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Instructions

1. the trees & fire and ice
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Q1. Where are the trees moving out and why?

1 Mark

Q2. How do roots work throughout the night and what is their aim?

Q3. Describe the struggles of leaves, twigs and boughs.

Q4. What are the results of a treeless forest?

Q5. Find, in the first stanza, three things that cannot happen in a treeless forest.

Q6. Why does the poetess ignore the struggle of trees in her long letters?

Q7. Where are the trees in the poem? What do their roots, their leaves, and their twigs do?

Q8. What happens to the house when the trees move out of it?

Q9. For Frost, what do 'fire' and 'ice' stand for? Here are some ideas:

greed	avarice	cruelty	lust
conflict	fury	intolerance	rigidity
insensitivity	coldness	indifference	hatred

Q10. What picture do these words create in your mind: "... sun bury its feet in shadow..."? What could the poet mean by the sun's 'feet'?

Q11. How are the cramped boughs compared to the newly discharged patients from a hospital?

Q12. Why is the moon first shown as full and why is it fragmented in the end?

Q13. Describe the victorious march of the trees to their natural habitat the forest.

Q14. What are whispers that the poetess is hearing in her head?

Q15. Does the poem present a conflict between man and nature? Explain with reference to the poem 'The Trees'.

2 Marks

Q16. In what sense 'Fire and Ice' is a complete poem?

2 Marks

Q17. Why doesn't the poetess make any mention of the struggle waged by the trees to free themselves to move towards the forest in her long letters?

2 Marks

Q18. From when I have tasted of desire
I hold with those who favour fire.
Why does the poet hold with those who favour fire?

2 Marks

Q19. How would you describe the speaker's worldview? Is it pessimistic, realistic or just indifferent?

2 Marks

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1 Mark

Q20.	What is the message of the poem 'Fire and Ice'?	2 Marks
Q21.	Describe the pleasant night when the forest' departed from the house.	2 Marks
Q22.	What changes would the departure of the trees bring to the forest?	2 Marks
Q23.	Why do you think the poet does not mention "the departure of the forest from the house" in her letters? (Could it be that we are often silent about important happenings that are so unexpected that they embarrass us? Think about this again when you answer the next set of questions.)	2 Marks
Q24.	What message does the poetess Adrienne Rich want to convey in the poem 'The Trees'?	2 Marks
Q25.	What are the whispers that fill the head of the poet?	2 Marks
Q26.	What would suffice if this world has to perish twice and why?	
Q27.	What do people think about the end of the world? Who does the poet side with and why?	
Q28.	What are the ideas about how the world will end, according to the poet?	
Q29.	Describe the sound and fury of the victorious march of the trees to the forest.	
Q30.	What do 'ice' and 'fire' represent in the poem?	
Q31.	How does the poet 'know enough of hate'? Where will this 'hate' lead to?	
Q32.	What efforts do the trees make to get free?	
Q33.	What is the rhyme scheme of the poem? How does it help in bringing out the contrasting ideas in the poem?	
Q34.	Why does the poet favour those people who think that the world will end in fire?	
Q35.	For Frost, what do 'fire' and 'ice' stand for?	
Q36.	How does the poet describe the moon in the poem?	
Q37.	Why are the trees moving outside?	
Q38.	Describe the struggle of the roots, leaves, small twigs and long boughs to free themselves and break open the artificial barrier created by man.	
Q39.	Why does the poet hold with those who favour fire?	
Q40.	Fire and ice are very powerful things to destroy the world. Prove that ice is more powerful in the light of the poem 'Fire and Ice'.	2 Marks
Q41.	With whom does the poet align himself and why?	2 Marks
Q42.	Why is the poetess hopeful that the empty forest will be full of trees by the morning?	2 Marks
Q43.	What do people say about the ending of this world?	2 Marks
Q44.	What is the condition of the trees inside the house?	2 Marks
Q45.	What will be the condition of a treeless forest?	2 Marks
Q46.	How does Robert Frost caution the common man?	2 Marks

