

Chapter 4: The Town Boy

Choose the correct meaning of the word from the poetry.

1. Meadows

- (a) Skyscrapers
- (b) Rocky mountains
- (c) Busy markets
- (d) Grassy fields

2. Row (as in "houses in a row")

- (a) Lined up neatly
- (b) Scattered randomly
- (c) Floating
- (d) Facing different directions

3. Noises

- (a) Pleasant sounds
- (b) Loud, unpleasant sounds
- (c) Music
- (d) Silence

4. Woods

- (a) Deserts
- (b) Beaches
- (c) Forests
- (d) Cities

5. Plenty

- (a) Space
- (b) A large amount
- (c) Darkness
- (d) Noise

6. Castles (as in "castles of clouds")

- (a) Cloud shapes resembling castles

- (b) Real palaces
- (c) Airplanes
- (d) Stars

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the main reason the boy in the poem is unhappy with his town?
 - a) The lack of modern facilities and entertainment options
 - b) The constant noise and pollution from urban life
 - c) The unfriendly neighbours and crowded living spaces
 - d) The poor quality of education available in cities
2. What urban elements does the poet mention as troubling him?
 - a) "Buses and motors and trains"
 - b) "Tall buildings and neon signs"
 - c) "Factories and office towers"
 - d) "Subway stations and traffic lights"
3. What natural elements does the boy wish to see instead of the cityscape?
 - a) "Meadows and lambs"
 - b) "Mountains and rivers"
 - c) "Beaches and palm trees"
 - d) "Forests and waterfalls"
4. How does the poet describe the arrangement of houses in his town?
 - a) "Scattered randomly across the landscape"
 - b) "All wait in a row"
 - c) "Piled high like children's blocks"

d) "Circling the town center"

5. What is the only thing in his urban environment that the boy loves?

- a) The occasional quiet mornings
- b) The city parks with their trees
- c) "The sky far above"
- d) The view from his rooftop

6. What does the contrast between "castles of clouds" and the town's reality reveal about the speaker's perspective?

- a) He prefers imaginary escapes over confronting urban problems
- b) He finds freedom only in nature's boundless spaces
- c) He believes childhood innocence protects him from urban stress
- d) He sees cities as preventing meaningful human connection

7. How does the poet describe the smoke in his town?

- a) "There is smoke everywhere that I go"
- b) "Chimneys puffing black clouds"
- c) "A gray blanket covering all"
- d) "Stinging my eyes constantly"

8. What natural feature does the boy wish was "very near"?

- a) A quiet lake for swimming
- b) "Woods" or forests
- c) Open farmland
- d) A flowing river

9. What literary device is prominently used throughout the poem?

- a) Metaphor comparing the city to a prison
- b) Personification of the houses "waiting"
- c) Hyperbole exaggerating the city's size
- d) Onomatopoeia for city sounds

10. What fundamental human need does the poem highlight through the boy's longing?

- a) The need for creative expression in oppressive environments
- b) The basic human desire for connection with nature's tranquillity
- c) The universal wish to escape adult responsibilities
- d) The childhood craving for unstructured playtime