



ASSIGNMENT NO.4

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

CLASS-VIII

OCTOBER 2026

POEM-9: THE NIGHTINGALE AND THE GLOW-WORM

Theme:

It highlights the importance of appreciating and respecting each individual's unique qualities. The poem also touches on interconnectedness and nature's delicate balance. Ultimately, it reveals the beauty and wonder of life's intricate web.

Poetic devices:

1. Personification: The nightingale and glow-worm are given human-like characteristics, such as the ability to speak and reason.

Example: "The worm, aware of his intent/Harangued him thus, right eloquent" .

2. Metaphor: The comparison of the nightingale's singing to "minstrelsy" highlights the beauty of his song.

Example: "Did you admire my lamp," quoth he/"As much as I your minstrelsy?"

3. Irony: The nightingale, a predator, is moved by the glow-worm's words and spares its life, highlighting the unexpected twist.

Example: "Released him, as my story tells/ And found a supper somewhere else."

4. Imagery: Vivid descriptions of nature, such as the glow-worm's spark and the nightingale's song, create powerful images.

Example: "A something shining in the dark/ And knew the glow-worm by his spark".

Q. Answer the following questions.

- a) How did the Glow-worm respond to the threat posed by the Nightingale?
- b) What qualities of the Glow-worm are highlighted in the poem?
- c) What does the Nightingale symbolise in the poem?
- d) How does the poem "The Nightingale and the Glow-worm" convey the theme of mutual respect and peaceful coexistence? Explain with reference to the characters and their actions.
- e) 'Did you admire my lamp,' quoth he, 'As much as I your minstrelsy...'
 - i) Who said these words and to whom?
 - ii) Which 'lamp' is the speaker referring to?
 - iii) What is the speaker trying to do?

CH- 10 : THE OPEN WINDOW

Theme:

The Open Window by Hector Hugh Munro (Saki) revolves around deception, irony, and the contrast between reality and imagination. It highlights how appearances can be misleading and how easily people can be manipulated by convincing storytelling.

Q. Answer the following questions.

- a) Describe the circumstances that brought Framton Nuttel to Mrs. Sappleton's house. What was his purpose of visiting her?
- b) How did Vera entertain Mr. Nuttel while they were waiting for Mrs. Sappleton?
- c) Give a detailed character sketch of Vera. Which qualities make her a memorable and unique character?
- d) Describe Mr. Nuttel's reaction when he saw the three figures approaching the house through the open window.
- e) Discuss how the title "*The Open Window*" reflects the central theme of the story.