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Q47.	What are the symbols the poetess has used in the poem through poetic devices? Explain with reference to the poem. 'The Trees'.	2 Marks
Q48.	'But if it had to perish twice'. How will the world perish twice?	2 Marks
Q49.	Will this world come to an end? What does the poet say in this regard?	2 Marks
Q50.	Do you think the extremes of fire and ice could exist in a person at the same time?	2 Marks
Q51.	What does happen to the sun when the trees move out?	2 Marks
Q52.	Where are the trees kept? Why are they kept there?	2 Marks
Q53.	Describe the comparison between boughs and the newly discharged patients in the last lines of the second stanza.	
Q54.	Why does not the poet mention the departure of the forest from the house in the letter?	
Q55.	'No sun bury its feet in shadow.' What does the poet mean by the sun's feet? What picture does it create in your mind?	
Q56.	What does the poet compare their branches to?	
Q57.	To say that for destruction ice Is also great In the poem what does 'ice stand for? How is it sufficient to bring destruction?	
Q58.	What do people say about the world? Does the poet agree with them?	
Q59.	What will be the cause of the end of the world if it has to perish twice?	
Q60.	Why does the poet say: 'I've tasted of desire'?	
Q61.	How does the poet describe the moon: (a) at the beginning of the third stanza, and (b) at its end? What causes this change?	
Q62.	What is the message that the poetess want to give to the readers through the poem 'The Trees'?	
Q63.	Why does the poet say, I've tasted of desire/I hold with those who favour fire?	
Q64.	What is the rhyme scheme of the poem? How does this rhyme scheme establish contrasting ideas in the poem?	
Q65.	What kind of poem is 'Fire and Ice'? Give your views about the idea conveyed through the metaphors used in this poem.	
Q66.	Why are the trees moving out into the forest?	2 Marks
Q67.	Write the sum and substance of the poem 'Fire and Ice'.	2 Marks
Q68.	What changes can be seen in the moon during the course of the poem "The Trees"?	2 Marks
Q69.	But if it has to perish twice I think I know enough of hate. What does 'it' refer to? How will it perish twice?	2 Marks
Q70.	How has Frost brought out the contrasting ideas in the poem?	2 Marks
Q71.	Why does a forest become treeless and what are its unpleasant results? Describe the struggle of the trees to liberate themselves to go to their original natural habitat.	2 Marks

- Q72.** 'Like newly discharged patients Half-dazed, moving To the clinic doors.' Why does the poet compare the branches with the patients? **2 Marks**
- Q73.** Why is the full moon broken to pieces like a mirror in the last lines of the poem? **2 Marks**
- Q74.** Do you think the poet is happy about the tree moving out of her house? **2 Marks**
- Q75.** 'Give me liberty or give me death'. How far does this phrase illustrate the theme of the poem 'Trees'? **3 Marks**
- Q76.** It is a Hobson's Choice that the poet faces in the poem 'Fire and Ice'. Illustrate this thought, with the help of examples from the poem. **3 Marks**
- Q77.** Now that you have read the poem in detail, we can begin to ask what the poem might mean. Here are two suggestions. Can you think of others?
On the other hand, Adrienne Rich has been known to use trees as a metaphor for human beings; this is a recurrent image in her poetry. What new meanings emerge from the poem if you take its trees to be symbolic of this particular meaning? **3 Marks**
- Q78.** There are many ideas about how the world will 'end'. Do you think the world will end some day? Have you ever thought what would happen if the sun got so hot that it 'burst', or grew colder and colder?
- Q79.** Describe the conflict between man and nature through the struggle of the trees to liberate themselves from the clutches of man.
- Q80.** Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow:
All night the roots work
to disengage themselves from the cracks
in the veranda floor.
1. The roots are separating themselves from the _____.
2. The trees want to _____ to the forest.
3. The trees are outside the floor of the verandah. (True/ False)
4. Find the same meaning of 'to become free'.
- Q81.** Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow:
Some say the world will end in fire
Some say in ice.
From what I've tasted of desire
I hold with those who favour fire.
1. The above stanza debates whether the world will end in _____.
2. Both the elements mentioned in the first stanza have one similarity i.e. both can _____.
3. The poet favours those who believe that fire would cause final destruction. (True/ False)
4. The word that rhymes with 'fire' is _____.
- Q82.** Now that you have read the poem in detail, we can begin to ask what the poem might mean. Here are two suggestions. Can you think of others?
Does the poem present a conflict between man and nature? Compare it with A Tiger in the Zoo. Is the poet suggesting that plants and trees, used for 'interior decoration' in cities while forests are cut down, are 'imprisoned', and need to 'break out'?
- Q83.** A conflict between man and nature is going on. In this civilisation pursuit men are disregarding the natural growth of plants and trees. In total confinement, nature also rebels against civilisation and becomes destructive. Elaborate. **4 Marks**
- Q84.** Read the following extract carefully and choose the correct option. **4 Marks**
The trees inside are moving out into the forest,
the forest that was empty all these days
where no bird could sit
no insect hide
no sun bury its feet in shadow
1. Why was the forest empty?
1. Due to wild animals.

