

CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature
Beehive Poem Chapter-1 The Road Not Taken
Test Paper-03

1. Read the following stanza 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. Which two roads the speaker is talking about?
- b. Why did the speaker stand there for long?
- c. What do you understand by 'bent in the undergrowth'?
- d. What is the rhyme scheme of the stanza?

2. Read the following stanza and answer the questions:

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

- a. Why did the speaker say 'I kept the first for another day'?
- b. What is the hidden idea behind the stanza?
- c. What did the speaker know?
- d. Describe 'equally lay'.

Answer the following questions in about 30 words:

3. Why did the speaker say 'In leaves no step had trodden black'? (30-40 WORDS)
4. Have you ever found yourself caught in a situation where you have to take a decision to follow one particular path in life?
5. What would you do if you find yourself in a situation where there are two roads and you have to make one choice?
6. Why did Frost say 'And be one traveler, long I stood'?

7. Why did the speaker feel that he will say with a sigh ages and ages hence?
8. What difference the speaker is talking about?

Answer the following questions in about 100 words:

9. What is the ironical situation that the speaker is narrating? (100-150 WORDS)
10. Oh, I kept the first for another day! Yet knowing how way leads on to way, Through the above lines what do you think is in the speaker's mind? (100-150 WORDS)

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Answer

1.
 - a. The speaker is talking about the journey when he came to a fork where he encountered two roads and didn't know which one to travel.
 - b. The speaker stood there for long to make out which road is better to travel and would take him to his goal.
 - c. The roads normally twist and turn. The one the speaker is talking about had undergrowth of fern and grass and its bent was hidden by the undergrowth.
 - d. The rhyme scheme of the stanza is a b a a b.
2.
 - a. The speaker had no option but to choose one road to travel. He cannot travel on both the roads at the same time, as such kept the other road to be travelled later in life.
 - b. The idea is that we encounter situations in our life which have two different solutions. We can act on both the solutions with different resultant outcome, but it is not possible to act them simultaneously. Therefore, we are compelled to choose one solution.
 - c. The speaker knew that after taking a road to travel, it is not possible to come back as the roads twist and turn and take us a long way away to make a comeback to the point from where we chose the solution.
 - d. By 'equally lay' the speaker means that both the roads had the same fame and were travelled equally.
3. The poet was analyzing the situation he had come across. He wanted to be absolutely sure that the decision he takes, should be the best one. He confirms the situation of the road to find that it was less travelled and that there was less wear and tear.
4. Almost every individual in life finds himself in such a situation right from his childhood to adulthood to end of life. When he is studying, he tries to choose between subjects he has to opt for our higher studies, jobs to be taken, marrying a person, working locally or out of hometown etc.
5. If I find myself in a situation where there are two roads and I have to make a choice, I will choose the one that is more travelled and has been tested and tried by a large

number of people than the one that is less tried.

6. Frost tried to present a real-life situation. Under most circumstances, we take a long time to analyze the situation before taking a decision. However, when a situation offers two alternatives, we take a much longer time to review each alternative. This is what the speaker did.
7. The speaker had two things in mind when he said so. One that he will regret the decision he had taken and will repent about it after a long time when he would sit to analyze it. The other that he will relish the decision he took since he would be enjoying the fruit of it. The speaker is not clear whether this sigh is that of regret or enjoyment.
8. The speaker is talking about the difference the decision had made, be it positive or negative.
9. The poem describes someone standing at a fork, or turning point, in a road in the woods, trying to decide which path he's going to take. He looks down one road as far as he can see, and after thinking for another minute, decides to take the other one because it looks like nobody's been that way yet, and he's curious about where it leads. The irony is that no one knows about the fact whether the decision taken is helpful or regrettable. Everyone takes a decision for the betterment but what the destiny has in mind is completely unknown.
10. The speaker has been thinking about the road he has not chosen. He is in two minds as he is not sure whether the road he has selected would be helpful. Therefore, he says he has kept the first road to be traversed some other day. Simultaneously, he says that the fact is when you take a road, it would lead one to many different diversions or divisions that coming back to the fork and taking the first road would become impossible.