

NCERT Solutions:-

Q1. What did Lencho hope for ?

Ans - Lencho hoped for a good rain for a good harvest.

Q2. Why did Lencho say the raindrops were like 'new coins'?

Ans- Lencho said that the raindrops were like 'new coins' because he knew rain would bring a good harvest.

Q3. How did the rain change? What happened to Lencho's fields?

Ans- The rain changed into hailstones and it began to fall along with the rain. All the crops in Lencho's field got destroyed due to hailstones.

Q4. What were Lencho's feelings when the hail stopped?

Ans- Lencho felt disappointed when he saw his field destroyed by hailstones.

Q5. Who or what did Lencho have faith in? What did he do?

Ans- Lencho had firm faith in God. He wrote a letter to God demanding 100 pesos so that he could sow his field again.

Q6. Who read the letter?

Ans- The postmaster read the letter.

Q7. What did the postmaster do then?

Ans- The postmaster laughed when he saw Lencho's letter addressed to God, but soon realized his pain and decided to help him by collecting money.

Q8. Was Lencho surprised to find a letter for him with money in it?

Ans- No, Lencho was not at all surprised to find a letter for him with money in it.

Q9. What made him angry?

Ans- Lencho became angry as he had demanded 100 pesos but received only 70 pesos.

Q10. Who does Lencho have complete faith in ? Which sentences in the story tell you this?

Ans- Lencho has complete faith in God. There are few sentences which show his faith in God.

i) But in the hearts of all who live in that solitary house in the middle of the valley, there was a single hope from God.

ii) "God," he wrote, "if you don't help me, my family and I will go hungry this year."

iii) God could not have made a mistake, nor could he have denied Lencho what he had requested.

Q11. Why did the postmaster send money to Lencho? Why did he sign the letter 'God'?

Ans- The postmaster sent money to Lencho to keep his faith alive in God. He signed the letter 'God' because he did not want to shake his faith in God.

Q12. Did Lencho try to find out who had sent the money to him? Why / why not?

Ans- No, Lencho did not try to find out who had sent the money to him. Because he had strong faith in God and was sure that God would certainly help him.

Q13. Who does Lencho think has taken the rest of the money? What is the irony in the situation?

Ans- Lencho thinks that the post office employees have taken the rest of the money. The irony in this situation is that Lencho suspects those people who helped him..

Short Answer Questions:-

Q1. Where was Lencho's house located ?

Ans- Lencho's house was located at the top of a low hill.

Q2. Why did Lencho keep gazing at the sky?

Ans- Lencho expected rain and so he kept on gazing at the sky.

Q3. Who was Lencho ?

Ans- Lencho was a poor farmer.

Q4. Which country's currency is pesos

Ans - Philippines / Currency of several Latin American Countries.

Q5. Who is the writer of the story 'A Letter to God' ?

Ans- The writer of the story 'A Letter to God' is G.L. Fuentes.

Q6. Who collected the money for Lencho?

Ans- The Postmaster collected the money for Lencho.

Q7. Which crop was destroyed by hailstones in Lencho's field ?

Ans- The corn was destroyed by hailstones in Lencho's field.

Q8. To whom Lencho addressed in his letter?

Ans- Lencho addressed his letter to God.

Q9. On which following day Lencho came to collect his letter ?

Ans- The following Sunday Lencho came to collect his letter.

Q10. At the end what did Lencho think of the post office employees?

Ans- Lencho thought the post office employees were a 'bunch of crooks'.

Long Answer questions :-

Q1. Give a brief sketch of Lencho's character.

Ans- Lencho is the main character of the story 'A Letter to God'. He is a very hardworking farmer and works like an ox in his fields. He has firm faith in God and believes that God is watching everything. His house was situated on the crest (peak) of a low hill and lived with his family. One day his crops were destroyed in hailstones. Due to his firm faith in God, he demanded 100 pesos from God. So he wrote a letter to God. He called the post office employees a 'bunch of crooks' as he did not receive the demanded money.

Q2. Give a brief sketch of the postmaster's character.

Ans- The postmaster was a gentle, and kind person. He was surprised to learn Lencho's faith in God. He was a well-behaved and an honest person. He realized Lencho's grief and decided to help him. He collected money from his colleagues and sent it to Lencho. He did not want to shake off Lencho's faith in God.

Comprehension questions

A. Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow:

Lencho showed not the slightest surprise on seeing the money; such was his confidence-but he became angry when he counted the money. God could not have made a mistake, nor could he have denied Lencho what he had requested. Immediately, Lencho went up to the window to ask for paper and ink. On the public writing-table, he started to write, with much wrinkling of his brow. caused by the effort he had to make to express his ideas.

