

La belle dame sans merci

Section-Two

Very short Answer Questions: 1

Q. no 1. Who is the poet of the poem, 'La Belle Dame Sans Merci' ?

Ans : John Keats is the poet of the poem "La Belle Dame Sans Merci" .

Q. no 2. Who is being addressed at the beginning of the poem?

Ans : The knight is being addressed in the beginning of the poem.

Q. no 3. What season is referred to here in the poem?

Ans : Late autumn season is referred to here in the poem.

Q. no 4. Where did the knight meet the lady ?

Ans : The knight met the lady in the meadows.

Q. no 5. Give the meaning of the following terms:
Sedge, haggard , woe-begone , anguish moist, meads ,
steed , manna dew , elfin grot , thrall , gloam, sojourn.

Ans : Sedge : a type of grass that grows by the water.

Haggard : looking exhausted and unwell.

Woe-begone : expressing deep sorrow grief or
wretchedness.

Anguish moist : Sweaty caused due to severe pain or
distress.

Meads : meadows.

Steed : a horse being ridden or available for
riding.

Manna dew : nectar of the Gods.

Elfin grot : fairy cave.

Thrall : enslaved, under a spell

Gleam : twilight

Sojourn : a brief stay in a place.

Short Answer type Questions -1/2

Q. no 1. What are the characteristics of Keats' Poetry ?

Ans : Keats was one of the greatest poets who flourished during romantic revival in England. The characteristics of his poetry are :

- (a) Worship of beauty
- (b) Richness of literary expressions
- (c) Extraordinary freshness in the poem.

Q. no 2. What do the words 'La Belle Dame Sans Merci' mean ?

Ans : The words "La Belle Dame Sans Merci" mean "the beautiful lady without mercy".

Q. no 3. What is the condition of the knight ?

Ans : The knight was loitering aimlessly with the anguish of unrequited love . He was pale , haggard and tired looking. His forehead was sweaty with anguish and fever. He was sick and depressed.

Q. no 4. Why is the knight loitering about?

Ans: The knight was loitering about beautiful fairy lady who enslaved him . The knight was enraptured by the beauty and the lady also accepted his love . She took him to a grot and made him sleep . Then the lady disappeared and forced him to loiter aimlessly with the anguish of unrequited love.

Q. no 5. How did the lady look like ?

Ans : The lady in the poem "La Belle Dame Sans Merci" was a beautiful fairy-like lady. She had long hair, her lively appearance was apparent in her wild eyes. Her movement was also graceful. The lady with her beauty looked like a fairy.

Q. no 6. What did the lady feed the knight with?

Ans : The lady fed the knight with sweet roots, wild honey, and delectable food to express her love.

Q. no 7. Where did the lady take the knight to ?

Ans : The lady took the knight to a fairy cave i. e. elfin grot, a sort of magical space.

Q. no 8. Once in the cave, what did the lady do to the knight ?

Ans : Once in the cave, the delicate, fleeting nature of the lady's feelings suddenly erupted with her tears. But then she lulled the knight to sleep and enslaved him.

Q. no 9. Where did the knight find himself when he woke up?

Ans : When the knight woke up he found himself on the cold hill side, feeling the deathlike cold of his dream. He remained there alienated and desolated.

Q. no 10. What is actually ailing the knight ?

Ans: The anguish of unrequited love is actually ailing the knight. His yearning for an eternal imperishable love, a bond that outlasts death and conquers mortality made him sick.

Short Answer type Questions -2/3

Q. no 1. What did the knight do for the lady?

Ans : The knight was enraptured by the beauty of the fairy lady. He made a garland for the lady and adorned her head with it. He also made a bracelet to enhance her natural perfume, and a fragrant zone for her.

Q. no 2. What did the lady say to the knight ?

Ans : The beautiful lady mesmerised the knight and sang beautiful songs for him. In a strange language she said to the knight "I love thee true".

Q. no 3. What did the lady do as they rode the knight's steed ?

Ans : As they rode the knight's steed, the lady wondered with knight all day long, singing a fairy's song. She collected some sweet roots and fed knight with delectable food to express her true love for him. She accepted her love for knight and took him to a fairy cave. The delicate fleeting nature of the lady's feelings

suddenly erupted with tears. Then she lulled the knight to sleep and enslaved him.

Q. no 4. What dream did the knight have?

Ans : The knight was enraptured by the beauty of a woman whom he met in the meadows. She took him to a grot and lulled him to sleep. But there the knight had a dream. He had a vision of kings, princes and warriors who were pale and looked as if they had starved . They warned him that had been enslaved by the beautiful lady without mercy. They were also victim of the lady before she met knight. She seduced them with her beauty and sensuality and enslaved them.

Q. no 5. What warning did the people in his dream give out to the knight ?

Ans : The people in the knights dream warned him that he had been bewitched by the beautiful lady who is devoid of any pity .

Long Answer Questions type-1/4

Q. no 1. Describe the experience of the knight.

Ans : The knight met a fairy like beautiful lady in the meadows. Enchanted by this beautiful figure he fell in love with her. He mad a garland for her hair and bracelets to enhance her natural perfume. He was so engrossed with his erotic encounter with the fairy lady that he did not notice anything else. But the lady ditched

him , leaving him to nope around the lake haggard and Bale. She lulled him to sleep and when he woke he found the lady had disappeared and he forced to loiter aimlessly with the anguish of unrequited love. As per knight's dream there were a whole series of pale Kings , princes and warriors who were bewitched by the lady. The knight found himself on the cold hill side feeling the death like cold of his dream. He felt alienated and desolated. His experience with the lady made him to remain in the bleak setting alone. He felt that he had lost his love who haunts and blights not only his life but also the world in which he found himself.

Q. no 2. Describe the lady ?

Ans : The lady in the poem 'La Belle Dame Sans Merci' is a beautiful fairy like lady. Her graceful movement, her alluring long hair and her lively appearance are apparent in her wild eyes. She is responsive to knight's approach and her sweet moaning signals that she is falling in love with him. She gathers and feeds knight sweet roots and delectable food to express her true love for him. But her feelings suddenly changed when she took him to a grotto a sort of magical space. The delicate fleeting nature of the lady's feelings suddenly erupts with her tears. But then she kills the knight to sleep and enslaved him. As per knights dream there were a whole series of pale Kings and princes and warriors whom the lady enslaved before the knight. Even her language very strange, not understood by the knight too. In fact the lady is an evil in the human garb. She seduces knight with her beauty and sensuality and then ditches him.

1. 'I see lily on the brow

(a) Who is the 'I' here ?

(b) whose brow is being referred to here ?

(c) what is the condition of the person referred to here ?

Ans : (a) The narrator poet John Keats is the 'I' here.

(b) A pale, haggard knight's brow is being referred to e.

(c) The condition of the knight was miserable, He was loitering aimlessly with the anguish of unrequited love. He was pale haggard and tired looking his face was pale like a lily . His forehead was sweaty with anguish and fever. The knight was exhausted both physically and mentally.