

***Read the poems below then answer the questions that follow.***

**A Song of Success**

Ho! we were strong, we were swift, we were brave.  
Youth was a challenge, and Life was a fight.  
All that was best in us gladly we gave,  
Sprang from the rally, and leapt for the height.  
Smiling is Love in a foam of Spring flowers: 5  
Harden our hearts to him - on let us press!  
Oh, what a triumph and pride shall be ours!  
See where it beacons, the star of success!

Cares seem to crowd on us - so much to do;  
New fields to conquer, and time's on the wing. 10  
Grey hairs are showing, a wrinkle or two;  
Somehow our footstep is losing its spring.  
Pleasure's forsaken us, Love ceased to smile;  
Youth has been funeralled; Age travels fast.  
Sometimes we wonder: is it worth while? 15  
There! we have gained to the summit at last.

Aye, we have triumphed! Now must we haste,  
Revel in victory . . . why! what is wrong?  
Life's choicest vintage is flat to the taste -  
Are we too late? Have we laboured too long? 20  
Wealth, power, fame we hold . . . ah! but the truth:  
Would we not give this vain glory of ours  
For one mad, glad year of glorious youth,  
Life in the Springtide, and Love in the flowers.

**Answer the following questions by choosing the letter of the best answer.**

**1      The title of the poem is an example of**

- A.** Anaphora
- B.** Alliteration
- C.** Assonance
- D.** Antimetabole

**2 The poem in general dwells on**

- A. The importance of maximizing our time to achieve success in a short span of time
- B. The regret that people feel for spending their time doing unimportant things that make them happy
- C. There will be a point in time when we realize that we had no more goals to achieve
- D. The realization that achievements are worth nothing unless they carry happiness with them

**3 How are the first and the second first of the poem different from each other?**

- A. The author seems joyful in the first but wistful in the second
- B. The author is telling about himself in the first but somebody else in the second
- C. The author is describing his current state in the first but his past in the second
- D. The author has achieved his goal in the first but failed in the second

**4 What poetic technique is used in Line 5?**

- A. Simile
- B. Metaphor
- C. Hyperbole
- D. Personification

**5 What does the author want to express in Line 17-18?**

- A. Instantly achieved success won't last long
- B. Being ungrateful will grow greediness
- C. Ungenuine happiness is futile
- D. Too much worry prevents happiness

**6 What is referred to as him in Line 6?**

- A. Love
- B. The author
- C. Smile
- D. Triumph

**7 The phrase "time's on the wing" implies**

- A. We need to keep track of time while trying to succeed
- B. It's just a matter of time before our success ends
- C. Time feels so short when we're focused on our goals
- D. We only have little time to achieve what we aim at

**8 What does Line 9 attempt to convey?**

- A. We often have too little time to complete all of our tasks
- B. Sometimes we will come to circumstances that force us to work hard
- C. We will eventually be surrounded by great people who are willing to help us
- D. Sometimes our own minds make us think that we can't achieve our goal

**Storm on the Island**

We are prepared: we build our houses squat,  
Sink walls in rock and roof them with good slate.  
This wizened earth has never troubled us  
With hay, so, as you see, there are no stacks  
Or stooks that can be lost. Nor are there trees 5

Which might prove company when it blows full  
Blast: you know what I mean - leaves and branches  
Can raise a tragic chorus in a gale  
So that you listen to the thing you fear  
Forgetting that it pummels your house too. 10

But there are no trees, no natural shelter.  
You might think that the sea is company,  
Exploding comfortably down on the cliffs  
But no: when it begins, the flung spray hits  
The very windows, spits like a tame cat 15

Turned savage. We just sit tight while wind dives  
And strafes invisibly. Space is a salvo,  
We are bombarded with the empty air.  
Strange, it is a huge nothing that we fear.

**Answer the following questions by choosing the letter of the best answer.**

**9 Here are the actual conditions of the land in this poem, except**

- A. Arid
- B. Grassy
- C. Barren
- D. Empty

**10 What is the actual mood of the third line?**

- A. Hopeful
- B. Peaceful
- C. Tense
- D. Gloomy

**11 What does the author mean by describing the storm “as a huge nothing” in the last line?**

- A. The storm is visibly strong
- B. The storm is not scary at all
- C. The storm is nothing even though it is big
- D. The storm is formless but very strong

**12 The first line is best described as**

- A. Forethought
- B. Simplicity
- C. Competence
- D. Rigidity

**13 What poetic technique does the author use in Line 10?**

- A. Alliteration
- B. Apostrophe
- C. Oxymoron
- D. Personification

**14 What is the correlation between Line 15 and Line 16?**

- A. Line 16 is the effect of the occurrence in Line 15
- B. Line 16 serves as the reason for the occurrence that happened in Line 15
- C. Line 15 conveys the opposite idea to the one in Line 16
- D. Line 16 highlights what Line 15 is implying

**15 Line 6-7 are an example of**

- A. Anaphora
- B. Enjambment
- C. Chiasmus
- D. Euphony

**16 In line 15, what is the effect of the simile "spits like a tame cat"?**

- A. It suggests that the sea is harmless and playful.
- B. It emphasizes the violent force of the sea spray.
- C. It shows the speaker's fondness for cats.
- D. It suggests that the storm is not very strong.

