

UNIT : 10**ODE- "ODE TO THE WEST WIND"****-Percy Bysshe Shelley****:: STRUCTURE ::**

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10.0 OBJECTIVES

In this unit, we shall

- have biographical details of the poet
- have an interpretation of the poem

By the end of the unit, you should be able to

- learn about poetic elements
- analyse the poem critically

10.1 INTRODUCTION

This poem was written in 1819 when the poet himself experienced the autumnal rain with thunder and lightning at sunset in the forest of Arno, near Florence. The poetic beauty of the poem lies in its lyrical intensity and magnificent theme. The swift of the wild west wind is getting reflected in the energetic flow of the poem. Expression of personal

experience with prophetic passion dominates the entire lyrical charm of the poem. Harmony of the words turns into effective images of earth, air and ocean in this poem. West wind, as an element of nature, represents the free spirit of man. The inspired poet comes forward as a prophet with a very strong message to mankind. The west wind symbolises the law of life; namely creation and destruction. Shelley's belief in the cycle of birth, death and rebirth gets portrayed with a note of optimism for the rebirth of new world order. In this poem, Shelly prays the west wind to make him a messenger of nature to spread the wave of a new era of happiness and peace to the world. Ode to the West Wind is one of the most famous poems by Shelley and is considered as one of the finest lyrics in English literature.

10.2 ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822)

Percy Bysshe Shelley, a poet, dramatist, novelist and an essayist was born on Aug. 4, 1792, in England. In 1810, he matriculated from University College, Oxford. In 1811, he, along with his friend Hogg wrote an essay 'The Necessity of Atheism' which resulted in expulsion from Oxford University. Shelly's poetry is marked with romanticism, blasphemy and sedition as well. He was a rebellion by nature and sensitive by heart. Yearning for bringing change in the world and mankind was a dominant element of his poetry. He was a kind of rebel against the wrong in the system and society as well. His works truly depict his concern for the well-being of mankind. He was an aspirant of new era of just and sane life. He was a traveller of the path to sensitive society. Through satirical expressions of situation of his times, he revealed the dark side of the way of life, and through his works only he put forward new rays of hope which were targeted to optimistic view of life. Shelly was one of the major English Romantic poets. His famous classic poems include 'Ozymandias', 'To a Skylark', 'The Cloud', 'When Soft Voices Die'. 'The Cenci' is a remarkable work, a verse drama by Shelley. Visionary poems such as 'Queen Mab', 'Alastor', 'The Revolt of Islam', 'Adonais', 'Prometheus Unbound' are considered a masterpiece. Shelley's first publication was 'Zastrozzi (1810) was a Gothic novel in which he expressed his atheistic views. On July 8, 1822 while returning from Leghorn in sailing boat, Shelley died due to a sudden storm in the Gulf of Spezia. On his grave Latin inscription-'Cor Cordium' has been mentioned which means 'Heart of Hearts'.

10.3 ABOUT THE POEM

Ode to the West Wind, an ode written by Shelley in 1819 was originally published in 1820 as a part of *Prometheus Unbound*, lyrical drama in four acts. The poem is divided into five cantos written in Terza Rima (three-line stanza) having four tercets in Iambic Pentameter following a specific pattern-ABA BCB CDC DED EE. Shelley wanted to spread his message of reform and revolution through this poem. The wind becomes a medium of change to happen, and the poet becomes the messenger of the change. It is also believed that this poem was written by Shelley in response to the loss of his son William in 1819. First three cantos of the poem describe the effect of the wind on Earth, Air and Ocean. In the remaining two cantos, the poet speaks to the wind and asks to make him companion in its wanderings. In the very first line, the poet addresses the wind, “O wild West Wind” and first three cantos end with the invocation “Oh hear!” The poet asks the wind-“Make me thy lyre” to drive his thoughts across the world. He wants the wind to spread his words among mankind. Shelley invokes the wind describing its impact as both ‘destroyer’ and ‘preserver’ and asks him to sweep him off as a wave, leaf or cloud with its magnificent power. In the last canto, the poet makes the wind a metaphor for his own art that removes the ‘dead thoughts’ as ‘withered leaves’ ‘to quicken a new birth’ to welcome the Spring. Here the season of Spring also becomes a metaphor for liberty, imagination and morals-that Shelley wants to spread in the world through his words. His poetic art, being a musical instrument would swell the sounds of new hope and optimism in the society-this is what Shelley expresses in the poem.

