

Class 7 chapter 8 The last bargain: questions & answers (learn the first 10 lines of the poem)

A. Answer these questions,

1. Justify the title of the poem.

A. The title of the poem is justified because when the speaker met the innocent child on the beach, he was drawn towards him and the child's smile captivated him. After this he became a free man and never bargained or looked for work, so we can say it was his last bargain.

2. Why did the speaker turn down the offer of the old man?

A. The speaker turned down the offer of the old man because he realised what he actually desired was happiness and if he accepted the offer he would be bound in this bargain. The speaker also realised once the money finished or the work, he would be out of work again.

3. What is the significance of referring to morning, mid-day and evening in the poem?

A. The significance of referring to morning is that, mornings symbolizes hope and courage and mid-day symbolizes very difficult and full of troubles as there are crooked lanes, doors of houses are shut and it is very hot outside, while the evening symbolizes false beauty as in a little while it would become dark and darkness symbolizes hopelessness in the poem.

4. What is the significance of freedom in the poem? What kind of the freedom is the speaker looking for?

A. The significance of freedom in the poem is not to be bound or compromised. He is looking for freedom which has innocence and everlasting happiness.

B. Explain these lines with reference to the context.

1. But his power counted for nought, and he went away in his chariot.

A. The speaker finds that the king's power amounted to nothing valuable and the king retreated in his chariot.

2. I will hire you with a smile.'

A. She would hire him with her beauty and her flattering smile.

3. From thenceforward that bargain struck in child's play made me a free man.

A. When one is hired for nothing, one remains free and has his freedom not taken away by an innocent child.