Q1. Did Lencho show any surprise on seeing the money?

Ans- No, Lencho did not show the slightest surprise on seeing the money.

Q2. Why did Lencho become angry?

Ans- Lencho became angry when he counted the money because he hoped to get hundred pesos from God but he got only seventy pesos.

Q3. Why did Lencho go to the window of the post office ?

Ans- Lencho went up to the window of the post office to ask for paper and ink.

Q4. What was the expression of Lencho while writing the letter?

Ans- He started to write letter with many wrinklings of his brow.

Q5. Name the story and the writer of the above given passage.

Ans- Story -A Letter to God
Writer- G.L. Fuentes

B. The house the only one in the entire valley sat on the crest of a low hill from this loving height one could see the river and the field of ripe corn dotted with the flowers That always promised a good harvest. The only thing the earth needed was a downpour or at least a shower.

Q1. Name the story and the writer of the above given passage.

Ans- Story -A Letter to God

Writer- G.L. Fuentes

Q2. Where was the house situated ?

Ans- The house was situated on the crest of a low hill.

Q3. What could one see from this height?

Ans- One could see the river and the field of ripe corn dotted with the flowers from this height.

Q4. What was needed by the earth only ?

Ans: The only thing the earth needed was a downpour(rain) or atleast a shower.

Q5. Which word from the passage means the same as 'whole' ?

Ans: The word 'entire' means the same as whole.

C. So, in order not to shake the writer's faith in God, the postmaster came up with an idea: answer the letter. But when he opened it, it was evident that to answer it he needed something more than goodwill, ink and paper. But he stuck to his resolution: he asked for money from his employees, he himself gave part of his salary, and several friends of his were obliged to give something 'for an act of charity'. It was impossible for him to gather the hundred pesos, so he was able to send the farmer only a little more than half.

Q1. Why did the postmaster come up with an idea?

Ans.- The postmaster came up with an idea not to shake the writer's faith in God.

Q2. How did the postmaster come to know about Lencho's faith in God?

Ans- The postmaster had opened Lencho's letter to God and read it then realized his faith in God.

Q3. Why could the postmaster not reply to the letter at once?

Ans- The postmaster could not reply to the letter at once because he wanted to send the money to Lencho. He didn't have all the money asked for. He could not afford this money alone. So he needed time to collect this money from others.

Q4. Why did the postmaster's friend give some money?

Ans- The postmaster's friends gave some money thinking that it was for a charitable cause. They too did not want to shake Lencho's faith in God

Q5. Find a word in the passage which means 'clear or obvious'.

Ans- evident

D. On the public writing table, he started to write, with much wrinkling on his brow, caused by the effort he had to make to express his ideas. When he finished, he went to the window to buy a stamp which he licked and then affixed to the envelope with a blow of his fist. The moment that the letter fell into the mailbox the postmaster went to open it. It said: "God: Of the money that I asked for, only seventy pesos reached me. Send me the rest, since I need it very much. But don't send it to me through the mail, because the post office employees are a bunch of crooks. -Lencho".

Q1. Name the story and the writer of the above given passage.

Ans- Story -A Letter to God

Writer- G.L. Fuentes

Q2. Why was Lencho angry?

Ans- Lencho had received less money than his demand so he was angry.

Q3. Who had really sent him the money?

Ans- The post office employees sent him the money.

Q4. Find a phrase in the passage which means 'a group of dishonest persons?'

Ans- A bunch of crooks

Q5. What did he buy from the post office window?

Ans- He bought a stamp from the post office window.

MCQ**Answer Key**

- Q1. What did Lencho hope for ?**
a. rain b. coins
c. gold d. bread-butter.
- Q2. Where did Lencho live?**
a. on the crest of a low hill.
b. at the bottom of the hill
c. in the cemented house.
d. in the corn field.
- Q3. Why did Lencho need money ?**
a. to sow his field again
b. to buy toys for his children
c. to buy new clothes
d. to buy a new field.
- Q4. How much money Lencho demanded?**
a. 30 pesos b. 110 pesos
c. 70 pesos d. 100 pesos
- Q5. Who is the writer of the story 'A Letter to God'?**
a. Robert Frost b. W.B. Yeats
c. G.L. Fuentes d. Lesslie Norris
- Q6. What did Lencho think of the post office employees?**
a. honest b. a gang of robbers
c. bunch of crooks d. mad
- Q7. How much money did Lencho receive from the post office employees?**
a. 100 pesos b. 30 pesos
c. 130 pesos d. 70 pesos
- Q8. Who read the letter sent by Lencho?**
a. God b. postmaster
c. his wife d. his friend
- Q9. The field of Lencho looked as if it were covered in-**
a. salt b. sugar
c. locusts d. cotton
- Q10. Where did Lencho expect the downpour(rain) to come from?**
a. north b. south
c. north east d. north west

