

Main Points

- The Peacock is a poem written by Sujata Bhatt
- The poem is taken from the poet's collection of poems, Brunizem.
- A beautiful image of the peacock has been portrayed in the poem.
- A sharp loud call is heard by the poet from somewhere.
- Then she tries to find out from where the sound is coming, she sees a flash of turquoise.
- The slender neck arched descends from the pipal tree
- Only a glimpse of the bird is seen.
- The poet was told to sit in the veranda and read one of her favourite books.
- When the poet reads her favourite book with full concentration, a blue shadow of the peacock fell over her which disturbed her.
- Coming of the peacock is indicated by the blue shadow, change of the direction of the wind, humming of the bees stopped and the cat is awakened.
- At this time if one looks up can see the peacock gathering his tail.
- When the peacock shuts his eyes, his violet fringes with golden amber can be seen.
- The tail of the bird keeps on blinking as eyes have to be opened.

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. **The poem 'The Peacock' is written by-**
 - a. Philip Larkin
 - b. William Shakespeare
 - c. Sujata Bhatt
 - d. John Keats
2. **The Peacock is a poem taken from-**
 - a. Brunizem
 - b. Monkey Shadows
 - c. The Stinking Horse
 - d. None of these
3. **Which bird is referred to in the poem?**
 - a. Parrot
 - b. Peacock
 - c. Sparrow
 - d. None of these
4. **Which bird is the national bird of India?**
 - a. Pigeon
 - b. Nightingale
 - c. Sparrow
 - d. Peacock
5. **What indicates the presence of the peacock nearby?**
 - a. Loud sharp call
 - b. A flash of turquoise
 - c. Blue shadow
 - d. All of these
6. **Where does 'his loud Sharp call' seem to come from?**
 - a. His loud Sharp call seems to come from Everywhere.
 - b. His loud Sharp call seems to come from Nowhere.
 - c. His loud Sharp call seems to come from the peepal tree.
 - d. His loud sharp call seems to come from the house.
7. **Where is the bird?**
 - a. The bird is in the house.
 - b. The bird is in the pipal tree
 - c. The bird is under the tree.
 - d. The bird is in the mango tree.
8. **Who was told to read a book?**
 - a. Reader
 - b. The poet
 - c. The peacock
 - d. No one
9. **What indicates the arrival of the bird peacock?**
 - a. The wind changes direction
 - b. The steady hum of bees stops
 - c. Both a and b
 - d. None of these
10. **The cat will awaken and stretch at the-**
 - a. Arrival of the Peacock
 - b. Departure of the peacock
 - c. Dancing of the peacock
 - d. Gathering of his tail

from the poem which signal the presence of the peacock in the vicinity.

3. How does the connection drawn between the tail and the eyes add to the descriptive detail of the poem?

Ans. The poet has described gracefulness of the peacock very beautifully. The tail of the peacock contains spectacular beauty because of its feathers. The patterns present in the feathers look like eyes which do not close or blink. When the peacock gathers its feathers gives an illusion of numerous eyes blinking at one time.

4. How does the poem capture the elusive nature of the peacock?

Ans. From the first line of the poem the poet has captured the elusive nature of the peacock. Loud sharp call can be heard but from where is not known. Only flash of the turquoise, slender neck and glimpse of the end of the tail is seen. Moreover the peacock turning away, gathering his feathers dark glowing can be seen.

5. The peacock is a colourful bird. How does the poem capture the various colours that its plumage displays?

Ans. The peacock is a colourful bird. And the poet has beautifully portrayed the various colours of its plumage by the expressions like- turquoise (bluish- green colour), blue shadow, dark glowing eyes, violet fringed with golden amber.