2. Absence of other creatures.
3. Cutting down of trees.
4. Due to fire.
2. Which things cannot happen in a treeless forest?
1. Sunlight never disappear.
2. Birds have no place to sit.
3. No hiding place for insects.
4. All of the above.
3. Which word in the stanza is antonym of 'excavate'?
1. Inside.
2. Out.
3. Bury.
4. Empty.
4. What happens to sun in absence of trees?
1. It shines all over.
2. Rays fall directly all over.
3. Both (a) and (b).
4. None of the above.

Q85. Stanza:

Some say the world will end in fire
Some say in ice
From what I've tasted of desire
I hold with those who favour fire.

Questions:

1. What do some people say?
2. What do others say?
3. What has the poet tasted?
4. Whom does the poet support?

Q86. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

The leaves strain toward the glass
Small twigs stiff with exertion
Long-cramped boughs shuffling under the roof
Like newly discharged patients

1. The leaves wanted to break the glass and _____.
2. Here twigs are compared to _____.
3. The twigs of the tree are stiff with exertion. True/ False
4. Give a word from the stanza which is similar in meaning to 'firm to more'.

Q87. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate

1. The world will not destroy. It will remain forever. False/ True
2. The world will perish _____ only.
3. In the above line 'It' refer to _____.
4. Give a synonym of 'vanish' from the stanza.

Q88. Stanza:

My head is full of whispers which tomorrow will be silent.
Listen. The glass is breaking.
The trees are stumbling forward into the night.

Questions:

1. What is echoing in her mind?
2. When will these whispers be silent?
3. What is breaking and why?
4. Where are the trees stumbling forward?

Q89.

4 Marks

4 Marks

We've got a pretty good handle on what it means to 'taste' desire, but what do you think it means to know enough of hate'? How much of hate is 'enough' and what kinds of life experiences could give someone this knowledge?

