

1. While Wordsworth was crossing the Westminster Bridge, he was accompanied by

- (a) Mary Hutchinson
- (b) Coleridge
- (c) Dorothy
- (d) Blake

Ans: (c) Dorothy

2. In 'Upon Westminster Bridge', the poet views the city- [2015]

- (a) at noon
- (b) at night
- (c) in the morning
- (d) in the evening

Ans: (c) in the morning

3. Wordsworth enjoys the beauty of the city of London while standing on

- (a) the tower of London
- (b) the ship
- (c) the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral
- (d) the Westminster Bridge

Ans: (d) the Westminster Bridge

4. According to Wordsworth, the city looks

- (a) ugly

(b) lively

(c) most beautiful

(d) busy

Ans: (c) most beautiful

5. The person who passes without enjoying the beauty of the London [2014] morning is

(a) dull

(b) innovative

(c) imaginative

(d) busy

Ans: (a) dull

6. “Dull would he be of soul’- Here ‘dull’ means

(a) unintelligent

(b) bored

(c) devoid of sense of beauty

(d) monotonous

Ans: (c) devoid of sense of beauty

7. “A sight so touching in its majesty’ The word ‘majesty’ refers to the impressive quality of

(a) Westminster Bridge

(b) City of London

(c) River Thames

(d) smokeless air

Ans: (b) City of London

Q. Write a note on the significance of the title of the poem “Upon Westminster Bridge”.

Answer:- “Upon Westminster Bridge” is a poem by Wordsworth where he describes the beauty of the city of London as he observes it from the Westminster Bridge. It is a bright sunny morning which is a rare occasion in the city as its weather is generally cloudy and wet. The poet finds the city bright, beautiful, grand and still quiet under the spell of a slumber. Everything seems to be glittering in the smokeless air. As the city is yet to start its daily activity, the calm in the morning light becomes all the more profound. Wordsworth feels the mighty heart of London and the title is indicative of the time and place when the poet feels so. Thus it is simple and appropriate and clearly informs the reader what the poem is all about.

Q. After reading the poem “Upon Westminster Bridge”, what impression do you have of Wordsworth as a poet of Nature?

Answer:- Wordsworth is widely recognized as a poet of Nature with most of his poems beautifully describing the natural landscape and rustic life. Upon Westminster Bridge is among the rare poems of Wordsworth where he describes the urban cityscape. Here also the poet personifies the city and says it wears the bare morning as a beautiful cloth. He integrates manmade pieces of architecture with Nature by saying all these lie open “unto the fields, and to the sky”, All these glitter naturally in the smokeless air. Wordsworth talks about the river that glides at his own free will. He feels that the city is living. This is much like his feeling about the Daffodils and the Wye landscape. Thus the poem speaks of Nature and Wordsworth’s worship of Nature and supports the fact that he is essentially a poet of Nature.

Q. Write a note on the city of London as Wordsworth describes it in his poem “Upon Westminster Bridge”.

Answer:-Wordsworth, in his poem, has described the profound beauty of London as he saw it from Westminster Bridge in the morning of July 31, 1802 between 5.00AM and 6.00 AM. It was a bright sunny morning which is considered a rarity in London. Calm and quiet the city seemed clothed in the morning beauty. Ships, towers, domes, theatres and temples lay brightly glittering in the smokeless air. The city seemed merged with the adjacent fields and the sky above. Water in the river Thames flowed freely and the poet felt a deep and profound calm. The slumber of the otherwise busy city was an experience for the poet to rejoice. He could feel the mighty heart of the city in deep sleep. In the city “there was something like the purity of one of Nature’s own grand spectacles.

Q.Why does Wordsworth invoke God in his poem? What does he mean by “that mighty heart”?

Answer:-In his poem “Upon Westminster Bridge” Wordsworth invokes God with an exclamation. He seems to thank the Almighty as he has been blessed to observe the exquisite, profound, and tranquil beauty of London which fills his mind with ecstasy.

By “that mighty heart”, Wordsworth personifies the city of London. It is the capital city of the nation and is the epicentre of all its activities. So the city has been metaphorically described as the mighty heart of England. In the poem, “that mighty heart” lies in deep slumber allowing the poet to enjoy the glorious morning beauty of the city without any disturbance.

Q.How is “personification” used to describe the beauty of London in Wordsworth’s poem “Upon Westminster Bridge”?

Answer:-Personification is attribution of human form or other characteristics to anything other than a human being. Wordsworth uses this rhetorical device to describe the beauty of London. He personifies the Sun, the River Thames, the architectural structures and even the entire city of London. The Sun steeps, the River glides, the structures lie still in deep sleep and the City with its mighty heart wears the beauty of the morning like a garment. By personifying the natural objects Wordsworth has not only tried to make his description more lively, but has

also tried to establish the deep rooted conviction of his mind: Nature is living and it is the source and manifestation of the beauty that is enjoyed by those who are not dull of soul.

Q.”Earth has not anything to show more fair”—What does the poet mean by this? What is rare and striking about the scene?

Answer:-By this statement that “Earth has not anything to show more fair”, the poet confirms that the beauty of London in a bright sunny morning observed from the Westminster Bridge is the most exquisite thing on earth that one can experience. The poet gets enthralled at the clear panoramic view of the city.

A bright sunny morning is considered a rarity in London as the weather of the city is characterized by cloud, fog and mist. It rains often and visibility is almost always very low. Sometimes, though, the Sun comes out clearly and gives the people an opportunity to rejoice in the sunshine. This sunny and glittering morning when one can see the city merging in the fields in the clear morning light is rare and striking about the scene.