

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

**A Man Who Had Fallen Among Thieves by E. E. Cummings**

a man who had fallen among thieves  
lay by the roadside on his back  
dressed in fifteenthrate ideas  
wearing a round jeer for a hat

fate per a somewhat more than less 5  
emancipated evening  
had in return for consciousness  
endowed him with a changeless grin

whereon a dozen staunch and leal  
citizens did graze at pause 10  
then fired by hypercivic zeal  
sought newer pastures or because

swaddled with a frozen brook  
of pinkest vomit out of eyes  
which noticed nobody he looked 15  
as if he did not care to rise

one hand did nothing on the vest  
its wideflung friend clenched weakly dirt  
while the mute trouserfly  
confessed a button solemnly inert. 20

Brushing from whom the stiffened puke  
i put him all into my arms  
and staggered banged with terror through  
a million billion trillion stars.

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

**1 The following are themes evident in the poem except?**

- I. Kindness
- II. Indifference
- III. Humanity
- IV. Suffering



- A. I, IV and III
- B. III, II and IV
- C. All of the above
- D. None of the above

**2 The role of the thieves in the poem is to**

- A. represent the speaker's inner turmoil and guilt.
- B. portray the evils of humanity and the influences of greed.
- C. depict the harsh realities of society and its disregard for those in need.
- D. serve as a metaphor for the security of the world and the need for hostility.

**3 Stanza 2 mentions how the man's face has "a changeless grin." What does this picture tell you?**

- A. The man's thoughts were organised and rational, despite the confusing events that took place.
- B. The man had completely processed the events and his mind was functioning properly, dispelling any disoriented thoughts.
- C. The man was unable to comprehend the events that just took place and his mind was jumbled, leading to disordered thoughts.
- D. The man remained bewildered by what had happened to him, causing his thoughts to become precise and composed.

**4 What does the second stanza say about how the passersby treated the man?**

- A. The passersby observed the man and pretended to assist him.
- B. The people who passed by noticed the man and feigned the assistance they extended to him.
- C. The people pretended not to notice the man and went on their way despite seeing him.
- D. The passengers looked at the man but pretended not to see him as they were scared the robbers would hurt them too.

**5 How does the last stanza, where the speaker is carrying the man through a million billion trillion stars, contribute to the overall message and theme of the poem?**

- A. The final scene represents the matter of fear and cowardice as the speaker is afraid to aid the man.
- B. The final scene represents the matter of hope and compassion as the speaker is carrying the man away from the harsh realities of the world.
- C. The final scene represents the matter of neglect and indifference as the speaker does not care about the man's wellbeing.
- D. The final scene represents a matter of anger and frustration as the speaker is upset with the man for getting robbed.

**6 How did the mood of the poem shift from beginning to end?**

- A. The poem began hopeful and empathetic and shifted into dark and ironic in the end.
- B. The poem began ironic and cynical and shifted into hopeful and sympathetic in the end.
- C. The poem began light and cheerful and shifted into dark and cynical in the end.
- D. The poem began pessimistically and cynically and did not shift from that.

**7 Which of the following best summarises what the entire poem is all about?**

- A. The poem is about a man who saved himself after being left by bandits on the side of the road.
- B. The poem portrays a man who falls victim to crooks and is neglected by those around him until he passes.
- C. The poem is about a man who was aided by many people after being left by burglars on the side of the road.
- D. The poem depicts a man abandoned by robbers on the side of the road until the speaker recovers him and tends to his needs with kindness.

**8 You come across a homeless person lying on the side of the road, barely conscious. How would the lesson of the poem apply in this situation?**

- A. Ignore the person and continue on your way.
- B. Feel pity for the person but do nothing to assist.
- C. Help the person to the best of your ability.
- D. Attack the person for being in that condition.

**Where the Sidewalk Ends by Shel Silverstein**

There is a place where the sidewalk ends  
And before the street begins,  
And there the grass grows soft and white,  
And there the sun burns crimson bright,  
And there the moon-bird rests from his flight  
To cool in the peppermint wind.

5

Let us leave this place where the smoke blows black  
And the dark street winds and bends.  
Past the pits where the asphalt flowers grow,  
We shall walk with a walk that is measured and slow,  
And watch where the chalk-white arrows go  
To the place where the sidewalk ends.

