

Worksheet

6

Date Name Class & Sec. Roll No.

Reading : Comprehension Passage

Marks OBT.

6. Read the following poem carefully :

1. That time of year thou mayst in me behold,
When yellow leaves, or none, or few do hang
Upon those *boughs*¹ which shake against the cold,
Bare ruined choirs, where late the sweet birds sang.
2. In me thou seest the twilight of such day,
As after sunset fadeth in the west,
Which by and by black night doth take away,
Death's second self that seals up all in rest.
3. In me thou seest the glowing of such fire,
That on the ashes of his youth doth lie,
As the death-bed, whereon it must *expire*²,
Consumed with that which it was nourished by.
This thou *perceiv'st*³, which makes thy love more strong.
To love that well, which thou must leave ere long.

— William Shakespeare

VALUE POINTS

The poem is about :
old age

Stanza 1

- signs of old age, grey hair, like yellow leaves, visible

Stanza 2

- old age has come, death is not far away, will end the story of life

Stanza 3

- fire of youth disappears, ashes in the form of grey hair can be seen, death is at the door. This knowledge strengthens love for the poet.

GLOSSARY

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| 1. boughs | : branches |
| 2. expire | : end |
| 3. perceiv'st | : see |

(a) Choose the most appropriate option out of the following :

(i) Which season of the year is referred to here ?

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

(ii) Which age of human beings is talked of ?

- (a) old age (b) childhood
(c) middle age (d) adolescence

(iii) Which is 'death's second self' referred to here ?

- (a) morning (b) night
(c) evening (d) dusk

(iv) What makes love more strong ?

- (a) imminence of death (b) the hope of rebirth
(c) the hope of meeting again
(d) the hope of removing misunderstanding between them

(v) The poem is a _____ .

- (a) ballad (b) romance
 (c) sonnet (d) ode

(vi) 'Behold' in line 1 means :

(a) grasp

(c) see

(b) appear

(d) avoid

(vii) 'ere' in line 14 means :

(a) ago

(c) always

(b) before

(d) two

(b) Complete the following passage by writing the missing words in each blank.

The poet feels that he has approached the autumn (a) _____ his life i.e., old age. His youth turned (b) _____ like the leaves in autumn which turn (c) _____. The fire (d) _____ youth has completely disappeared. Death which ends the story of life, is not far away.

Space for Answers

(A) throughout
(B) grey
(C) yellow
(D) of