. **Why did the peasants say the name of God a hundred times?**

The peasants call out the name of God one hundred times to paralyze the scorpion. .

16. **Why are the peasants compared to a swarm of flies?**

The peasants calling out to God is compared to the buzzing of flies. They believed that with every movement the scorpion made its poison move in its mother's blood.

17. What is the popular superstition associated with the scorpion?

Firstly they believed that with the movement of the scorpion, the movement of the poison should be there in the blood of the mother. So they want 'to paralyse the Evil one' by praying ' the name of God a hundred times'. "May be the sins of your previous birth/ be burned away.

5 MARKS

18. WHAT WAS THE REACTION GIVEN BY THE PEASANTS?

The peasants or villagers came into their hut "like swarms of flies" to sympathize with the family. The neighbours buzzed the name of god hoping to paralyse the scorpion as they believed that if the mother moved the poison would spread. They searched for the scorpion with candles and lanterns. Firstly they believed that with the movement of the scorpion, the movement of the poison should be there in the blood of the mother. So they want 'to paralyse the Evil one' by praying ' the name of God a hundred times'. "May be the sins of your previous birth/ be burned away tonight, they said.

19. DESCRIBE THE SUPERSTITION BELIEF OF PEASANTS.

The poet's mother was in great pain. The people prayed that all the sins of her previous birth be burnt. They believed the world to be unreal and wanted pain to absolve all her sins, and decrease the sufferings of the next birth also. More and more people walked in. The poet's mother continued to suffer and was in great pain. The villagers prayed for the scorpion to be paralyzed as this would help the mother feel some relief. The villagers were orthodox and superstitious people. They prayed that the scorpion would be paralyzed so that the pain of the mother would be soothed.

10 MARK

20. WRITE THE SUMMARY ABOUT NIGHT OF THE SCORPION

INTRODUCTION:-

The Night of the Scorpion by Nissim Ezeikiel is a poem which focuses on the episode from the life of an Indian family. The theme of the poem "The Night of the Scorpion" is the effort of the father and the peasants to save the mother from the effect of the poison of scorpion.

THE POET'S MOTHER WAS STUNG BY SCORPION;-

The poet remembers the dark rainy night when his mother was stung by a scorpion. It was raining heavily; a scorpion had taken shelter, under a sack of rice. When the poet's mother went to get rice from the granary, the scorpion bit her and disappeared in the rain.

THE PEASANTS REACTION:-

The neighboring peasants came in large numbers with candles and lanterns. They chanted the name of God to paralyze the evil one, they wanted to stop the scorpion from moving. They believed the effect of the poison would increase with the movement of the scorpion. They wanted to kill it, but it wasn't found anywhere. The poet's mother was in great pain. The people prayed that all the sins of her previous birth be burnt. They believed the world to be unreal and wanted pain to absolve all her sins, and decrease the sufferings of the next birth also. More and more people walked in. The poet's mother continued to suffer and was in great pain.

THE POET'S FATHER GIVES THE TREATMENT:-

The villagers were superstitious, but the poet's father was a disbeliever, he doubted everything especially the claims of religion. He was a rational person, his views were based on reason and logic. He tried every powder, mixture, herb, and an amalgam of herbs and prayers. He poured a little paraffin upon the bitten toe and put a match to it. The poet watched the flame feeding on his mother; he also watched the holy man trying to control the effect of poison with words in prayer or magic and performed his rites. After twenty hours the sting was lost, the poison became powerless and the mother recovered. She forgot all her sufferings and her

pain. She thanked God, and was grateful that the scorpion had spared her children.

**“My mother only said
Thank god the scorpion picked on me
And spared my children.”**

CONCLUSION:-

The poem reveals that mothers, all across the world are so caring, protective about their children that they don't hesitate even risking their own lives for the sake of their children and family members. They sacrifice everything for the safety of their children.