

THE POETRY OF EARTH

John Keats

TEXTUAL GRAMMAR

○ Change the voice of the following sentences :

1. He takes the lead in summer luxury.

Ans. _____

*2. The frost has wrought a silence.

Ans. _____

3. He has never done with his delights.

Ans. _____

○ Join the following sentences :

*1. All birds are faint with the hot sun. They hide in cooling trees. A voice will run. (Join into complex)

Ans. _____

2. All birds are faint with hot sun. They hide in cooling trees. (Join into simple)

Ans. _____

*3. That is the grasshopper. He takes the lead in summer luxury. (Join into complex)

Ans. _____

*4. The grasshopper is tired out of fun. He takes rest at ease beneath some pleasant weed. (Join into complex)

Ans. _____

*5. On a lone winter evening the frost has wrought a silence. From the stove there shrills the cricket's song. (Join into complex)

Ans. _____

6. It is a lone winter evening. There shrills the cricket's song from the stove. (Join into simple)

Ans. _____

*7. The grasshopper is tired out of fun. He takes rest at ease beneath some pleasant weed. (Join into simple)

Ans. _____

*8. One is half lost in drowsiness. To him the cricket's song seems to be the grasshopper's among some grassy fields. (Join into simple)

Ans. _____

○ Split the following sentences :

1. When all birds are faint with the hot sun and hide in cooling trees, a voice will run from hedge to hedge.

Ans. _____

*2. When tired out of fun, he rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed.

Ans. _____

*3. On a lone winter evening, when the frost has wrought a silence, from the stove there shrills the cricket's song.

Ans. _____

o Do as directed :

**1. The poetry of earth is never dead. (Turn into affirmative and interrogative)

Ans. _____

2. The poetry of earth is never dead. (Use the verb form)

Ans. _____

*3. When tired out with fun, he rests at ease. (Make it simple)

Ans. _____

*4. He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed. (Use the noun form)

Ans. _____

**5. He takes the lead in summer luxury. (Use the verb form and rewrite)

Ans. _____

6. He takes the lead in summer luxury. (Use the adjective form)

Ans. _____

*7. When all the birds are faint with the hot sun, they hide in the cooling trees. (Make it simple)

Ans. _____

8. That is the grasshopper — he takes the lead in summer luxury. (Make it complex)

Ans. _____

**9. The poetry of the earth is ceasing never. (Turn into affirmative and interrogative)

Ans. _____

*10. He has never done with delight. (Make it interrogative)

Ans. _____

11. It seems to one is drowsiness half lost, the grasshopper's among some grassy hills. (Use the adjective form)

Ans. _____

12. It seems to use one the grasshopper among some grassy hills. (Use the noun form)

Ans. _____

ARTICLES AND PREPOSITIONS

o Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions :

1. When all _____ birds are faint _____ hot sun.

2. A voice will run _____ hedge _____ hedge _____ the new-mown mead;

3. That is _____ grasshopper' he takes _____ lead _____ summer luxury.



4. He has never done _____ his delights; _____ when tired _____ with fun.
5. He rests _____ ease _____ some pleasant weed.
6. When _____ frost has wrought _____ silence, _____ the stove there shrills the cricket's song.
7. _____ warmth increasing ever, and seems _____ one _____ drowsiness half lost.

CORRECTION OF ERRORS

○ Correct the errors in underlined words choosing appropriate alternatives :

1. The poetry of earth is never death. (dying / died / dead)
2. And hide in cooled trees. (cold / cool / cooling)
3. He takes the lead is summer luxurious. (luxuries / luxury / luxuriant)
4. The poetry of earth is ceasen never. (ceasing / ceased / ceases)
5. He rests at ease beneath some pleasing weed. (pleasure / pleasant / pleasurable)
6. The fust has rought a silence. (rot / brought / wrought)

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

○ Choose the correct alternatives :