10

Yes, we'll walk with a walk that is measured and slow,  
And we'll go where the chalk-white arrows go,  
For the children, they mark, and the children, they know  
The place where the sidewalk ends.

15



Betweenwhiles, but she sees herself not Him.

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

9 What tone is set in the poem?

- A. Bitter regret
- B. Childish yearning
- C. Cynical detachment
- D. Middleage longing

10 In the first stanza, the speaker describes the grass as soft and white. What does this mean?

- A. It represents a magical and imaginative world where normal physical rules do not apply and the imagination is free to create and explore.
- B. It represents a mark of the difficulty in navigating society and the obstacles that are encountered.
- C. It represents the hardness of customs and the lack of imagination in the speaker's life.
- D. It represents a symbol of the end of youth and the transition into maturity.

11 The second line described the street to be near the “beginning.” On the eighth, in contrast, the street is now described as “winding and bending.” What does the latter signify?

- A. It signifies resilience and clarity.
- B. It indicates confusion and uncertainty.
- C. It symbolises stability and a sense of direction.
- D. It represents a sense of adventure and excitement.

12 What is the significance of the word “winds” in line 8?

- A. A natural movement of air of any velocity.
- B. Slight information especially about something secret.
- C. To cause to move in a curving line or path.
- D. To rest an animal, such as a horse to allow the breath to be recovered.

13 What is the poem trying to depict about one’s world as an adult?



- A. It is a happy place, a place where everyone lives their lives with a smile on their face.
- B. It is a magical and imaginative place, a haven for those who seek adventure and excitement.
- C. It is a harmonious and peaceful place, a place where people live in perfect harmony and understanding.
- D. It is difficult and demanding compared to a more childlike mentality that can offer relief from the stress and burdens of adulthood.

**14 In line six, the wind is described as “peppermint.” What does it contribute to the poem?**

- A. It infuses the poem with a mature and serious essence through its sweet fragrance.
- B. It contributes to the poem's atmosphere with a jaded and fruity scent.
- C. It creates a logical and prosaic vibe through its sugary aroma in the poem.
- D. It adds a sweet and nostalgic aroma to the poem's setting.

**15 What distinguishes the second stanza of the poem from the first?**

- A. The second stanza is written in a pessimistic tone, while the first is written in an optimistic tone.
- B. The second stanza depicts the grown-up life, while the first portrays a joyful and youthful place.
- C. The second stanza is set in a historical period, while the first is set in the present.
- D. The second stanza is about a completely different subject, unrelated to the first.

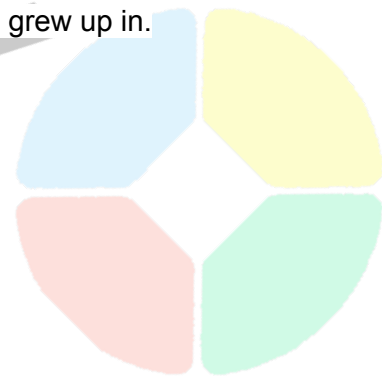
**16 Mandy is feeling overwhelmed by the demands of her grown-up lifestyle and is longing for a moment of escape from the pressures of it. What action should she take to experience the same sense of freedom and joy as in her girlhood?**

- A. Plan a trip to a foreign country for a change of pace and a moment of peace.
- B. Visit an amusement park for a day of fun and excitement.
- C. Take a walk down memory lane by revisiting the place she grew up in.
- D. Attend a concert featuring her favourite girlhood band.

### Count that Day Lost by George Eliot

If you sit down at set of sun  
 And count the acts that you have done,  
 And, counting, find  
 One self-denying deed, one word  
 That eased the heart of him who heard,     5  
 One glance most kind  
 That fell like sunshine where it went--  
 Then you may count that day well spent.

But if, through all the livelong day,  
 You've cheered no heart, by yea or nay--     10  
 If, through it all,  
 You've nothing done that you can trace



That brought the sunshine to one face--  
No act most small  
That helped some soul and nothing cost-- 15  
Then count that day as worse than lost.

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

**17 What is the rhyme scheme of the second stanza?**

- A. ABABCDCD
- B. ABBACDDC
- C. AABCCBDD
- D. AABBCDD

**18 What is the poem all about?**

- A. It is all about the benefits of being idle and indolent.
- B. It is all about the futility of self-reflection and improvement.
- C. It is all about what one must do to have spent their days wisely.
- D. It is all about how one can waste time by spending it with others.

