

CHAPTER 11 HOW BEAUTIFUL IS THE RAIN

Read the following lines from the poem and choose the correct interpretation from the given options.

1. "He can feel the cool / Breath of each little pool"
 - a) The sick man finds relief as the rain cools the air and creates tiny puddles.
 - b) The poet describes how fish emerge from small ponds after the rain.
 - c) Children play in the water, enjoying the freshness of the pools.
 - d) The sun evaporates the rainwater, making the air humid again.
2. "How it clatters along the roofs, / Like the tramp of hoofs"
 - a) Thunder rumbles loudly, scaring people indoors.
 - b) Hailstones fall violently, damaging houses.
 - c) The rain sounds like galloping horses as it hits the rooftops.
 - d) Birds take shelter under roofs, flapping their wings noisily.
3. "And down the wet streets / Sail their mimic fleets"
 - a) Fishermen take their boats out after the streets flood.
 - b) Merchants transport goods on carts through muddy lanes.
 - c) Soldiers march through the city, splashing water everywhere.
 - d) Children float paper boats in rainwater flowing through the streets.
4. "Like a leopard's tawny and spotted hide, / Stretches the plain"
 - a) A real leopard walks across the field, leaving paw prints.

- b) The dry, cracked earth resembles a leopard's skin before the rain.
 - c) Farmers plant crops in patterns that look like animal spots.
 - d) The poet compares fast-moving storm clouds to a running leopard.
5. "How welcome is the rain!"
- a) Everyone—farmers, children, and the sick—rejoices at the rain's arrival.
 - b) Only animals benefit, as they drink from new puddles.
 - c) The rain causes floods, ruining crops and homes.
 - d) People hide indoors, annoyed by the sudden downpour.
6. "The sick man from his chamber looks / At the twisted brooks"
- a) A doctor examines polluted water flowing near a hospital.
 - b) A child draws pictures of rivers from his window.
 - c) A traveler gets lost as paths are erased by flooding.
 - d) A bedridden man watches rainwater form winding streams, feeling soothed.
7. "How it gushes and struggles out / From the throat of the overflowing spout!"
- a) A fountain sprays water gracefully in a town square.
 - b) A person coughs violently while drinking rainwater.
 - c) Water bursts forcefully from clogged drains during heavy rain.
 - d) A dam breaks, causing a dangerous flood downstream.
8. "With more than their wonted noise / And commotion"
- a) Thunderstorms create chaos, frightening villagers.

- b) School children cheer and play louder than usual in the rain.
 - c) A festival begins with drums and shouting.
 - d) Street vendors argue over shelter during the downpour.
9. "Till the treacherous pool / Engulfs them in its whirling / And turbulent ocean"
- a) A ship sinks in a stormy sea during heavy rainfall.
 - b) A well overflows, flooding the nearby market.
 - c) Swimmers get trapped in a sudden whirlpool.
 - d) Children's paper boats are swallowed by swirling rainwater.
10. "To the dry grass and the drier grain / How welcome is the rain!"
- a) Farmers worry rain will ruin their harvested grain.
 - b) Grass turns yellow after too much water.
 - c) Crops and fields, parched from heat, desperately need the rain.
 - d) The grain market crashes due to delayed monsoon.

Multiple choice questions

1. The poem opens by contrasting the rain's arrival with the prior weather conditions. What does this contrast emphasize?
- a) The rain's ability to erase all human footprints in the city.
 - b) The transformative power of rain after prolonged heat and dust.
 - c) How rain exposes hidden flaws in urban infrastructure.
 - d) The temporary nature of relief before heat returns.
2. When describing the rain's sound, the poet uses a comparison to hoofbeats. What effect does this create?
- a) It conveys the rain's rhythmic, energetic quality.
 - b) It trivializes the rain by comparing it to farm animals.

- c) It suggests the rain is as destructive as a stampede.
 - d) It implies horses are nearby, seeking shelter.
3. How does the sick man's reaction to the rain contribute to the poem's message?
- a) It shows his fear of storms worsening his illness.
 - b) It reveals his jealousy of children playing outside.
 - c) It highlights rain as a soothing, almost healing force.
 - d) It suggests he blames rain for his confinement.
4. The poem describes children playing with paper boats in the rain. What might this symbolize?
- a) Human attempts to control nature's forces.
 - b) The fleeting joy and vulnerability of childhood.
 - c) A criticism of urban drainage systems.
 - d) The inevitability of toys becoming litter.
5. The poet compares the dry plain to a "leopard's hide." What does this imagery suggest?
- a) The land's barrenness before the rain's renewal.
 - b) The presence of wild animals desperate for water.
 - c) Farmers using animal skins to protect crops.
 - d) A warning about predators lurking after rain.
6. How does the description of the pool as "treacherous" affect the poem's tone?
- a) Reveals the poet's distrust of children's games.
 - b) Suggests the rain is inherently destructive.
 - c) Highlights the pool's deceptive cleanliness.

- d) Introduces a note of danger amid the celebration.
7. The phrase "How welcome is the rain!" repeats throughout. What purpose does this serve?
- a) To unify the poem and reinforce its central theme.
 - b) To mock people's dependence on weather.
 - c) To mark the passage of time between storms.
 - d) To signal the poet's personal dislike of rain.
8. The poem describes water gushing from a gutter's "throat." Why personify the gutter?
- a) To make the gutter seem like a cruel monster.
 - b) To suggest the city is alive and breathing.
 - c) To emphasize the rain's uncontrollable energy.
 - d) To criticize poor drainage infrastructure.
9. How does the poem's shift from city to countryside scenes enhance its meaning?
- a) It shows rain affects all environments equally.
 - b) It contrasts human reactions with nature's needs.
 - c) It implies cities don't deserve rain's blessings.
 - d) It prioritizes agricultural needs over urban ones.
10. Which word best captures the poem's prevailing mood?
- a) Anxious
 - b) Indifferent
 - c) Grateful
 - d) Resentful