1. John Keats was—
 (a) a Romantic poet (b) an essayist (c) a painter (d) a musician
2. 'The Poetry of Earth' is written by—
 (a) Wordsworth (b) Shelley (c) Keats (d) Byron
3. 'The Poetry of Earth' is—
 (a) an elegy (b) a sonnet (c) an ode (d) a ballad
4. The poem is—
 (a) a Shakespearean sonnet (b) a Petrarchan sonnet
 (c) an English sonnet (d) none of the these
5. The rhyme scheme of the octave is—
 (a) abbaabba (b) abababab (c) ababbaaba (d) abababba
6. The rhyme scheme of the sestet is—
 (a) cdcdee (b) cdecde (c) ccddee (d) cdedcded
7. In the octave of the poem we find the music of—
 (a) winter (b) summer (c) autumn (d) spring
8. In the sestet we find the music of—
 (a) winter (b) summer (c) autumn (d) spring
9. The music of summer is presented through the voice of—
 (a) cricket (b) cuckoo (c) grasshopper (d) parrot
10. The music of winter is presented through the song of—
 (a) cuckoo (b) cricket (c) grasshopper (d) myna
11. The music of earth never—
 (a) exists (b) changes (c) ceases (d) bores



By 'the poetry of the earth', the poet means—

- (a) the music of the birds
- (b) the poetry of people
- (c) a song about the earth
- (d) the pleasures of life

The grasshopper is associated with the season—

- (a) winter
- (b) autumn
- (c) summer
- (d) spring

[WBCHSE—2016]

The birds hide in—

- (a) shades of trees
- (b) shadow of trees
- (c) cold trees
- (d) cooling trees

[WBCHSE—2017]

The birds hide in trees because of—

- (a) tiredness
- (b) rain
- (c) cold
- (d) heat

The 'voice' mentioned here is the voice of—

- (a) a bird
- (b) the poet
- (c) a grasshopper
- (d) a cricket

"...he takes the lead"—Who is 'he'? He is—

- (a) the summer
- (b) the grasshopper
- (c) the cricket
- (d) the poet

[WBCHSE—2018]

The grasshopper takes rest when it is—

- (a) tired
- (b) bored
- (c) pleased
- (d) worried

Being tired, the grasshopper rests beneath—

- (a) green hedge
- (b) bushes
- (c) pleasant weed
- (d) grassy hills

[WBCHSE—2019]

The voice of the grasshopper represents—

- (a) gloom
- (b) sorrow
- (c) mirth
- (d) despair

[WBCHSE Sample Question]

According to Keats, the music of earth ceases—

- (a) in winter
- (b) in summer
- (c) in autumn
- (d) at no point of time

The silence in 'The Poetry of Earth' has been wrought by—

- (a) summer
- (b) winter
- (c) frost
- (d) rain

[WBCHSE—2015]

The 'poetry of earth' is—

- (a) pleasant
- (b) unpleasant
- (c) constant
- (d) loud

The winter evening is 'lone' because—

- (a) the poet has no company
- (b) there is silence all round
- (c) there is frost
- (d) it is cold

The cricket's song—

- (a) pleases everybody
- (b) breaks winter's depression
- (c) makes people angry
- (d) is disliked by the people

The cricket's song increases with the increase of—

- (a) cold
- (b) loneliness
- (c) happiness
- (d) warmth

The cricket warms the frost with its—

- (a) dance
- (b) movement
- (c) music
- (d) fly

The cricket's song is heard from—

- (a) the hedge
- (b) the hiding place
- (c) behind the fire place
- (d) the new morn mead

One is lost in drowsiness because of—

- (a) the bad weather
- (b) the dark night
- (c) tiredness
- (d) loss of sleep

312. How does the cricket's song appear to the person half lost in drowsiness ?
 (a) sound of bees (b) a lady singing
 (c) the grasshopper in singing (d) of chirp of swallow [WBCHSE Sample Question]
313. The sonnet follows the following pattern—
 (a) octave + sestet (b) 3 quatrains + couplet
 (c) sestet + sestet + couplet (d) none of these
314. The symbol used in the poem to signify poetry. [WBCHSE Sample Question]
 (a) cricket (b) grasshopper (c) music (d) none of these
315. What does Keats celebrate in this poem ? [WBCHSE Sample Question]
 (a) here, Keats celebrates the music of the earth
 (b) here, Keats celebrates the grasshopper
 (c) here, Keats celebrates the cricket
 (d) none of these
316. Keats finds inspiration in— [WBCHSE Sample Question]
 (a) poetry (b) nature (c) language (d) none of these

SHORT ANSWER - TYPE QUESTIONS

○ Answer the following questions :

