

Class 7 chapter 2 Literature The Vagabond

A. Answer these questions.

1. What does the speaker want from life? What are the three things he feels he can live without?

A. The speaker wants to travel as that excites him on the road as he finds it the most wonderful experience in life to have a road below and a sky above. He feels he can live without wealth, friends and comfort.

2. Pick out the lines from the poem which suggest that the speaker is not concerned about the weather.

A. The lines that show, he is not concerned about the weather are "Let the blow fall soon or late, let what will be over me, or let autumn fall on me where afield I linger.

3. Describe the fields during the cold weather.

A. The fields during the cold weather are frosty and are covered with snow.

4. How does the onset of the autumn season silence the bird on the tree:

A. The onset of the autumn season silences the birds, as the autumn changes to winter and the birds disappear, preparing themselves for winter.

5. Is the speaker worried about death? Explain.

A. The speaker is not worried about death as he has nothing to worry about or to lose anything.

6. Pick out expressions from the poem that suggest that the speaker is not concerned about worldly needs.

A. The expressions that suggest that the speaker is not concerned about worldly needs when he says "Wealth I ask not, hope or love, nor a friend to know me."

B. Answer these questions with reference to the context.

1. Or let autumn fall on me Where afield I linger, Silencing the bird on tree, Biting the blue finger.

a. Why are the words 'autumn' and 'fall' used together?

A. They are used interchangeably as words for the season between summer and winter.

b. What does the word 'biting' signify?

A. Biting signifies causing a stinging sensation.

c. Explain 'blue finger'. How does this image describe the severity of the winter season?

A. Blue finger is caused by a low level or lack of oxygen during a very cold winter on the finger nails.

2. White as meal the frosty field-Warm the fireside haven-Not to autumn will I yield, Not to winter even!

a. Why is the field white in colour?

A. It is covered with snow.

b. Describe the 'frosty field'.

A. Cold and frozen stiff.

c. Explain the last two lines.

A. The winter will not stop him from travelling.

C. Think and answer.

1. How would you describe the speaker as a person? Do you think it is possible to live a life free from material wants and desires? Explain in your own words.

A. As a person, he is a free living man. Yes it is possible to live a life free from material wants and desires as our basic needs are food, water, clothes and shelter, the rest are luxurious if we want them.

2. Seasons have a symbolic significance in literature. Metaphorically autumn and winter stand for old age and death respectively. Why has the speaker made this analogy?

A. He has made this analogy with autumn and winter as a figure of speech to show that death or old age will not stop him from living his life like a vagabond without any care in the world.

3. Do you feel that weather, hope and friends can hamper a person's freedom? Give reasons for your answer.

A. Yes, weather, hope and friends can hamper a person's freedom. A person cannot move or do anything if the weather is bad, he cannot hope to wait for things to happen and friends can come in his way and prevent him from doing what he wants to do.