- Q90.** Describe the symbols of 'fire' and 'ice' used by the poet in the poem. How can each as well as both can cause the end of the world? **4 Marks**
- Q91.** Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow: **4 Marks**
Winds rush to meet them.
The moon is broken like a mirror,
its pieces flash now in the crown
of the tallest oak.
1. The moon looks like a broken _____ because it is seen through the branches.
2. The rays of the moon fall on the tallest _____.
3. Trees rush to meet the winds. (True/ False)
4. Find the same meaning of the 'shine' in the extract.
- Q92.** The poem 'The Trees' present a conflict between man and nature. Describe the struggle of the trees and their victorious march to their natural habitat-the forest.
- Q93.** Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.
Some say the world will end in fire
Some say in ice.
1. The name of the poet is _____.
2. 'The end of the world' means 'the extinction of _____.
3. There are two different opinion about the end of this world. True/ False
4. Find a synonym of 'extinction' from the stanza.
- Q94.** Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow:
I sit inside, doors open to the veranda
writing long letters
in which I scarcely mention the departure
of the forest from the house.
1. The poet is writing long _____.
2. The poet does not write about the _____ of the trees in his letter.
3. The poet is sitting on the floor. (True/ False)
4. Find a word which is same in meaning to 'hardly' in the extract.
- Q95.** **Stanza:**
But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice is also great.
And would suffice.
Questions:
1. What has to perish twice?
2. What does the poet know enough?
3. What is also great for destruction?
4. What does 'ice' symbolise in these lines?
- Q96.** There are many ideas about how this world will come to an 'end'. What are they? Do you agree with the poet and his understanding of the poet and his understanding of the issue in this regard? **4 Marks**
- Q97.** Read the following extracts carefully and choose the correct option. **4 Marks**
All night the roots work
to disengage themselves from the cracks
in the veranda floor.
The leaves strain toward the glass
small twigs stiff with exertion
long-cramped boughs shuffling under the roof
like newly discharged patients

half-dazed, moving to the clinic doors.

1. According to the poet what is the actual place for trees?
 1. Inside house.
 2. Garden.
 3. Large forests.
 4. Schools.
2. How are the small twigs of these plants?
 1. Green.
 2. Stiff.
 3. Soft.
 4. All of these.
3. What does the use of 'stiff' and 'roots trying to free themselves' suggest here?
 1. Trees are kept at wrong place.
 2. Trees not growing properly.
 3. Trees require open large space.
 4. Both (a) and (c).
4. What are the 'boughs' compared to?
 1. A newly admitted patient.
 2. Newly discharged patient.
 3. A very sick patient.
 4. All of the above.

Q98. How does Adrienne Rich use trees as a metaphor for men? Isn't the struggle of the trees to free themselves and go to the forest is the struggle of crushed men, particularly of women against the powerful and atrocious men?

Q99. Read the following extracts carefully and choose the correct option.

The trees inside are moving out into the forest,
 the forest that was empty all these days
 where no bird could sit
 no insect hide
 no sun bury its feet in shadow
 the forest that was empty all these nights
 will be full of trees by morning.

1. In the poem where are trees found?
 1. In the garden.
 2. In the forest.
 3. In the house.
 4. All of these.
2. The trees are found useful for:
 1. The birds.
 2. The insects.
 3. The wild animals.
 4. Both (a) and (b).
3. What types of plants are mentioned in the poem?
 1. Painted plants.
 2. Real plants.
 3. Decorative plants.
 4. Both (a) and (c).
4. Which word in the stanzas mean 'unoccupied'?
 1. Inside.
 2. Empty.
 3. Hide.
 4. Full of.

Q100. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

The night is fresh, the whole moon shines
 In a sky still open
 The smell of leaves and lichen
 Still reaches like a voice into the rooms.

4 Marks

1. The _____ is shining in the sky.
2. The smell of leaves and lichens reaches like _____ the room.
3. Give a synonym of 'scent' from the stanza.
4. The atmosphere of the night is dull and melancholy. True/ False

Q101. Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow:

4 Marks

The night is fresh, the whole moon shines
in a sky still open
the smell of leaves and lichen
still reaches like a voice into the rooms.

1. The poet compares the _____ of leaves to a voice.
2. The whole moon _____ when the sky is clear.
3. The poet says about the atmosphere of the night that it is fresh. (True/ False)
4. Find the same meaning of 'clear' in the extract.

Q102. Stanza:

I sit inside, doors open to the veranda writing long letters in which I scarcely mention the departure of the forest from the house.

The night is fresh, the whole moon shines in a sky still open the smell of leaves and lichen still reaches like a voice into the rooms.

Questions:

1. What is the poetess doing?
2. Does she mention the departure of the forest in the letters?
3. How is the night?
4. What is the smell of leaves compared with?

