



# INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



Subject :English

Topic :Dust of Snow

Worksheet .No. : 2

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Student : \_\_\_\_\_

Class &Division : \_\_\_\_\_

Roll Number : \_\_\_\_

**S.No. Read the following extracts and answer the questions.**

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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) What do the 'crow' and 'hemlock' symbolise?  
The 'crow' symbolises 'sorrow' as well as the 'hemlock' tree symbolises 'sorrow'.
- (b) The mood of the poet changed because \_\_\_\_\_ .  
He saw a crow sitting on a hemlock tree shook off the dust of snow on him.  
Thus, the falling of dust of snow changed his mood.
- (c) What does the poet mean when he says and saved some part of the day?  
The poet has saved some part of the day as he did not waste the time in repenting and regretting.
- (d) Who shook the dust of snow?  
A crow shook the dust of snow.

**Short answer questions (30-40 words)**

**2**

(a) What does the poet want to convey through the poem 'Dust of Snow'?

**Ans.** In the poem 'Dust of Snow', the poet wants to convey that sometimes certain moments or actions which are simple have larger significance. They can change the mood or life of a person. The way a crow shakes down dust of snow on the poet inspires and gives him the idea to shake off his depressive thoughts, become cheerful and do something useful.

- (b) What side of nature do ‘crow’ and ‘hemlock’ represent?  
**Ans.** ‘Crow’ is a black, harsh-voiced bird and ‘hemlock’ is a tree with poisonous bitter fruit. Both are not beautiful. They represent the dark, depressive, sorrowful and bitter side of nature.
- (c) Why does the poet use such poetically uncommon bird and tree? What does it reflect?  
**Ans.** The poet seems to be in a depressive and sorrowful mood. In such a mood, one cannot think of a sweet and beautiful side of nature. The harsh, bitter and poisonous images come to his mind. That is why he uses an uncommon, harsh, ugly crow and poisonous tree like hemlock.
- (d) Justify the role of the crow in the poem “Dust of Snow” in changing the poet’s mood.  
**Ans.** I think, ‘the way snow dust was shaken off’ changed his mood. Perhaps it gave the poet inspiration/idea to behave in the same manner—shake off his depressive thoughts and revive his cheerful mood.
- (e) What mood of the poet is reflected in the poem? How does it reflect?  
**Ans.** The sorrowful and depressive mood of the poet is reflected in the poem. The use of the bird ‘crow’, which is ugly and harsh, and hemlock tree, which is a poisonous plant, reflects the poet’s mood.
- (f) Write a note on the setting of the poem.  
**Ans.** The poem presents a perfect setting. There are four elements in the poem. All these four elements match one another. The snow stands for energy. The hemlock tree is a symbol of sadness. The crow considered ominous. The poet’s mood was also sad. But suddenly the way in which the crow shook the hemlock tree and falling off the dust of snow. change the poet’s mood.
- (g) Where was the poet and what happened to him?  
**Ans.** There was snow everywhere. The poet was under a hemlock tree. The tree was covered with snow. Suddenly a crow shook the tree and the dust of snow fell on the poet. It changed his mood.

**LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (100-120 words)**

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- i) Positive attitude in life can make the world a better place to live in. Do you agree or disagree with reference to the poem ‘Dust of Snow’? Express your views bringing out the inherent values.  
**Ans.** I completely agree with the statement that positive attitude can make the world a better place to live in Robert Frost, in ‘Dust of Snow’, talks of how an otherwise bad day altered into a not so bad one, due to the action of a crow. It was a seemingly disconnected occurrence that brought about a change of mood in the poet. One lesson that can be learnt from the poet, is to see the brightness amidst the gloom. The crow and the hemlock are all dark images, and yet, the poet sees the colour of happiness. Another lesson is that life is made up of small joys. It is through them that one can always manage to see positivity in negativity.