10.4 TEXT

ODE TO THE WEST WIND

I

O wild West Wind; thou breath of Autumn’s being,
Thou, from whose unseen presence the leaves dead
Are driven, like ghosts from an enchanter fleeing,
Yellow, and black, and pale, and hectic red,
Pestilence-stricken multitudes:
O thou, Who chariotest to their dark wintry bed
The winged seeds, where they lie cold and low,
Each like a corpse within its grave, until
Thine azure sister of the Spring shall blow

Her clarion o'er the dreaming earth, and fill
(Driving sweet buds like flocks to feed in air)
With living hues and odours plain and hill:
Wild Spirit, which art moving everywhere;
Destroyer and preserver; hear, oh, hear!

II

Thou on whose stream, mid the steep sky's commotion,
Loose clouds like earth's decaying leaves are shed,
Shook from the tangled boughs of Heaven and Ocean,
Angels of rain and lightning: there are spread
On the blue surface of thin airy surge,
Like the bright hair uplifted from the head
Of some fierce Maenad, even from the dim verge
Of the horizon to the zenith's height,
The locks of the approaching storm. Thou dirge
Of the dying year, to which this closing night
Will be the dome of a vast sepulchre,
Vaulted with all thy congregated might
Of vapours, from whose solid atmosphere
Black rain, and fire, and hail will burst: oh, hear!

III

Thou who didst waken from his summer dreams
The blue Mediterranean, where he lay,
Lulled by the coil of his crystalline streams,
Beside a pumice isle in Baiae's bay,
And saw in sleep old palaces and towers
Quivering within the wave's intenser day,
All overgrown with azure moss and flowers
So sweet, the sense faints picturing them!
Thou For whose path the Atlantic's level powers
Cleave themselves into chasms, while far below
The sea-blooms and the oozy woods which wear
The sapless foliage of the ocean, know
Thy voice, and suddenly grow gray with fear,
And tremble and despoil themselves: oh, hear!

IV

If I were a dead leaf thou mightiest bear;
If I were a swift cloud to fly with thee;
A wave to pant beneath thy power, and share
The impulse of thy strength, only less free
Than thou, O uncontrollable! If even
I were as in my boyhood, and could be
The comrade of thy wanderings over Heaven,
As then, when to outstrip thy skyey speed
Scarce seemed a vision; I would ne'er have striven
As thus with thee in prayer in my sore need.
Oh, lift me as a wave, a leaf, a cloud!
I fall upon the thorns of life! I bleed!
A heavy weight of hours has chained and bowed
One too like thee: tameless, and swift, and proud.

V

Make me thy lyre, even as the forest is:
What if my leaves are falling like its own!
The tumult of thy mighty harmonies
Will take from both a deep, autumnal tone,
Sweet though in sadness. Be thou, Spirit fierce,
My spirit! Be thou me, impetuous one!
Drive my dead thoughts over the universe
Like withered leaves to quicken a new birth!
And, by the incantation of this verse,
Scatter, as from an unextinguished hearth
Ashes and sparks, my words among mankind!
Be through my lips to unawakened earth
The trumpet of a prophecy! O, Wind,
If winter comes, can Spring be far behind?

10.5 INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS

Shelley's 'Ode to the West Wind' is the result of his personal experience of tempest near Florence. One storm outside caused another thunder inside, and this is how his poetic faculty was made work on composing this awe-inspiring ode. Similes and metaphors are taking the shape of myth in specific structural outcome, and the poet is being mastered by the words rather than to be a master of the words. A first-person address to the West Wind begins with uncanny ambience and ends with significant sanguinity. In the first stanza, the wind blows the foliage of autumn. In

the second stanza, the wind blows the clouds in the sky. In the third stanza, the wind blows across the waves of the ocean. In the fourth stanza, the first-person persona desires to be lifted up by the wind just like leaf, cloud and wave and feels 'tameless and swift and proud' like the wind. Finally, in the fifth stanza, the persona asks the wind to make him its lyre to spread the fierce spirit across the world, reawakening the world.