Q103. Read the following extracts carefully and choose the correct option.

Some say the world will end in fire

Some say in ice.

From what I've tasted of desire

I hold with those who favour fire.

1. What can be the cause of world's destruction as per these lines?
1. Fire.
2. Ice.
3. Both (a) and (b).
4. None of these.
2. According to the poet fire refers to:
1. Violent desires.
2. passions.
3. jealousy.
4. All of these.
3. What does ice symbolise?
1. Indifference.
2. Love.
3. Sympathy.
4. Passions.
4. What message does the poet want to convey through this poem?
1. Everything is transitory.
2. Life is unpredictable.
3. Death is inevitable.
4. Both (a) and (c).

Q104. What do the metaphors of 'ice' and 'fire' convey to the readers? Don't they represent the two extremes of human behaviour that can lead to the destruction and death of this world? What is the message that the poet wants to give to the readers?

4 Marks

Q105. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

4 Marks

But if it had to perish twice,

I think I know enough of hate

1. 'I' in the above lines refers to _____.

2. 'It' in the above lines refers to _____.
3. The world will extinct twice. True/ False
4. Give an antonym of 'affection from the stanza.

Q106. Read the following extract carefully and choose the correct option.

4 Marks

But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice
Is also great
And would suffice.

1. How can 'Ice' bring an end to the world?
 1. Ice symbolises hatred.
 2. Hatred can cause wars.
 3. Wars can bring total destruction.
 4. All of the above.
2. What will be the antonym of the word 'suffice'?
 1. Sufficient.
 2. Educate.
 3. Restrain.
 4. Content.
3. What is the poet's world view here?
 1. Pessimistic.
 2. Optimistic.
 3. Realistic.
 4. Indifferent.
4. Which figure of speech is used in the line "But if it had to perish twice".
 1. Metaphor.
 2. Alliteration.
 3. Paradox.
 4. Similie.

Q107. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

Winds rush to meet them.
The moon is broken like a mirror,
Its pieces flash now in the crow
of the tallest oak.

1. The moon lookslike _____.
2. 'Them' is the first line refers to _____.
3. The rays of the moon fall on the top of the tallest oak. True/ False
4. Give one word from the stanza which is used for 'upper branches and leaves of a tree'.

Q108. Stanza:

The trees inside are moving out into the forest,
The forest that was empty all these days
Where no bird could sit no insect hide no sun bury its feet in shadow the forest that was empty all these nights will be full of
trees by morning.

Questions:

1. Where are the trees moving out?
2. What was the condition of the forest all those days?
3. What is the effect of empty forest on birds, insects and the sun?
4. What will happen by morning?

Q109. Read the following extracts carefully and choose the correct option.

4 Marks

But if it had to perish twice
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice
Is also great
And would suffice.

1. What does 'It' here refer to?

1. Fire.
2. Ice.
3. Earth.
4. World.
2. The word 'perish' means _____.
1. decay.
2. loose one's life.
3. appear.
4. improve.
3. Here the rhyming scheme used by the poet is:
1. ab ab.
2. abc ab.
3. ababa.
4. aabb.
4. What does the poet want to convey through this poem?
1. We should not be greedy.
2. All humans should check their desires and hatred.
3. restrain our desires and love fellow beings.
4. Both (a) and (c).

Q110. Do you think that trees are right in asserting for freedom and breaking the boundaries? Is it important? How?

Q111. Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow:

But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice
Is also great
And would suffice.

1. 'Ice' in the above stanza refers to feelings of _____.
2. Both ice and fire will be enough for _____.
3. The poet wishes that the world should end twice. (True/ False)
4. Pick up the antonym of 'inadequate' from the above stanza.

Q112. Stanza:

Winds rush to meet them.

The moon is broken like a mirror, its pieces now flash in the crown of the tallest oak.

