

Fog

MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

1. The fog comes
on little cat feet. It sits looking
over harbour and city
on silent haunches
and then moves on.
- (A) What does the poet mean by little cat feet?
(B) What do haunches mean?
(C) How is the fog looking over the harbour and the city?
(D) "It sits looking...." What is the poetic device used here?

Ans: (A) Little cat feet here represent the silent and careful steps of a cat. The way fog comes, resembles the steps of a cat.
(B) Haunches mean hips.
(C) The fog looks over the harbour and the city by sitting on its haunches like a cat.
(D) Metaphor is used here.

2. How does the poet employ the double imagery of the fog and the cat?

Ans. The poetic device of metaphor is very effectively used in the poem. The fog is converted into a cat and the cat is morphed back into the fog. The silent arrival of the fog is like a little cat. The fog stays there sitting like the cat on its haunches.

3. Write the central idea of the poem "Fog".

Ans. The poet Carl Sandburg in his poem 'Fog' describes fog as a cat. Fog is treated to be a living creature. Fog comes quietly and stealthily like a cat. Fog sits looking over the harbour like a cat does. Then it moves to settle somewhere else. Just as a cat doesn't settle at one place and in the same way fog keeps on moving and finally vanishes.

4. Which aspect of nature Carl Sand-burg presents in the poem 'Fog'?

Ans. The poet presents nature in its raw and natural state. The fog comes as if from nowhere. It comes suddenly and silently like a little cat. The fog's power is overwhelming. It engulfs everything, the city and the harbour in its all-embracing fold. Then following the law of change, it disappears, no one knows where.

5. Nature has many wonders that people take for granted and never pay attention to. How is the poem 'Fog' different from this perspective?

Ans: The poet has taken utmost pleasure in nature and natural phenomena like fog. Fog is so special to the poet that he cared enough not only to write about it, but also thinks of its resemblance with other things in the world. In his close attention to fog, he found fog resembles a cat, in the way it moves and sits on its haunches. The fact that such a resemblance was found by the poet shows how connected he is to various things in nature. This poem serves as a motivation for people, who take nature for granted to find such interesting comparisons and similarities around them.

6. Difficulties come but they are not to stay forever. They come and go. Comment referring to the poem 'Fog'.

Ans: None can deny the fact that after every dark night, there is sunshine. In other words, sorrows follow happiness. Life has many ups and downs. We must all accept that problems are a part of life. We should strengthen ourselves so that we are able to face them and stand up to solve these problems. We should not get carried away. We should learn that time and tide wait for none.

Fog is also symbolic of darkness but it comes quietly like a cat and goes away. It symbolises that if we are not disturbed by difficulties then life will itself move to the lighter side and things will be easy to confront. We should always remember that, we must face all the problems boldly.