First Canto

The first Canto begins with alliteration 'wild West Wind', and the poet addresses the wind; this is how it turns into personification in the poem. Here the season of autumn is described in a mystical manner where the wind has been called 'breath of autumn's being'. Further in the season of autumn, dried leaves are driven away by the wind as if the ghosts are trying to escape because of the presence of enchanter. The wind is destroyer for 'the leaves dead', 'pestilence-stricken' which are 'yellow, and black, and pale, and hectic red'. At the same time, the wind plays preserver for the scattered 'winged seeds' of trees which are blown to the safe place 'dark wintry bed' by the wind and preserved until the 'azure sister of the Spring', means the east wind shall blow and regenerate new life on the earth. These new buds will fly all over the world like flocks and fill the earth with new colours and smell. In the last couplet of the first canto, the West Wind again has been addressed as the 'wild spirit' which moves all across the earth, destroys the rotten leaves by blowing them away and preserves the seeds by burying them at safer place for the winter and helps them grow with new possibilities and potentials when the spring arrives, and the earth becomes alive with new life. Shelley appeals to the West Wind to listen to him. Thus the first canto ends with another form of personification describing the effect of the wind on the earth.

Second Canto

The second canto deals with the impact of the wind on the sky. Stormy wind shakes the clouds in the sky, and it creates a horrifying picture of destruction. Due to the storm in the sky and the ocean, it seems as if clouds are the leaves being scattered from 'the tangled boughs of Heaven and Ocean'. The scene looks like as if some wild fairy (Maenad) lifts her hair up. The clouds are scattered all over the sky from horizon to zenith, and the sound produced by the storm seems to be a kind of lamenting noise on the death of the year. The arrival of the night looks like a dome of a vast tomb in which the ending year is to be buried. Clouds are also seen as angels of rain and the messenger that brings the message from

heaven to earth through rain and lightning. Shelley moves from earthly leaves to commotion of the sky. The clouds will bring rain, fire and hail on the earth. In this fearful atmosphere, Shelley appeals to the West Wind to listen to him.

Third Canto

The third canto illustrates the movement of the wind on the ocean. Here the West Wind awakens the blue Mediterranean from his summer dreams. The sea is lulled by the stream of rivers beside an island near Baiae's Bay (a place where Roman ruins are seen underwater). Now the stormy wind trembles the underwater towers and palaces which were lying peacefully. These palaces and towers are overgrown with moss and sea-plants. This symbolises the decay of the past decades and centuries with the passage of the time, and now the wind stirs the entire ocean with its swift and due to this the level of Atlantic's water increases and becomes more powerful. The turbulent wind divides the waters in deep chasms, and the sense faints describing it. Further Shelley describes the fear that these underwater ruins feel due to the terror of the tempest. They suddenly 'grow gray with fear' and 'tremble and despoil' themselves. Shelley appeals to the West Wind to listen to him regarding this.

Fourth Canto

In the fourth canto, Shelley turns to his own self. First canto begins with 'O wild West Wind' and second and third canto begins with 'thou', but the fourth canto begins with 'If I were'. Now the focus is on the poet himself and not the wind. With first-person pronouns 'I' (line 43, 44, 48, 51, 54), 'my' (line 48, 52) and 'me' (line 53) here the poet recalls his own times when he also had the qualities that the wind possesses. He makes an earnest appeal to the West Wind to bring back those qualities to him. He wants to become 'wild', 'swift' and 'proud' just like the wind. The poet recalls his boyhood when he was as free as the West Wind and wishes to be lifted up by the West Wind like a leaf, cloud or wave. He feels the mightiest strength of the West Wind and says that his vigour is lost due to the burden of life. Shelley had seen very dramatic ups and downs during his life, and his stress gets reflected in the fourth canto. He 'bleeds' on the 'thorns of life' and 'a heavyweight of hours' has 'chained and bow'd' him. Shelly says, he would not have made this appeal if he were a dead leaf blown by the wind, or a swift cloud trembled by its might, being less free and uncontrollable compared to the West Wind. During his boyhood in his thoughts, he says, he could accompany the West Wind in its wanderings over the heaven and could also compete with its speed. This canto sounds like a confession and a prayer as well.

Shelley requests the West Wind to lift him up and to make him tameless, swift and proud again just like the West Wind.

