



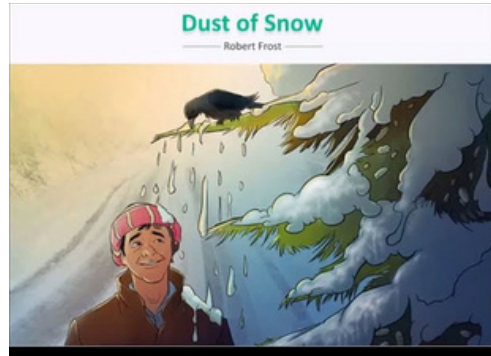
DUST OF SNOW



Explanation of the Poem:

Stanza 1

The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree



Explanation: In this stanza, the poet reflects on a moment that lifted his spirits. At a time when he was feeling down and hopeless, he stood beneath a hemlock tree. Unexpectedly, a crow perched on the tree shook its branches, causing a gentle shower of powdery snow to fall on the poet.

Stanza 2

Has given my heart
A change of mood
And saved some part
Of a day I had rued.

Explanation: The gentle snowfall changed the poet's sadness to happiness. Initially depressed, he had spent part of his day in sorrow. However, the incident refreshed him, saving the day from regret.

Poetic Devices Used in the Poem

- Rhyme scheme abab
- Symbolism The Hemlock tree and crow are generally associated with negative emotions and aspects. But the poet uses these symbols to bring about a positive change in him.
- Alliteration is the repetition of the same consonant sound in the nearby words.

1. *H*as given my *H*eart

2. And *s*aved *s*ome part

Extract Based Questions:

1. The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree
Has given my heart
A change of mood
And saved some part
Of a day I had rued

(a) Where was the crow?

Ans: The crow was on a hemlock tree.

(b) What did it shake on the poet?

Ans: It shook the dust of snow on the poet.

(c) What does the word, 'rued' mean?

Ans: The word 'rued' means held in regret.

(d) What is the poet's state of mind?

Ans: The poet was in a sad, depressed, and hopeless mood at that time.

2. The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree

(a) Where did the crow sit?

Ans: The crow sat on a branch of a hemlock tree.

(b) We can say that the poet was

Ans: in a sad mood.

(c) How did the crow change the poet's mood?

Ans: The crow changed the poet's mood by shaking down the dust of snow from a hemlock tree.

(d) What fell off from a humlock tree?

Ans: Dust of snow fell from a hemlock tree.

Top 10 PYQs:

Short Answer Questions (40-50 words each)

1. How does the poet react to the crow and hemlock tree?

Answer: In the Western belief system, crows and hemlock trees are often considered symbols of bad luck or inauspicious omens. However, the poet did not perceive them negatively. Instead, these elements became unexpected saviors, turning his initially negative outlook into a positive one.

2. What was the reaction of the poet when the dust of snow fell on him?

Answer: Traditionally, crows and hemlock trees are regarded as inauspicious, but the poet saw them differently. In a moment of despair, as the crow shook the hemlock tree and its dust of snow gently touched him, the poet's mood shifted. From a state of depression and sorrow, he suddenly felt a sense of relief and lightness.

3. What do the 'Hemlock' tree and 'Crow' represent? What does the dust of snow metaphorically stand for?

Answer: On a snowy morning, the poet was travelling with a heavy heart. The landscape was cloaked in a layer of snow dust, and his spirits mirrored the gloom. A crow perched on a hemlock tree altered the scene by shaking it, causing a gentle snowfall on the poet. This simple act transformed his mood, turning his sadness into happiness and bringing a sense of relaxation.

4. he poet was sad and depressed. But one comical incident lifts his spirits. He is full of joy and happiness again. Based on your reading of the poem, write a paragraph on the topic - Happiness is relative.

Answer: Nobody is happy all the time. Happiness comes and goes in our lives. It depends on where we are and the people we are with.

Sometimes, we feel really happy or really sad. Our happiness often comes from specific moments in our lives. Little things, like what our friends do, can make us happy or sad. It's important to remember that after a sad time, there's usually a happy time waiting. Just like every cloud has a silver lining, every sad moment is followed by a period of joy and happiness.

5. No matter how ordinary or unimportant an incident maybe, it's the reaction or the response that matters. Taking inspiration from the poet's reaction write how inherent values can be picked up and learned. Mention any two lessons for students like you that could be useful. (Dust of Snow)

Answer: The way we react is extremely. Learning positive values from nature is valuable. Nature is like a wise teacher, and even small things in nature can teach us important lessons. Take a tiny snowflake, for example—it has unique. It's essential not to judge things by how they look. Even creatures like crows and trees like hemlocks, which are often considered bad signs, can bring joy and uplift a poet's mood. Everything in nature has a purpose. Nature is incredibly beautiful, and it's crucial to live in the present with a cheerful attitude. As students, we can learn useful qualities from nature that can help us in our lives.

6. What is the underlying message for us in our hectic life with reference to the poem, 'Dust of Snow'?

Answer: The poem "Dust of Snow" carries a meaningful lesson for our busy lives. It encourages us to appreciate nature fully and adopt a positive outlook, especially towards simple actions. These seemingly small moments can unfold valuable lessons and contribute to the greater learning of how to enjoy life.

7. How did the crow change the poet's mood?

Answer: On a snowy morning, as the poet was travelling, a sense of sadness weighed on him. The trees wore a blanket of snow, casting a serene atmosphere. Perched on a hemlock tree, a crow gave it a shake, causing a gentle snowfall on the poet. In this unexpected moment, his mood shifted, and a feeling of happiness and relaxation washed over him.

8. As a crow you feel highly insulted by the incorrect perception humans have about your species. Imagine yourself to be a crow and write your opinion about this prejudice.

Appeal for breaking stereotypes. [CBSE Question Bank 2021]

Answer: Humans often associate the word 'crow' with 'bad omens' and 'inauspiciousness,' a perception that seems illogical and disheartening. It's disheartening to see this stereotype applied to our species without any valid evidence. This bias stems from the color black, deeming us 'ominous,' while doves, being 'white,' are seen as 'good omens.' This unfair prejudice deeply affects me emotionally. I aspire to challenge this stereotype, just as my friend did by changing someone's mood and bringing happiness. I hope that one day, people will realize their judgmental views about us are entirely wrong.

9. What is the underlying message for us in our hectic lives concerning the poem, 'Dust of Snow'? [CBSE 2016-17]

Answer: The underlying message for us with reference to the poem 'Dust of Snow' is that we should always be optimistic towards life. In the grave hours of depression, the smallest act of nature can lead to a drastic positive change.

10. A simple moment proves to be very significant and saves the rest of the day of the poet from being wasted. Explain based on the poem 'Dust of Snow'. [CBSE 2018]

Answer: In his poem, Robert Frost emphasizes the profound significance of simple and ordinary incidents in our lives. He suggests that the value of things isn't inherently good or bad; rather, it's our perspective that shapes their meaning. The best things in life are often free, and while life presents challenges, the key lies in overcoming them instead of dwelling on regret. Even seemingly unimportant events can alter our outlook on life. The poet highlights this through the crow's simple action, shaking off the dust of snow, which teaches a valuable lesson. The realization dawns on the poet that he has spent his day regretting instead of engaging in meaningful activities. This insight prompts him to understand how to navigate through difficult times and work towards a better life.