

## **BRAIN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**

**English Assignment**

**Class: VIII**

**November, 2024**

### **LITERATURE**

#### **CH- 12 THE HUMAN SEASONS**

**Theme:** The theme of John Keats' poem "The Human Seasons" is the relationship between humans and nature, and how the stages of life can be compared to the four seasons:

- **Spring:** Represents the beginning of life, new growth, and is described as youthful and full of hope
- **Summer:** The season of full bloom
- **Autumn:** The season of transformation
- **Winter:** The season of reflection

The poem uses vivid imagery and a metaphorical analogy of seasons to reflect on the stages of life and mental growth.

#### **Poetic Devices**

##### **i) Metaphor**

Keats uses the seasons as a metaphor for the stages of life, comparing the human experience to the cyclical nature of the seasons.

##### **ii) Imagery**

Keats uses vivid imagery to draw parallels between the seasons and the stages of life. For example, spring represents new beginnings and growth, summer represents maturity, autumn represents middle age, and winter represents old age.

##### **iii) Personification**

Keats uses personification in the phrase "lusty spring".

##### **iv) Alliteration**

eg: mind of man

He has his

#### **Questions**

Q1. How do four seasons fill the measure of the year?

Q2 What does the poet feel in the winter season?

Q3 When does a human's soul has quite coves? What does the poet mean by that?

Q4 Write a short note on the imagery used in the poem?

Q5 RTC

I) *'Four Seasons fill the measure of the year,*

*There are four seasons in the mind of man:*

*He has his lusty Spring, when fancy clear*

*Takes in all beauty with an easy span:’*

- a) Why is ‘Spring’ described as lusty?
- b) Identify the figure of speech used in the above stanza.
- c) Write down the rhyme scheme used in the above stanza.

### **CH-13 JOURNEY TO THE SUNDERBANS**

**Theme:** The chapter is a podcast where the guests are all in awe of their journey to Sundarbans. As they recount their Sundarban journey through the enigmatic terrains of Sundarbans, they are overwhelmed by a tapestry of emotions that painted their adventure in this unique mangrove forest. Nestled at the delta of the Padma, Meghna, and Brahmaputra rivers, Sundarbans is not just a travel destination; it’s a profound encounter with the raw and untamed spirit of nature.

#### **Questions**

- Q1. What do you think is the reason for the change in the landscape?
  - Q2. Who wrote the book, ‘The Hungry Tide’? What does the book say about the Sundarbans?
  - Q3 ‘There is no prettiness here to invite the stranger in’. Why do you think the novelist Amitav Ghosh writes this in his book? Explain the instances from the podcast?
  - Q4 Describe the experiences of the two hosts headed out for a journey?
  - Q5 RTC
- I) *‘To get to the Sunderbans, you leave from the big city...’*
- a. Which ‘big city’ is being talked about here?
  - b. How long does it take to reach the Sunderbans from this ‘big city’?
  - c. What modes of transport does one use to get there?

### **CH- 14 THE WAY THROUGH THE WOODS**

**Theme:** The theme of Rudyard Kipling's poem, "The Way Through the Woods", is the power of nature over man:

#### **● Nature's power**

The poem depicts the conflict between the power of nature and the power of man. The poem shows how nature can quickly regain the territory it once had, even after man has made a road through it.

#### **● Nature's regrowth**

The poem describes how nature has reclaimed an old road that was closed 70 years ago. The trees, grass, and animals have taken over the road, and the thick forest cover

blocks out sunlight and brings rain, which has further contributed to the disappearance of the path.

- **Nature's secret world**

The poem describes the secret world of nature that has emerged in the place of the old road. The poem's mysterious quality comes from its vivid descriptions of the wildlife, the silence, and the fact that no explanation is given.

### Poetic Devices

Some poetic devices used in Rudyard Kipling's poem, "The Way Through the Woods", include:

- **Alliteration:** The line "And the swish of a skirt in the dew" uses alliteration.
- **Onomatopoeia:** The line "The otter whistles his mate" uses onomatopoeia.
- **Personification:** The line "The otter whistles his mate" uses personification.

### Questions

Q1 What has the weather undone? How?

Q2 Describe the central idea of the poem.

Q3. What are the various creatures that can be seen or heard in these woods?

Q4 Why do they not fear men in the woods?

Q5 RTC

I) *'You will hear the beat of a horse's feet,*

*And the swish of a skirt in the dew...'*

a. How and when is a horse's gallop heard in the forest?

b. What imagery does the phrase 'the swish of a skirt' bring to your mind?

c. Do the above occurrence appear natural to you?