

CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature
Beehive Poem Chapter-1 The Road Not Taken
Test Paper-01

1. Read the following para and answer the questions:

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

- a. Who is the poet of the poem?
- b. What is the rhyme scheme of the stanza?
- c. Why could the poet not travel both the roads
- d. Why did the poet look down the road?.

2. Read the following stanza and answer the questions with reference to the text:

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

- a. What does the poet mean by 'as just as fair'?
- b. Why does the poet say 'wanted wear'
- c. What comparison is the poet making between the two roads?
- d. Why according to the poet 'the other ' has a better claim?

Answer the following questions in about 30 words:

3. What do you think the poet is trying to express by saying 'I could not travel both'? (30-50 WORDS)
4. 'And both that morning equally lay' Explain.
5. Why did the poet say 'I doubted if I should ever come back'?
6. 'And that has made the difference'. What has made the difference?
7. Why did the poet keep the road for other day?

8. "I shall be telling this with a sigh ages and ages hence". Please explain what do you understand by it?

Answer the following questions in about 100 words:

9. Can a person take a decision and subsequently not regret it? (100-150 WORDS)
10. Does the end of the poem conveys any emotional meaning?

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Answer

1.
 - a. The poet of the poem Road Not Taken is Robert Frost.
 - b. The rhyme scheme of the stanza is a, b, a, a, b.
 - c. The poet could not take both the roads as one traveler can travel one path only & the poet had to choose one road.
 - d. The poet looked down upon the road to ascertain which road he should take. He had to make a choice. He won't be able to travel the other.
2.
 - a. The poet suggests that on that day both the roads looked equally good.
 - b. The poet says that the road was not traveled much. It was required to be used by people so as to wear out.
 - c. The poet is comparing the two roads to confirm which one he should travel so that he won't have to repent.
 - d. According to poet the other road had a better claim since more people had used it and it suggested that that road was more favourable.
3. The poet is trying to express that in the life of a person one has to take a decision when he has two different choices. Similarly, when one encounters a diversion of roads, one has to make a decision and choose one over the other.
4. The roads, on that morning, had not been used and were looking fresh as the grass had not been crushed by travelling of people.
5. It is a known fact that after taking a decision, it is not possible to reverse it or choose the one that was not adopted. As such, he doubted that he would ever come back to walk on that road.
6. When a person takes a decision, it is not possible to reverse it. The consequences of the decision are to be borne by the decision maker. The decision taken by the poet made all the difference in his life.
7. The poet knew that he could not travel on both the roads. He had to take a decision. He decided to walk on one road and thought that someday he will come back and take the other road.

8. The poet regrets that the decision he has taken may not be the best one. If he fails in his mission he will be repenting it and after years of slogging, he will tell his children that the decision taken by him made the things go wrong.
9. It is ironical that after taking a decision, we always crib or regret why we didn't take the other decision. It is a human tendency because we always live on the path of 'ifs' and 'buts'. The decision once taken can generally not be reversed and the resultant outcome of the same has to be borne. Even if the decision taken brings good luck, we lament that we had the choice to take the other decision. The dilemma continues even after many many years hence it was taken.
10. The end of the poem fails to convey any emotional meaning. Though divisions are created by the provision of alternate choices, the end avoids to attach any emotion to it. The word 'sigh' has two different connotations, one a feeling of grief and other a feeling of mocking when we regret after taking a decision. Because the speaker says 'it made all the difference' but what difference did it make, is not conveyed. Whether the difference is for good or worse is not clear. We always rue after taking a decision and think about the decision that was not taken and think about the pleasure it would have given.