

Class 10 English The Ball Poem

Question Answer

Thinking about the poem

Q. In pairs, attempt the following question -

1. Why does the poet say, "I would not intrude on him"? Why does not he offer him money to buy another ball?

Ans: The poet does not like to compensate the boy's loss by giving him some money - because he wants that the boy should face the realities of the world.

2. "starting down/All his young days into the harbour where/his ball went

"Do you think the boy has had the ball for a long time?

Is it linked to the memories of days when he played with it?

Ans: Yes, I think the boy had it for a long time. It is linked to the memories of days he played with it.

3. What does "in the world of possessions" mean? Ans:

The world of possessions means the materialistic world. The world is considered in terms of materials.

4. Do you think the boy has lost anything earlier? Pick out the words that suggest the answer.

Ans: It seems the boy has lost nothing earlier. He is not used to such loss and that is why "An ultimate shaking grief fixes the boy".

5. What does the poet say the boy is learning from the loss of the ball? Try to explain this in your own words.

Ans: According to the poet the boy is learning the nature of loss when he loses his ball. He is shaken at his loss. But finally he tries to understand the situation and also tries to face the reality of life.

6. Have you ever lost something you like very much? Write a paragraph describing how you felt then, and saying whether - and how - you got over your loss.

Ans: I have lost lots of things in my childhood days. But last year my father presented me a pen as a birthday gift. The pen was very beautiful and costly. I liked and loved it very much. But I am very sorry because I lost it last week. I cannot forget the loss. Though father consoled me saying that he would give me another I am not happy.

Comprehension Questions and Answers :

Q:- Read the extract and answer the questions choosing appropriate options given below:-

1. What is the boy now, who has lost his ball,

What, what is he to do? I saw it go
Merrily bouncing, down the street, and then
Merrily over-there it is in the water!
No use to say 'O there are other balls':

Question :-

1. Name the poet of the poem?

a) John Keats.

b) Robert Frost.

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c) Robert Browning.

d) John Berryman.

Ans: d) John Berryman.

2. What happens to the boy?

a) He becomes happy.

b) He has lost his ball.

c) He weeps.

d) He laughs.

Ans : b) He has lost his ball.

3. What happens to the boy when he loses his ball?

a) He is confused.

b) He becomes sad.

c) He cries.

d) He runs after it.

Ans: a) He is confused.

4. Where did the ball go?

a) Into the road

b) Into the room.

c) Into the jungle.

d) Into water.

Ans: d) Into water.

As he stands rigid trembling, staring down
All his young days into the harbour where
His ball went. I would not intrude on him;
A dime, another ball, is worthless. Now
He sense first responsibility
In a world of possessions.

Question :-

1. What does the boy do in grief?

a) Runs.

b) Weeps.

c) Cries.

d) Trembles.

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Ans: d) Trembles.

2. What does the boy stare?

a) His ball.

b) The bushes.

c) The harbour.

d) The road.

Ans: c) The harbour.

3. What does the boy feel?

a) His responsibility.

b) His duty.

c) His dreams.

d) His pleasure.

Ans: a) His responsibility.

4. What is worthless? AssameseMedium.Com

a) His ball.

b) Another ball.

c) Other play item.

d) His dream.

Ans: b) Another ball.

3. People will take Balls, balls will be lost always, little boy. And no one buys a ball back. Money is external. He is learning, well behind his desperate eyes,

The epistemology of loss, how to stand up
Knowing what every man must one day know
And most know many days, how to stand up.

Question :-

1. What is the relation of money with lost balls?

- a) Lost balls mean loss of money.
- b) Lost balls encourage to buy new balls.
- c) Extra money is spent when a ball is lost.
- d) None of these.

Ans: c) Extra money is spent when a ball is lost.

2. What is the boy learning?

- a) That money is external.
- b) That balls are always lost.
- c) That he will get a new ball.
- d) The nature of loss and how to stand up.

Ans: d) The nature of loss and how to stand up.

3. What must everyone know one day?

- a) The nature of loss.
- b) How to stand up.
- c) What to do when a ball is lost.
- d) That money is external.

Ans: b) How to stand up.

4. What does 'epistemology of loss' mean?

- a) Feeling of loss. AssameseMedium.Com
- b) Fear of loss.
- c) Understanding the nature of loss.
- d) The cause of loss.

Ans: c) Understanding the nature of loss.

Short Answer Type Questions and Answers :

1. What happened to the boy's ball? What was its effect?

Ans: The boy was playing near the harbour with his ball. Suddenly the ball ran down to water and it was lost. The boy was severely grief stricken. But the boy has to learn that loss is common and he has to stand up.

2. How the sense of loss of the boy is expressed?

Ans: In the poem 'The Ball Poem' poet shows that the boy was emotionally wounded at his loss. He lost his ball and was grief-stricken. He trembles and stares into the harbour.

3. What message does the poem convey?

Ans: The message is that we should understand the nature of loss and be able to accept such losses in life. In this materialistic world loss is common. Loss should not be kept in mind.