## May

Oh the merry May has pleasant hours, And dreamily they glide, As if they floated like the leaves Upon a silver tide.	
The trees are full of crimson buds, And the woods are full of birds, And the waters flow to music Like a tune with pleasant words.	5
The verdure of the meadow-land Is creeping to the hills, The sweet, blue-bosom'd violets Are blowing by the rills; The lilac has a load of balm For every wind that stirs, And the larch stands green and beautiful Amid the sombre firs.	10
There's perfume upon every wind - Music in every tree - Dews for the moisture-loving flowers - Sweets for the sucking bee; The sick come forth for the healing South, The young are gathering flowers; And life is a tale of poetry, That is told by golden hours.	15
If 'tis not a true philosophy, That the spirit when set free Still lingers about its olden home, In the flower and the tree, It is very strange that our pulses thrill At the tint of a voiceless thing, And our hearts yearn so with tenderness In the beautiful time of Spring.	20
	25
	30

Answer the following questions by choosing the letter of the best answer.

- 17 What is referred to as “a voiceless thing” in Line 30?**
- A. Home
  - B. Flowers
  - C. Spirit
  - D. Pulses
- 18 What poetic technique does the author use in Line 9-10?**
- A. Assonance
  - B. Chiasmus
  - C. Enjambment
  - D. Personification
- 19 The third verse of the poem dwells primarily on**
- A. How soothing May’s springtime is for certain beings
  - B. The importance of May for the lives of humans
  - C. The difference in the springtime in May compared to other months
  - D. The benefits that springtime in May brings
- 20 Why does the author use the phrase “golden hours” in Line 24?**
- A. It shows that life lasts longer than we think
  - B. It emphasizes that there will be a point in life where we are the happiest
  - C. It implies a life cycle that will come to an end just like a day
  - D. It signifies that there is always a lesson that we can learn in life
- 21 According to the poem's last verse, what causes our excitement for the spring season?**
- A. The beauty of flowers
  - B. Valuable memories
  - C. The souls of past lives
  - D. Personal philosophy
- 22 Line 8 is an example of**
- A. Simile
  - B. Metaphor
  - C. Hyperbole
  - D. Oxymoron
- 23 What are contrasted in Line 15 and 16?**

- A. The types of flowers and the trees
- B. Present and past situations
- C. The beauty of flowers and their surroundings
- D. Expectations and reality

**24 Why is May described to be gliding dreamily in the first verse?**

- A. To imply that it is actually just an imagination
- B. To emphasize how beautiful the coming of springtime is
- C. To show how bizarre the situation is compared to how it is commonly
- D. To demonstrate that the season is going slowly

**Democracy**

Democracy will not come  
 Today, this year  
 Nor ever  
 Through compromise and fear.

I have as much right 5  
 As the other fellow has  
 To stand  
 On my two feet  
 And own the land.

I tire so of hearing people say, 10  
 Let things take their course.  
 Tomorrow is another day.  
 I do not need my freedom when I'm dead.  
 I cannot live on tomorrow's bread.

Freedom 15  
 Is a strong seed  
 Planted  
 In a great need.

I live here, too.  
 I want freedom 20  
 Just as you.

**Answer the following questions by choosing the letter of the best answer.**

**25 From lines 10 to 11, we can conclude that the author is annoyed with the following characters, EXCEPT**

- A. People with a resigned character
- B. People with a compliant character
- C. People with a dependent character
- D. People with a firm characters

**26 What is the actual meaning of line 14?**

- A. Independence cannot be postponed
- B. You are only given one shot
- C. The future is full of uncertainty
- D. Intake is an important factor in the struggle

**27 The 7th and 8th lines are best described as**

- A. Possession
- B. Autonomy
- C. Perfection
- D. Destiny

**28 What poetic technique does the author apply in lines 13-14?**

- A. Apostrophe
- B. Anaphora
- C. Oxymoron
- D. Hyperbole

**29 What is the message implied in this poem?**

- A. Freedom must be based on responsibility
- B. Fighting for freedom starts with yourself
- C. Freedom without equality is useless
- D. Freedom is a right that must be fought for immediately

**30 Lines 15-16 are an example of**

- A. Alliteration
- B. Oxymoron
- C. Simile
- D. Metaphor

**31 What is the correlation between Line 15-16 and Line 17-18?**



- A. Line 17-18 further explains the idea in Line 15-16
- B. Line 15-16 contradicts the idea in Line 17-18
- C. Line 15-16 provides parables of Line 17-18
- D. Line 17-18 serves as the result of Line 15-16

**32      What is the significance of the lines "I have as much right/As the other fellow has/To stand/On my two feet/And own the land"?**

- A. The speaker believes in individual ownership and property rights.
- B. The speaker does not believe in democracy.
- C. The speaker is advocating for a classless society.
- D. The speaker is highlighting the inequalities present in society.