

**CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature**  
**Beehive Poem Chapter-2 Wind**  
**Test Paper-02**

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**Read the passages below and answer the questions:**

1. You're very clever at poking fun at weaklings.  
Frail crumbling houses, crumbling doors,  
crumbling rafters, crumbling wood, crumbling bodies,  
crumbling lives, crumbling hearts —  
the wind god winnows and crushes them all.
  - a. What is the figure of speech used in this stanza?
  - b. What do you understand by word 'winnows'?
  - c. What does the wind do with crumbling things?
  - d. Why is the wind called clever?
2. He won't do what you tell him.  
So, come, let's build strong homes,  
Let's joint the doors firmly.  
Practise to firm the body.  
Make the heart steadfast.
  - a. Do you think that the spelling used for 'practise' is correct?
  - b. Why does poet suggest us to make our heart steadfast?
  - c. Who won't do what we tell him?
  - d. To whom does the poet refer when he says, 'let's'?
3. Why does the wind god winnow and crush?
4. What should we do to make friends with the wind?
5. What was the effect of the wind on the rain.
6. What do you perceive what was the scenario when the poet wrote the poem?
7. What did the wind do with the books on the shelf?
8. What happened to the weaklings when the wind blew strongly?
9. What do you understand by the last four lines of the poem? (100 words)
10. What is the suggestion of the poet to the mankind? (100 words)

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**Answer**

1.
  - a. There are two figures of speech used in this stanza, one is personification and the other is Anaphora (repetition of word "crumbling").
  - b. Word 'winnows' means separating chaff from the grain. However, here the poet refers it is as separating strong from weak.
  - c. The wind breaks and destroys crumbling things.
  - d. The wind is called clever because it is a friend to the strong and an enemy of the weak.
2.
  - a. The spelling used for 'practise' is correct when it is used as a verb. However, when we use practice as noun, the spelling is with 'c and not s'. Practice (Noun), Practise (Verb).
  - b. The poet suggests us to make our heart steadfast because he wants us to be friends with the wind and to be its friend, one must be strong.
  - c. The wind won't do what we tell him.
  - d. The poet refers to his readers including himself when he says, 'let's'.
3. Winnow means segregating chaff from grain or strong from weak. The wind god winnows and crushes the weak.
4. We should make ourselves strong to make friends with the wind.
5. The wind brought the clouds together and caused rain.
6. We perceive that there must have been a windstorm when the poet wrote the poem.
7. The wind threw off the books on the shelf and tore the pages too.
8. The weaklings were crushed and killed when the wind blew strongly.
9. The last four lines of the poem suggest that wind is enemy to the weak and extinguishes weak fires, but it is a friend to the strong. It flourishes and makes the strong fires roar. He suggests that we should make ourselves strong. We should build strong houses with well fastened doors and strong shutters. Becoming strong and able to stand with the wind will allow us to be friends of the wind. The poet makes his point by giving the suggestion of the fire. He states that the wind blows out the fires that are weak and makes the strong fires flourish and roar.

10. The poet wants the mankind to follow the example of the wind. He points out that this world is a place for strong people. Weak people cannot survive here. He talks about the books on the shelf. Since books are weak, the wind throws them down the shelf and tear off the pages. It extinguishes the weak fire. It destroys the weaklings. It crushes the crumbling doors, crumbling bodies and crumbling rafters etc. but makes the strong ones stronger like strong fires. It flourishes them and makes them roar. It cannot uproot big trees with deep seated roots but crushes the weak trees. Thus, the poet suggests us to be strong and be friend with the wind.