**19 What does line 4 mean by a "self-denying deed"?**

- A. It refers to a deed that only benefits oneself.
- B. It refers to an action that demonstrates malevolence.
- C. It refers to a deed that goes unnoticed yet makes a situation worse.
- D. It refers to an action where one puts the needs of others before one's own.

**20 Why does the first stanza consider a day well spent if there is "one word that eased the heart of him who heard"?**

- A. Because one has earned a significant amount of money.
- B. Because one has done one deed that helped ease someone's heart.
- C. Because one has accomplished many tasks on their to-do list.
- D. Because one has received praise and recognition from others.

**21 How does the poem view a day where one has "cheered no heart" in the second stanza?**

- A. A successful day
- B. A wasted day
- C. An average day
- D. A day of personal growth

**22 What is the purpose of counting one's actions at the end of the day?**

- A. To measure one's day-to-day success.
- B. To track one's daily personal growth.
- C. To reflect on how one impacted others.
- D. To analyse negative personal behaviours.

**23 In which circumstances can one apply the lesson learned from the poem?**

- I. Helping a classmate with school work.
- II. Sharing toys with a younger sibling.
- III. Saying sorry to a friend they hurt.
- IV. Standing up to bullying in the playground.

- A. II, IV and III
- B. I, III, IV and II
- C. I, II and III
- D. IV, II and I

**24 What is not a theme of the poem?**

- A. Bashfulness
- B. Virtuousness
- C. Kindness
- D. Selflessness

**A Little Dog That Wags His Tail by Emily Dickinson**

A little Dog that wags his tail  
And knows no other joy  
Of such a little Dog am I  
Reminded by a Boy

Who gambols all the living Day      5  
Without an earthly cause  
Because he is a little Boy  
I honestly suppose —

The Cat that in the Corner dwells  
Her martial Day forgot      10  
The Mouse but a Tradition now  
Of her desireless Lot

Another class remind me



Who neither please nor play  
But not to make a "bit of noise"      15  
Beseech each little Boy —

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

**25      What rhyme scheme is used in the poem?**

- A. AABB
- B. ABAB
- C. ABBC
- D. ABCB

**26      Which of the following lines from the poem employs alliteration?**

- A. Line 6
- B. Line 12
- C. Line 9
- D. Line 3

**27      What is the significance of the boy in the poem?**

- A. He is a symbol of uprightness.
- B. He represents the readers' senility.
- C. He represents carefree behaviour and bliss.
- D. He is a contrast to the more hawkish behaviour of the cat.

**28      In the first two lines, it has been established that the little dog wags his tail as he "knows no other joy." How does the speaker feel about this based on the first stanza?**

- A. The speaker appreciates the dog's simple way of showing desolation through tail-wagging.
- B. The speaker accepts the dog's limited means of expressing itself and finds enjoyment in its tail-wagging.
- C. The speaker embraces the idea that wagging its tail is the dog's sole form of triumph.
- D. The speaker acknowledges and accepts that the dog only knows how to express itself through barking.

**29      In terms of behaviour, what is the difference between the dog and the boy and the cat and the mouse?**

- A. The dog and boy are sedentary and forgetful, while the cat and mouse are playful and cheerful.
- B. The dog and boy are upbeat and active, while the cat and mouse are unmindful and forgotten.
- C. The dog and boy are forgetful and languid, while the cat and mouse are dynamic and elated.
- D. The dog and boy are optimistic and lively, while the cat and mouse are warrior-like and customary.



30 Which of the following best summarises the third stanza of the poem?

- A. The cat and mouse have lost their former ways and now lead passive lives.
- B. The cat and the mouse are very much alike with the dog and the speaker.
- C. The speaker contrasts the delight and mischievousness of the boy with the dog.
- D. The speaker associates herself with the relaxed behaviour of the little dog and boy.

31 Who is the speaker reminded of in the last stanza?

- A. Dogs
- B. Cats
- C. Mice
- D. Adults

32 What does the poem suggest about the concept of joy?

- A. Joy is something that can only be found in certain people.
- B. Joy is something that is found in the simple pleasures of life.
- C. Joy is only found in insouciant behaviour.
- D. Joy is something that is found in the company of others.