Fifth Canto

The fifth canto sound like a demand put forward by the poet to the West Wind. He asks the West Wind to make him his lyre, a musical instrument as the wind makes the forest its instrument to play the sound of his might. Here in this canto, Shelley shifts from 'I' to 'My', so it sounds the self-possessed part of the poem. After describing earth, water and wind, here he brings the remaining two elements-fire and universe (space). There is a kind of confrontation in this canto when Shelly uses "me thy" and "thou me" which clearly indicates restoration of the confidence of the poet in his capabilities. He strongly feels allied with the West Wind. In the first canto the wind was an 'enchanter', and nowhere it is 'incantation' itself. The poet redefines himself and wants the wind to be through his lips to awaken the world. This canto is kind of conversation that the poet has with the West Wind. In the midst of the mixed feeling of sadness and sweetness, the poet requests the West Wind to drive away his 'dead thoughts' like 'wither'd leaves' to 'quicken a new birth'. Further he says that his thoughts through his poetic art will spread new ideas as if ashes and sparks are being spread from unextinguished hearth. This is how he wants his words to reach among mankind. The use of 'will' in this canto indicates the possibilities of future, and it sounds like 'the trumpet of a prophecy'. The poem ends with an optimistic note that may it be a very tuff time, but it will be all right afterwards. Darkest hours will end with new dawn always, and that is why he rightly says, 'If winter comes, can Spring be far behind?'

Conclusion:

As the poem is an ode, a harmonic celebration, consistent pattern and tone of expression include enthusiasm, delight, bliss and anticipation throughout the poem. Shelley's classic mastery over personification has been penned down blended with his philosophy in this ode. Lucid, lyrical ability is a further strength of Shelley's poetry. Evocative imagery, functional figures of speech, miraculous myth, careful craftsmanship, mystical metaphors, smooth similes and everlasting optimism are the noteworthy features of this ode. We find Shelley, the lyricist, the reformer, the idealist, the prophet expressing his poetic faculty enriched with philosophical blend in a very spontaneous yet harmonious manner in this poem.

10.6 PROGRESS TEST

Find out the correct answer from the given options.

1. The 'Thou' found throughout the poem always refers to
 - a) Autumn
 - b) The Poet's beloved
 - c) The West Wind
 - d) The Poet's soul

2. The time of year when this was written
 - a) Spring
 - b) Summer
 - c) Early Autumn
 - d) Late Autumn

3. The dominant imagery of Stanzas I & II is of
 - a) Death
 - b) Decay
 - c) Hope
 - d) Growth

4. The "pestilence-stricken multitudes" are
 - a) Ghosts
 - b) Peasants
 - c) Leaves
 - d) Thoughts of the beloved

5. The "destroyer and preserver" is
 - a) The beloved
 - b) The West Wind
 - c) Revolution
 - d) God

6. The "locks of the approaching storm" are
 - a) Jails
 - b) The beloved's tresses
 - c) An angelic host
 - d) Clouds

7. The one "wakened from his summer dreams" describes
 - a) The Poet
 - b) The blue Mediterranean
 - c) The West Wind
 - d) Baiae

8. "Cleave themselves into chasms" describes
- a) Waves
 - b) England and France
 - c) Inlets
 - d) Well, it involves sexual imagery
9. "To outstrip thy skyey speed/ Scarce seemed a vision. . ." indicates
- a) The beauty of the beloved
 - b) The Poet's limitless youthful exuberance
 - c) The poet's belief in the French Revolution
 - d) The Poet's youthful idolization of Wordsworth

10.7 LET US SUM UP

'Ode to the West Wind' is a poem that illustrates the role of the poet as the agent of the change. Shelley in his 'Defence of Poetry' writes, "Poets are the hierophants of an unapprehended inspiration; the mirrors of the gigantic shadows which futurity casts upon the present; the words which express what they understand not; the trumpet which sing to battle, and feel not what they inspire; the influence which moved not, but moves. Poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the world." The imagery of this poem suggests a natural phenomenon that has been experienced by the poet. It was written near Florence, the city of Dante and probably that's why Shelley might have chosen Terza Rima pattern which was used in Dante's 'Divine Comedy' and rare in English ode. Thematic beauty of the poem is woven with pleasing structural symmetry. The technique using myth in poetry has been implemented in the ode. The West Wind is a spirit possessing great powers and because of this Shelley invokes the West Wind and prays for what he feels. He feels that 'upon the thorns of life' he bleeds; 'heavyweight of hours has chained and bowed' him. Shelley believed that poetry could appeal to imagination and stimulate action. For Shelley, this action leads to liberty, democracy and imagination which result in healthy and happy human consciousness. That is why Shelly ends the ode on an optimistic note- "If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind!"