1. Who is the poet of 'The Poetry of Earth' ?
 Ans. _____
- *2. What type of sonnet is the poem ?
 Ans. _____
3. What are the rhyme schemes of the octave and the sestet ?
 Ans. _____
4. What does Keats celebrate in the poem 'Poetry of Earth' ? [WBCHSE Sample Question]
 Ans. _____
5. What is the predominant theme of the poem 'Poetry of Earth' ?
 Ans. _____
6. What do you understand by the phrase 'The Poetry of Earth' is never dead ?
 Ans. _____
7. Which seasons are mentioned in the poem 'The Poetry of Earth' ?
 Ans. _____
8. Which insects are mentioned in the poem ?
 Ans. _____
- *9. What does Keats mean by 'The Poetry of Earth' ?
 Ans. _____
10. Who are the carriers of this music ?
 Ans. _____
- *11. Where do all the birds hide in Keats' 'The Poetry of Earth' ?
 Ans. _____
- *Or. Where do the birds hide when they are 'faint with the hot sun' ? [WBCHSE-2019, 2016]
 Ans. _____

12. How is the shade where birds take rest ?

13. Who sings in grassy hills ?

14. "...a voice will run."—Whose voice is referred to here ?

[WBCHSE-2015]

15. What does the voice speak of in Keats' 'The Poetry of Earth' ? [WBCHSE Sample Question]

16. Which season does the grasshopper represent ?

17. Who is taking the lead and why ?

18. Who takes the lead in 'summer luxury' ?

[WBCHSE-2015]

18. Where was the grasshopper seen in summer ?

[WBCHSE-2017]

19. Who 'has never done/with his delights' ?

[WBCHSE-2016]

20. What does the grasshopper do when it is tired ?

21. Where does the grasshopper rest ?

[WBCHSE-2018]

22. Who breaks the silence of winter ?

23. Whose song does the poet talk about in the octave ?

23. What has wrought a silence in winter ?

24. From where is the shrill song of the cricket heard ?

[WBCHSE-2018]

25. What might one hear on a lone, cold and silent winter evening ?

[WBCHSE-2017, '19]

26. What does the person 'half lost' in drowsiness imagine ?

27. What seasons do the grasshopper and cricket symbolise ?

28. What does the cricket's song seem to 'one in drowsiness half lost' ? [WBCHSE Sample Question]

29. What similarity do you find in the octave and sestet of the poem ?

30. When, according to Keats, will poetry of earth cease ?

Ans. _____

ELABORATE / DESCRIPTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS

Answer the following questions :

★1. What is meant by 'The Poetry of Earth' ? How does Keats justify that the poetry of earth is never dead ? [WBCHSE-2017] 1+

★2. "When all birds are faint ..." — When are the birds faint and why? What do they do then? How is the poetry of the earth sounded in their absence? 2+2

Or, Where does the line occur ? What do the birds do then ? Who come out and how ? 2+1

★3. "A voice will run"— Whose voice is referred to here? Where will the voice run? How will the voice contribute to the poetry of the earth? 1+1

Or, Whose voice is referred here ? Where will the voice run ? Why does the voice run ? Who does owner of the voice do afterwards ? 1+1+2

★4. "...takes the lead"— Who takes the lead and when? How does he take the lead? 1+1

5. "He has never done with delight"— Where does the line occur? Who is referred to as 'he'? Explain the line with reference to the context. 1+1

★6. "He rests at ease .." — Who is referred to as 'he'? Where does he rest and when? How does he take part in the poetry of the earth? 1+2

★7. "The poetry of the earth is ceasing never" — What does Keats mean by the poetry of the earth? Explain the quoted line with reference to the context. [WBCHSE Sample Question] 1+

Or, Show, after Keats, that the poetry of earth never comes to an end.

[WBCHSE- Sample Question]

Or, How does Keats show that the poetry of earth never cease ? [WBCHSE-2017]

★8. "-- when the frost has wrought a silence" — Where does the line occur? When has the frost wrought silence and how? What happens then? 1+2

★9. "...and seems to one in drowsiness half lost" — Where does the line occur? What makes him half lost in drowsiness? What seems to him and when? [WBCHSE-2015] 1+1

★10. What picture of the two seasons does Keats draw in 'The Poetry of Earth' ? How are the two seasons related ? 1+2

Or, What picture of summer is presented in 'The Poetry of Earth' ? How has it been called out the picture of winter ? [WBCHSE-2016] 3-

11. Comment on the title of the poem 'The Poetry of Earth'. [WBCHSE-2019] 3-

12. Why does Keats feel that the poetry of earth is never dead ? [WBCHSE-2015] 3-

13. Identify the voices of poetry in the poem. How does Keats establish continuity through these voices? [WBCHSE Sample Question]