1. a. rain
2. a. on the crest of a low bill.
3. a. to sow his field again.
4. d. 100 pesos
5. c. G.L. Fuentes
6. c. bunch of crooks
7. d. 70 pesos
8. b. postmaster
9. a. salt
10. c. north east

NCERT Solutions:

Q 1. What is a 'dust of snow' ? What does the poet say that has changed his mood ? How has the poet's mood changed?

Ans- The "dust of snow" means the fine particles of snow. The sudden shower of the dust of snow from the hemlock tree changed the poet's mood. The poet's mood changed from sad to happy.

Q 2. How does Frost present nature in this poem?

Ans- Frost has presented nature in a very different manner in this poem. The crow and hemlock tree represent sorrow. The dust of snow that is shaken off the hemlock tree by the crow stands for joy that Frost experiences. Therefore he has used an unconventional tree and bird in order to contrast them with joy in the form of snow.

Q 3. What are the birds that are usually named in poems?

Ans- Generally, the poets take the birds and trees which are known for their beauty and qualities. But here the poet has taken a totally different approach. which is not often used in poems. He chose a crow.

Q 4. What is a "hemlock tree"?

Ans- A hemlock tree is a poisonous plant (tree) with small white flowers.

Short Answer Questions:-

Q1. Where was the crow sitting ?

Ans. The crow was sitting in a hemlock tree.

Q2. What type of plant is a hemlock tree?

Ans- It is a poisonous plant with small white flowers.

Q3. What did the crow shake down on the poet?

Ans- The crow shook down the dust of snow on the poet.

Q4. What was the mood of the poet before falling off the dust of snow on him?

Ans- The mood of the poet was very sad before falling off the dust of snow on him.

Q5. How did the dust of snow affect the poet?

Ans- It changed the poet's sad mood into happiness.

Q6. What is the central idea of the poem?

Ans- The central idea of the poem is that sometimes even a small incident can bring big changes in our life..

Q7. What do 'crow' and 'hemlock' symbolize in the poem ?

Ans. The crow and hemlock tree symbolize the dark, depressive, sorrowful and bitter side of nature.

Q8. What did the poet think of the day before the dust of snow fell on him?

Ans- Before the fall of the dust of snow, the poet thought his day was ruined as he was in a sad and depressive mood.

Q9. Why does the poet say that he had saved some part of a day (he) had rued ?

Ans- The poet says that he had saved some part of a day because the poet was in a sad mood and thought that his whole day would go to waste. However, the falling fine dust of snow on him suddenly changes his mood.

Q10. What is the message of the poem ' Dust of Snow' ?

Ans- The poem has a positive and optimistic message. Depression and hopelessness do cloud our hearts but even a small incident can bring big changes in our life.

Reference to context questions:-

A. Read the given stanza and answer the questions that follow:-

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

Q1. Name the poem of the above given lines?

Ans- Dust of Snow.

Q2. Name the poet of the above given lines?

Ans- Robert Frost.

Q3. Who shook the tree ?

Ans. The crow.

Q4. What does the crow shake down on the poet ?

Ans- Dust of snow.

Q5. Which tree is mentioned in the poem ?

Ans- A hemlock tree

B.

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

Q1. Name the poem of the above given lines?

Ans- Dust of Snow.

Q2. Name the poet of the above given lines?

Ans- Robert Frost.

Q3. What happens when dust of snow falls on the poet?

Ans- The poet's sad mood changes into a happy mood.

Q4. Which word in the given lines means 'regret' ?

Ans- rued.

Q5. What changes the mood of the poet?

Ans- The falling of the dust of snow.

MCQ

Q1. Who wrote the poem 'Dust of snow' ?

- a. Robert Frost b. W. B. Yeats
c. John Berryman d. Walt Whitman

Q2. Hemlock is a

- a. flower b. leaves
c. fruit d. a poisonous plant

Q3. What was the mood of the poet in the beginning of the poem ?

- a. happy mood b. angry mood
c. sad mood d. confused mood

Q4. What did the crow shake on the poet?

- a. dust of snow b. dust of leaves
c. dust of tree d. dust of land

Q5. The crow and the Hemlock tree symbolize

- a. excitement b. ugliness
c. happiness d. omen

Q6. Where was the crow?

