

Chapter- 1

The Road not Taken

QUESTION BANK:

1. Why will the choice between two roads that seem very much alike make such a big difference many years later in the life of the poet?
2. After reading the poem can you detail the tone in the entire poem.
3. Was the poet doubtful clear that he would return to take the other path which he could not do earlier?
4. Does the speaker feel that he has made the wrong choice in talking the road 'less travelled by'? If not, why does he 'sigh'? What does he regret?
5. And that made all the difference. What is your opinion of the difference-was it for the better or the worse? Substantiate your answer.
6. Does the poem, The Road Not Taken, symbolize or reveal a meaning or aspect of freedom or responsibility?
7. Discuss the anticipation or remorse in The Road Not Taken.
8. What is the theme of the poem The Road Not Taken?
9. What appeals to you in the poem?
10. Describe the two paths at the crossroad in the forest.
11. Which road did the poet take to travel and why?
12. What is the significance of the two roads in the poem?
13. Do you feel the poet was happy with his decision in the choice of road to be taken?
14. What does the poet want to signify when he says 'the road bent in the undergrowth'?
15. Why did the poet take long to ponder over his decision?
16. 'I took the one less travelled by,

And that has made all the difference'

What is the speaker trying to convey?

17. Why was the poet doubtful of being able to walk 'The Road Not Taken' in the future?
18. What is the dilemma of the poet?
19. How are the two roads described in the poem?
20. What is the message of the poem, 'The road Not Taken'?
21. How would you handle the dilemma that the poet faced?
22. What was the poet's opinion about both the roads?
23. Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveller, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;
 - a) What the roads symbolise?
 - b) Find a word from the extract which means the same as 'separated from another'.
 - c) Why did the poet take a long time to decide which road to take?
 - d) What does 'yellow wood' signify?
24. Then took the other, just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same.
 - a) What does the expression 'just as fair' signify?
 - b) What does the expression 'wanted wear' mean?
 - c) Which road did the poet not take?
 - d) Name the poem and the poet.
25. And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!

Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

- a) What does the poet mean when he says 'no step had trodden black'?
 - b) What was the doubt the speaker had?
 - c) What does 'both' refer to in the above lines?
 - d) Why does the poet exclaim, 'Oh, I kept the first for another day!'?
26. I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence;
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I-
I took the one less travelled by,
and that has made all the difference.
- a) Who is 'I' in the above lines?
 - b) Which expression in the above lines means 'after many years'?
 - c) How will the poet tell his story?
 - d) Which road did the poet choose from the fork in the forest?
27. What do the roads represent?
28. Did the poet take his decision haphazardly?
29. Why did the poet choose that road?
30. What is the message of the poem?
31. Did the poet make the right choice?
32. Why did the poet take the 'other' road? Why did the 'other' road have a better claim than the first road?
33. Describe the conditions of both the roads that lay open before the poet on that morning.
34. Was the poet certain to come back on the road he had left for another day?
35. How does the outcome of our life depends on the choice we make to reach our destinations?

36. What did the traveller see before him and what was his reaction?
37. Why did the traveller stand and look down the road?
38. What was common between the two roads? What was different?
39. Describe the two paths on that morning.
40. Which path did the poet choose ultimately? How do we know?
41. Why did the poet keep the first path for another day?
42. Why did the poet think he would never travel on the first path ever?
43. What phenomena about travelling does the poet point out for not coming back to the first path?