10.8 KEY WORD

Literary Terms:

Ode	A lyrical poem addressed to a particular subject, which can be sung
Alliteration	the occurrence of the same letter or sound at the beginning of closely connected words.
Personification	the attribution of a personal nature or human characteristics to something non-human
Simile	a figure of speech involving the comparison of one thing with another
Metaphor	a thing regarded as representative or symbolic of something else
Myth	a traditional story, especially one concerning the early history of a people or explaining a natural or social phenomenon, and typically involving supernatural beings or events

Difficult Words:

1-Pestilence:	26-Isle: Island
2-Multitudes:	27-Quivering: Shaking
3-Chariotest:	28-Intenser: Extreme
4-Corpse: Dead body	29-Moss: Sea-plants
5-Azure: Blue	30-Faints: loses consciousness
6-Clarion: Trumpet	31-Cleave: Seperate
7-Flock: Group of birds	32-Chasms: Deep curves
8-Hues: Shades	33-Blooms: Plants
9-Odours:	34-Oozy- Muddy
10-Steep: Upward	35-Sapless-Juiceless
11-Commotion: motion	36-Foliage: Leaves
12- Decaying: Flowing	37-Dispoil: Ruin
13-Tangled: Mixed	38-Comrade: Companion
14-Bough: Branch	39-Skiey: Of sky
15-Aery: Windy	40-Scarce: Insufficient
16-Surge: Flood	41-Sore: Painful
17-Verge: Border	42-Tameless: Wild
18-Dirge: Mourn	43-Lyre: Musical Instrument
19-Sepulchre: Tomb	44-Tumult: Uprising noise
20-Vaulted: Formed	45-Impetuous: Making arbitrary decisions
21-Congregated: Collected	

22-Hail: Ice drops
23-Lull'd: Rested
24-Coil: Spiral
25-Pumice: Light-weight

46-Wither'd: Dried
47-Incantation: Rhyming formula
48-Unextinguished: Not eliminated
49-Hearth: Stone
50-Prophecy: divine

1.9 CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

1: Write a note on the poem, 'Ode to the West Wind'.

Ans. 'Ode to the West Wind' is one of the most engaging odes in the English language. The poem is a forceful, mind-blowing description of the West Wind. Shelley, here, presents the West Wind both as a creative and destructive force. According to Shelley, it is a symbol of healthy change. It sweeps all that is dead and useless and marks the beginning of new life. The poet invokes the mighty West Wind to infuse in him poetic inspiration so that he may deliver his invaluable message to mankind. The poem is also remarkable for its revolutionary element. It, in a way, signals an end to decaying monarchies and dwindling autocracies. According to the poet, the winter season cannot last long. After every winter, there always comes the spring. Hence, the poem ends on a strong note of optimisms.

In 'Ode to the West Wind' Shelley shows his great love for liberty. He personifies the West Wind as a powerful and uncontrollable spirit. It is the breath of autumn's being. Its terrible power is felt by the trees which shed their leaves at its approach. The leaves fly away like the "pestilence-stricken multitudes". The West Wind sends the old seeds to their dark wintry beds. They come to life again in the spring season. In this way, the West Wind acts not only as a destroyer but a preserver as well.

The West Wind is not only powerful at the earth; it is powerful in the sky also. With its force, it spreads dark clouds all over the sky. They are the angels of rain. Even the ocean becomes helpless before the West Winds' power. It disturbs the calm surface of the ocean. When the West Wind comes the waves of the Atlantic divide themselves to give way. Even the plants growing at the bottom of ocean turn grey with fear when they find West Wind approaching.

The poet requests the West Wind to lend him some of its powers. At one time even the poet was like the West Wind. He was volatile and untamed, but now he feels weak and shackled because of his age. He finds himself fallen on the thorns of life and is bleeding. So, he requests the West Wind to come to his help. He wants it to lift him as he would lift a wave, a leaf, or a cloud.

The 'poet is a champion of liberty'. He wants to spread his message of hope through all mankind. His thoughts are like grey withered leaves. He is without hope. He wants the West Winds to revitalize him by making him its lyre. It should blow through his lips and bring cheer to all. The poet ends with a prophecy: "if winter comes can Spring be far behind?"

Answer the following questions:

Que 1: Why has the West Wind been called the 'unseen presence'?