Questions:

1. What does the word 'them' in the first line refer to?
2. Where do winds rush to?
3. What is broken into pieces?
4. Where are the pieces of the broken moon shining?

Q113. Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow:

The leaves strain toward the glass
small twigs stiff with exertion
long-cramped boughs shuffling under the roof
like newly discharged patients
half-dazed, moving
to the clinic doors.

1. The boughs have been compared to the newly discharged _____.
2. The leaves _____ toward the glass in an attempt to move out.
3. The long-cramped boughs are shuffling under the roof. (True/ False)
4. Find the same meaning of 'changing place' in the extract.

Q114. Stanza:

All night the roots work to disengage themselves from the cracks in the veranda floor.

The leaves strain toward the glass small twigs stiff with exertion long-cramped boughs shuffling under the roof like newly discharged patients half-dazed, moving to the clinic doors.

Questions:

1. What are the roots doing all night?
2. What are the leaves doing?
3. What have small twigs become?
4. What is the poetic device used in the last lines?

Q115. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

4 Marks

Some say the world will end in fire

Some say in ice.

From what I've tasted of desire

I hold with those who favour fire.

1. The poet feels that the world will end in fire as he _____.
2. The poet favours those who think that _____ for the destruction of the world.
3. The expression 'taste of' means _____.
4. Find out the word which means 'come to extinction' from the stanza.

Q116. Read the stanzas given below and answer the questions that follow.

The trees inside are moving out into the forest,

the forest that was empty all these days

where no bird could sit

no insect hide

no sun bury its feet in shadow

the forest that was empty all these nights

will be full of trees by morning.

1. The Sun _____ their feet in the trees.
2. The poet conveys that trees are _____ into the forest.
3. The forest will be full of trees by evening. (True/ False)
4. Find the antonym of 'full' in the extract.

Q117. Read the following extracts carefully and choose the correct option.

I sit inside, doors open to the veranda

writing long letters

in which I scarcely mention the departure

of the forest from the house.

1. Why is the forest stumbling out of the house?
 1. It is not actually happening.
 2. Poetess visualises trees in the forest.
 3. Trees cannot move themselves.
 4. Both (a) and (b).
2. What is the poet doing?
 1. Planting more trees.
 2. Writing long letters.
 3. Reading a book.
 4. Gazing at the stars.
3. Which word will be antonym of 'frequently' in these lines?
 1. Mention.
 2. Seldom.
 3. Scarcely.
 4. Only just.
4. What is the theme of the poem?
 1. Greed of man.
 2. Conflict between man and nature.
 3. Negativity impact of decorative plants.
 4. All of the above.

Q118. Read the stanza given below and answer the questions that follow:

4 Marks

My head is full of whispers

which tomorrow will be silent.

Listen. The glass is breaking.

The trees are stumbling forward

into the night

1. It will be silent tomorrow because the trees will have _____ of the house.
2. The poet listens to the _____ of glass.
3. 'Whispers' refers to sounds caused by the movement of trees and branches. (True/ False)
4. Find the same meaning of the phrase "tripping over" in the extract.

Q119. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

4 Marks

I sit inside, doors open to the veranda

Writing long letters

1. The poet is sitting _____ with doors open.
2. The poet is writing _____.
3. Give an antonym of 'short' from the stanza.
4. The poet is sitting in his verandah. True/ False

Q120. In the poem 'Fire and Ice' there is an apparent contrast but inherent unity. Illustrate the point with reference to the theme of the poem.

6 Marks

Q121. In the poem 'Fire and Ice' there is an apparent contrast but inherent unity. Illustrate this point.

Q122. 'Freedom is the voice of happiness for all lives even for plant life.' Explain this statement with reference to the struggle of the branches of the tree to come out in the open in the verandah of the poet's house.

Q123. The poem 'Fire and Ice', carries with it very deep thematic ideas. Elaborate on these darkest traits of humanity.

Q124. The poet presents two reasons which will lead to the destruction of the humanity. What values do you garner from the two possible causes provided by him?

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