

The Brook

Section- Two

Very short Answer Questions: 1

Q. no 1. Who is the 'I' in the poem, 'The Brook' ?

Ans : In the poem "The Brook", a rocky stream i. e. a Brook is the 'I' .

Q. no 2. Who does the brook rush down to join ?

Ans : The brook rush down to join the brimming river in the valley.

Q. no 3. What flower grows by the brook for 'happy lovers' ?

Ans : The flower which grows by the brook for new happy lovers is forget me not's

Q. no 4. Give the meaning of the following words:

Haunts, sally, bicker, thorps, eddying , field and fallow , foreland, skimming, creases.

Ans: haunts : a place frequently visited.

Sally : a sudden movement

Bicker : Quarrel, a reference to the rushing sound of water.

Thorps : small hamlets (villages)

Eddying : a circular movement of water causing a small whirlpool.

Field and fallow : ploughed land but left uncultivated.

Foreland : A piece of land in front of a particular feature.

Skimming : move quickly through a surface area

Cresses : Watercress a plant that grows in running water.

Short Answer type Questions -1/2)

Q. no 1. Where does the brook originate from ?

Ans : The brook originated from the highest hill ranges which are the dwelling places of birds like the coot and the heron.

Q. no 2. What is a brook ?

Ans : A Brook is a small, natural stream of fresh water, which originates from the highest hill ranges.

Short Answer Questions type-2/3

Q. no 1. What are coots and herons ? Where do you find them ?

Ans : Coots and herons are aquatic birds. We find them on the highest hill ranges.

Q. no 2. What is the eternal truth stressed upon in the poem?

Ans: In the poem the poet stressed upon the eternal truth that human life is transitory . Before the cycle of death man is helpless . Despite their best efforts man cannot escape the clutches of death but the nature has the ability to defy the ravages of time.

Q. no 3. What is the brook representative of ?

Ans : The brook is the representative of the timeless existence of nature, with its ability to defy the ravages of time.

Long Answer Questions type-1/5

Q. no 1. The poet effectively traces the journey of the brook through a series of onomatopoeic sound images. Mention some of them.

Ans : Alfred lord Tennyson in the poem 'The Brook' traces the journey of the brook through onomatopoeic sound images.

Some of them are:

(a) Bicker : Bicker describes the noisy flow of the brook when it rushes down from the remote hills.

(b) Chatter : The Brook chatters over stony ways, making constant high pitched sound. It refers to constant, nonstop and friendly noises of the brook.

(c) Murmur : When the brook flows through the bushy wilderness it creates a soft and low sound under the moon and stars at night.

Q. no 2. What is the refrain in the poem, 'The Brook' ? Bring out the profundity in it.

Ans: The refrain in the poem is : "For men may come and men may go, But I go on for ever".

In the poem " The Brook " the refrain brings about an effective contrast between the transient life of man and the eternal onward flow of the brook , a representative of nature. The refrain highlights the single the idea and maintains the unity of the poem. In the poem, throughout it maintains the idea that human life is

transitory and the brook is a never ending process. The refrain has also heightened the poetic and musical effect of the poem.

Long Answer Questions type-2/5

Q. no 1. Comment on the beauty of nature as described in 'The Brook' ,

Ans : Lord Tennyson was a keen observer of nature. In the poem " The Brook" he idealised nature and gave it human attributes. In the poem The poet personifies a rocky stream as it rushes down from the remote hills to join the overflowing river in the valley below. The poet has depicted nature at its utmost beauty when he says that the stream originates from a place, frequented by aquatic birds like coot and heron .

It makes a sudden sally and comes down noisily to the valley . It sparkles on shines through the flowerless plants or ferns in the sunlight. It continues its journey in curves and moving forward. It flows in a zigzag way finding its own way sometimes shrinking and sometimes expanding. It continues its journey amid flora and fauna of the country side . It gets flowers as its companion sailing over the surface of the brook. The brook, an epitome of natural beauty also reflects upon the eternal aspect of life. There is an end to every form of life but nature and its beautiful panorama is everlasting. In the poem "The brook " Tennyson has idealised nature with all its beauty and gracefulness.

Q. no 2. Trace the eventful journey of the brook.

Ans : The Journey of the brook begins in the highest hill ranges which are the dwelling places of the aquatic birds like coot and heron . It rushes down from the remote hills to join the overflowing river in the valley below. In its infancy it makes a sudden sally with lot of commotion and noise. The brook hurries down thirty hills and slips between the ridges.

It passes through twenty villages, small town, farms and fields in the brimming sunlight. At night shattering , gurgling and bubbling it flows downward in a curve movement. The brook flows on in a zigzag way finding its own course, sometimes shrinking and sometimes expanding. Its movement is not uniform. As it continues its Journey amid the flora and fauna of the country side it gets a flower as its companion which sails over the surface of the brook . In its journey it also offers sanctuary to small fishes like the trent and gaylings. In the course of journey the brook seems to be talking constanly in a friend way to the things that obstruct it's flow . And after chattering it prepares itself to join the brimming river in the valley below.

3. Explain with reference to the context :

(a) I slip, I slide, I gloom , I glance,
Among my skimming swallows;
I make the netted sunbeam dance
Against my sandy shallow

Ans : "I ship, I slide Sandy shallows
These lines have been taken from the poem "The
Brook" by Alfred Lord Tennyson.

In the present context, Tennyson a keen observer of nature personifies a rocky stream when he describes its criss cross journey.

The brook rushes down from the remote hills to join the over flowing river in the valley below. The brook moves along making different movements in the course of its journey. It slips, slides and moves through darkness. The swallow birds skim on the surface of water for food. In the course of journey, waves of the brook create a net like structures on which the sun shine sparkle. It seems as if the sun beams are dancing on its surface.

(b) I murmur under moon and stars
In brambly wildernesses ,
I linger by my shingly bars
I loiter round my cresses.

Ans : "I murmur under cresses ".

The above lines have been quoted from Alfred Lord Tennyson's poem "The Brook". Here the poet personifies a rocky stream when he describes its criss cross journey.

In the present context the poet has dealt with the leisurely movement of the brook.

The brook emerges suddenly and rushes down from the remote hills to join the overflowing river in the valley below. During night under the moon and the stars the

brook continues its journey , It create sound through the natural land where thorny bushes grow. The brook often lingers due to stones on the way. It moves purposelessly , around the plant named cresses. The brook flows through the bushy wilderness , creating a soft and low sound . It becomes relaxed like an old man, and finally it joins the brimming river .

(c) And out again I curve and flow

To join the brimming river,
For men may come and men may go,
But I go on forever .

Ans : "And out again for forever".

These lines have been quoted from Lord Tennyson's poem " The Brook".

In the poem the poet personifies a rocky stream while describing its criss - cross journey .

In the present context the poet has revealed that human life is transitory while the nature is eternal.

The brook rushes down from the remote hills to join the overflowing river in the valley below. It continues its journey in curves, and moves forward and finally it joins the brimming river. In its journey from the hills to brimming river, the stream gloats over its ability to defy the ravages of time. It throws light on the timeless existence of the stream and men's helplessness against the cycle of birth and death. It is indestructible unlike the boastful human who despite their best efforts cannot escape the jaws of death. Brook a representative on nature is ever lasting while human life is transitory.