Que 2: How are the dead leaves driven?

Que 3: How are the winged seeds described?

Que 4: How is the West Wind destroyer and preserver?

Que 5: What does the poet think about the West Wind's power?

Que 6: Is the poet happy about his life?

Que 7: What prayer does the poet make to the West Wind?

Que 8: What kind of help does the poet seek from the West Wind?

Que 9: Describe the effect of the West Wind on the leaves, the clouds and the sea waves?

Que 10: How is the West Wind harbinger of a new life?

Que 11: What effect does the West Wind have on the ocean?

Que 12: What is the effect of the West Wind in the sky?

Que 13: How does the poet compare himself to the West Wind?

Que 14: What message does the poem give at the end?

10.10 FURTHER READING SUGGESTED

- Maenad: Maenad, female follower of the Greek god of wine, Dionysus. The word maenad comes from the Greek ‘maenades’, meaning mad or demented.
- Baiae's Bay: Place situated at the northern end of the Gulf of Naples, where the underwater Roman ruins are visible

Books:

1-Percy Bysshe Shelley's Ode to the West Wind - A Discussion by Silvia Katzenmaier (Grin Publishing, September 2010)

2-How Shelley Approached the Ode to the West Wind by H Buxton (Harry Buxton) Forman (Hardpress Publishing, 10 January 2012)

3-Shelley: Poems (Everyman's Library Pocket Poets Series) by Shelley (Everyman's Library, November 1993)

4-The Poetical Works of Percy Bysshe Shelley: With Notes by Shelley (Forgotten Books, May 2017)

5-Selected Poems and Prose (Penguin Classics) by Percy Bysshe Shelley (Author), Jack Donovan (Editor, Introduction), Cian Duffy (Editor, Introduction) (Penguin Classics, January 2017)

E-resources:

1-<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2k6L1t0bXGM>

2-<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUGuIYT7irw>

3-<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WCxYl8mxc2o>

4-<https://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poem/ode-west-wind>

5-<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Ode-to-the-West-Wind>

❖ ANSWERS

Answers of 1.6 Progress Test:

1-c, 2-c, 3-b, 4-c, 5-b, 6-d, 7-b, 8-a, 9-b

Answers of 1.9 Questions: (Ans.1 to 14)

- Ans. 1** The West Wind has been called the 'unseen presence' because it cannot be seen and its presence can be felt.
- Ans. 2** The dead leaves are driven by the West Wind as 'ghosts' run away from enchanter.
- Ans. 3** The seeds are flying in the air because of the wind so they are called the winged seeds.
- Ans. 4** The West Wind destroys the old vegetations, yet it preserves the seeds for the new vegetation. In this way the West Wind is both destroyer and preserver.
- Ans. 5** He thinks that the West Wind is very powerful and can sweep anything in the world.
- Ans. 6** No, the poet is not happy. He is in pain and suffers life.
- Ans. 7** The poet prays to the West Wind to lift him like a wave or a leaf or a cloud.
- Ans. 8** The poet wants to scatter his verses all over the earth like the leaves.
- Ans. 9** As the West Wind comes the leaves of trees turn pale in fear. They fall from the trees. They fly away like ghosts running away from an enchanter. Their hue turns yellow, black and hectic red. They look like pestilence-driven multitudes. The West Wind scatters the dark clouds which look like the bright hair uplifted from the head of fierce maenad. The West Wind disturbs the ocean also.
- Ans. 10** It destroys all that is dead. The dead leaves are taken away by the West Wind. Along with the dead leaves the seeds are also transported to new places for the right opportunity. These seeds sprout into new buds. In this way the West Wind becomes the harbinger of a new life.
- Ans. 11** The West Wind creates a storm in the ocean. It divides the waves of the ocean. Even the sea flowers at the bottom of the ocean are disturbed.
- Ans. 12** It scatters the clouds in the sky. It brings about rain. It comes near the end of the year and seems to be the mourning song for the dying ear. The poet feels that the West Wind brings rain, shiver and thunder.
- Ans. 13** The West Wind is very powerful. It cannot be tamed. The poet was also equally powerful when he was young. He was also untamed and wild. But now because of the burden of time he has become weak. He has fallen on the thorns of life and he is bleeding.
- Ans. 14** The poet wants to suggest that after grief there will be joy. After winter there will be spring. He seeks the help of the West Wind to bring a message of hope and joyful life..