

MAIN POINTS

- The poet of this poem is Walt Whitman.
- It signifies the eternal role played by rain in nurturing, quenching and purifying the various elements of earth.
- This poem is an imaginary conversation with rain droplets.
- The poet asks the soft-falling shower, 'Who are you?' To which she replies that she is the poem of earth.
- It is a strange thing that the rain answered the poet that she cannot be touched as she rises in the form of water vapour in the sky from the land and the bottomless sea.
- It falls back on the surface of the earth to provide water to the drought-prone areas and to beautify and purify the earth.
- It provides life to the seeds inside the earth and helps them grow.
- The poet also compares the rain with a song as the song originates from the heart of the singer.

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

- What does the word 'Descend' mean?**
 - Not clear
 - Come down
 - To wash
 - Hidden
- What Hyperbole is used in the poem?**
 - I am the Poem of Earth
 - Soft-falling shower
 - Bottomless sea
 - Voice of the rain
- What does the poet compare the rain with?**
 - Song
 - Heaven
 - Beauty
 - Flowers
- How does the rain help the seeds inside the earth?**
 - Provides water
 - Provides life and helps them grow
 - Provides life
 - None of the above
- From where does the rain rise in the form of water vapour?**
 - land and bottomless sea
 - land and ocean
 - mountains and land
 - none of the above
- The poem 'The Voice of the Rain' is a conversation between ____?**
 - poet and rain
 - poet and mountains
 - rain and trees
 - birds and rain
- What does 'who art thou' mean?**
 - How are you?
 - Who are you ?
 - What are these?
 - Who art thus?
- What happens to the rain in the sky?**
 - It forms clouds.
 - It rises up.
 - Rain falls down.
 - None of the above.
- What is 'vaguely form'd'?**
 - Clouds
 - Earth
 - Rain
 - None of the above
- Who rises eternal out of the land?**
 - Air
 - Clouds
 - Rain
 - Water vapour.
- Why does the rain descend to the earth?**
 - To fill the rivers.
 - To wash the drought and provide water
 - To purify the earth
 - All of the above
- Why is it 'impalpable'?**
 - Because it is intangible
 - Because it is invisible
 - Because it is untouchable
 - All of the above

13. **Who descends in the poem?**
 a. Rain b. Mountain
 c. Waterfall d. Thunder
14. **Which is the birthplace of the song?**
 a. Waterfall b. Trees
 c. Poet's heart d. Air
15. **What does 'Reck'd or unreck'd' mean?**
 a. fulfil or not fulfil
 b. to clean or not clean
 c. cared for or not cared for
 d. to dry or not dry

ANSWER KEY

1-b, 2-c, 3-a, 4-b, 5-a, 6-a, 7-b, 8-c, 9-a, 10-d, 11-d,
 12-d, 13-a, 14-c, 15-c

VERY SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. **Who is the poet of the poem 'The Voice of the Rain'?**
 Ans. Walt Whitman
2. **How does the shower fall?**
 Ans. Softly
3. **What does the voice of the rain reply?**
 Ans. I am the poem of Earth.
4. **Where does the rain rise from ?**
 Ans. The land and the bottomless sea.
5. **Who said "give life to my own origin "**
 Ans. The rain
6. **Without whom seeds cannot germinate?**
 Ans. Rain
7. **The rain descends to clean the dust layer of the ____.**
 Ans. Globe
8. **What does the word latent mean?**
 Ans. hidden
9. **Where does the poet Walt Whitman belong?**
 Ans. America (United States of America)
10. **Where does the rain go upward?**
 Ans. To heaven

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. **Why does the poet get surprised when he gets an answer from the rain?**
 Ans. The poet gets surprised when he gets an answer from the rain, as it is inanimate and cannot speak. In this poem, the poet has created an imaginary conversation with the rain, it gives a reply which has been translated by the poet for the readers.
2. **How does the rain justify its claim 'I am the Poem of Earth'?**
 Ans. The rain calls itself the Poem of the Earth because as, a poem brings joy, happiness, and life to its readers. Similarly when the rain falls down over the Earth, a rhythm or music is created. It makes crops grow and give life to mankind. That's why the rain calls itself the Poem of Earth.
3. **Latent seeds get life by rain. Explain.**
 Ans. The seeds lying in earth require water to germinate and grow into plants. When it rains, the seeds start germinating and change into the form of saplings. In this way, the seeds which would have dried up get a new life by rain.
4. **Why is rain essential for Earth?**
 Ans. The rain laves the droughts, cleans the dirt layers, helps the seeds germinate and form new trees. It injects new life to the whole earth.
5. **What do you mean by the phrase 'reck'd or unreck'd'?**
 Ans. The words have been poetically drafted. Reck'd and unreck'd stand for reckoned and unreckoned. The words literally mean cared and uncared for respectively. The poet says these words to emphasise the fact that when it falls on the earth, we sometimes take notice of it or sometimes completely ignore it.

LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. **Why does the poet get surprised when he gets a reply from the rain?**
 Ans. When the poet asked "who are you?" The rain replied "I am the poem of earth". This answer amazed the poet because it is inanimate and it cannot speak. The poet has created this imaginary conversation as an amazement factor for readers to get amazed and enjoy the lively poem.
2. **Describe the never ending cycle of the rain.**
 Ans. Water rises up in the form of vapours from land

and water bodies on earth. It goes up and takes the form of the clouds. Again it changes its form and drops down on the earth as rain droplets . After cleaning and nurturing each and every particle on earth, it returns through rivers and water bodies to sea. Again it gets evaporated to form clouds, this is the never ending cycle of the rain, or the water cycle on earth.

3. Why does the poet use the word 'impalpable' for the rain?

Ans. The poet has used the word impalpable for the rain because it means which cannot be felt by seeing or touching. When it is in the form of vapours it cannot be seen or touched. Then after being condensed it takes the form of clouds . This process is also unseen so the word impalpable is justified for the rain.

4. Why does the rain become a poem of the earth?

Ans. In the poem 'The voice of the Rain', the poet describes how the rain falls on the earth. He describes the slow falling shower of rain which presents a musical effect. So the rain call itself the poem of Earth. The rain gives a new lease of life to the scorched and parched earth in a rhythmic manner.

5. Why is rain essential for our earth?

Ans. If it doesn't rain the earth will remain parched and drought will follow. There will be nothing to quench the thirst of plants and trees. Dirt layers will not be washed away. New life will not be leased any more. Seeds will die without water. Human and animal life would suffer gravely.