- a. on the banyan tree
b. on the oak tree
c. on the hemlock tree
d. on the mango tree

Q7. What does 'dust of snow' represent?

- a. joy and energy b. icecream
c. sadness d. disappointment

Q8. The poet stood under which tree?

- a. mango b. pine
c. oak d. hemlock

Q9. How many lines are there in the poem "Dust of Snow"?

- a. 9 lines b. 8 lines
c. 6 lines d. 12 lines

Q10. Which bird shook the dust of snow ?

- a. parrot b. pigeon
c. crow d. sparrow

Answer Key

1. a. Robert Frost
2. d. a poisonous plant.
3. c. sad mood.
4. a. dust of snow
5. d. omen
6. c. on the hemlock tree
7. a. joy and energy
8. d. hemlock
9. b. 8 lines
10. c. crow

Fire and Ice

-Robert Frost

NCERT Solutions:

Q1. There are many ideas about how the world will end. Do you think the world will end some day?

Ans- There are many ideas about how the world will end as anything that has a beginning will have an end.

Q2. For Frost, what do 'Fire and Ice' stand for?

Ans- According to the poem 'Fire and Ice' 'Fire' stands for greed, avarice, lust, conflict and fury. Whereas 'Ice' stands for cruelty, intolerance, rigidity, insensitivity, coldness, indifference and hatred.

Short Answer Questions:-

Q1. What are two different views about the end of the world in the poem 'Fire and Ice'?

Ans- The two different views of people regarding the end of the world are Fire and Ice that is by desire and hatred.

Q2. How can fire destroy the world?

Ans- Fire symbolizes passion or hatred. It will lead to conflict and ultimately result in the destruction of the world.

Q3. What does the poet believe ?

Ans - The poet believes that ice is equally destructive and can destroy the world .

Q4. What do fire and ice symbolize in the poem ?

Ans- The word 'Fire' stands for desire and 'Ice' stands for greed and hatred .

Q5. What is the central idea of the poem ?

Ans- The poem presents two possibilities about the end of the world. It will be due to fire and ice i.e uncontrolled desires and hatred.

Reference to context questions:-

A. Read the given stanza and answer the questions that follow-

Some say the world will end in fire

Some say in ice.

From what I've tasted of desire

I hold with those who favour fire.

Q1. Name the poem from where this extract has been taken?

Ans- Above extract has been taken from the poem 'Fire and Ice' .

Q2. Who has written the above lines?

Ans- The above lines have been written by the poet named ' Robert Frost ' .

Q3. What is the main theme of the poem ' Fire and Ice' according to the poet?

Ans- According to the poet 'Frost' the main theme of the poem 'Fire and Ice' is that the world will end with the excess of desire and hatred.

Q4. According to Robert Frost, what do 'Fire' and 'Ice' stand for?

Ans- According to Robert Frost 'Fire' stands for greed, avarice, and 'Ice' stands for cruelty, rigidity and hatred.

Q5. Which word from the given stanza means the same as 'wish'.

Ans- The word 'desire' from the given stanza means the same as 'wish'.

B.

But if it had to perish twice,

I think I know enough of hate

To say that for destruction ice

Is also great

And would suffice.

Q1. Name the poem from where this extract has been taken?

Ans- Above extract has been taken from the poem 'Fire and Ice' .

Q2. Who has written the above lines?

Ans- The above lines have been written by the poet named ' Robert Frost '.

Q3. What does 'it' refer to in the first line?

Ans- It refers to the world.

Q4. According to the poem the world will end?

Ans- According to the poem the world will end twice i.e fire and ice.

Q5. Which word from the given stanza means the same as 'die'?

Ans- The word 'perish or destruction' from the given stanza means the same as 'die'.

MCQ

Q1 Who wrote the poem 'Fire and Ice' ?

- a. Robert Frost b. Leslie Norris
- c. John Berryman d. Caroline Wells.

Q2. What does the word 'Fire' symbolize in the poem?

- a. desire b. hatred
- c. love d. peace

Q3. What does 'Ice' stand for in the poem?

- a. desire b. hatred
- c. love d. peace

Q4. What would suffice if the world were to Perish twice?

- a. Ice b. fire
- c. hatred d. both a and b

Q5. What is the meaning of "Perish" in the poem?

- a. peace b. life
- c. die d. grow

Answer Key

- 1. a. Robert Frost
- 2. a. desire
- 3. b. hatred
- 4. d. both a and b
- 5. c. die