

Wind ~~ *Subramania Bharati*

Introduction-

As the name suggests this poem is about wind. However, the wind is a natural phenomenon. And in the poem, the poet describes the power of the wind and calls wind destructive. Further, he links the destructive power of the wind with the difficulties of life. He says that weak people breakdown easily, but stronger people emerge out stronger. Also, the poem gives a very important lesson that we should be mentally tough and physically strong in order to survive the hardships of life. However, a weak person crumbles and breakdown like an old building. So it is necessary that we should make these destructive forces our friends with our determination and strength.

Explanation:

In the poem, the poet is talking to the wind and he asks the wins to come softly. Poet also says that wind should not be strong and it should come delicately and softly. Then he describes that powerful wind is destructive and it breaks the shutters and windows and scatters the paper. Moreover, when the wind is very powerful then it takes down the books from the shelves. After that, he asks the wind to look at the damage it has caused.

Further, whenever the wind is strong all the weak things like plants, children, etc. get fearful and sometimes get hurt. In the initial part of the poem, the poet is referring to the wind as a young child. Firstly, he said that it comes softly as a child does. Later on, we come to know that it became destructive like a youth full of energy, violence, and destruction.

In the next pare he continuously repeated the word 'crumbling' to lay stress that everything crumbles in the face of strong wind. So, the poet wants to say that everything breaks when the wind is very strong and powerful. He says that weak houses, weak doors, beams, wooden structures, bodies of people, animals, etc. all fall and crumbles. In addition, everything which is weak reacts by breaking or falling down in the face of hardship. Hence, the poet says that whenever weak people faces and hardship or challenge in life they fall or break down.

In the next paragraph, he addresses the wind as 'wind god' and he says that the powerful god of wind examines, meaning it shifts people and those who are weak fall down and get crushed. Therefore, here the poet made a comparison between wheat and people. Just like we sort the wheat to separate the grain from the chaff, in the same way, the wind god separates the strong people form weak people. Moreover, when there is strong wind all the things that are weak fall and get crushed.

After that, the poet wants us to make friends with the wind i.e. the hardships in our lives. He says that we should be ready for the problems as they will come and will not listen to us. Also, we should build strong homes and close the doors of our house firmly so the wind cannot enter them. Moreover, the poet says that we should make our hearts and bodies stronger to face these challenges. And when we are strong enough to face challenges then we will not feel troublesome.

He keeps the wind on a pedestal and comparing it to god. The poet says that wind is a god and we praise it daily. He also adds that everything that is weak gets over in the face of the strong wind. In addition, all the things that are strong flourish and grow stronger. The poet gives us the message we should make ourselves physically and mentally strong to face these challenges. Also, when we become their friends then we will be happy. As they will help us to become stronger and better because the challenges and hardships of life make us better.

Conclusion:

The poem gives us a very important message that we should not feel bad that we are facing so many challenges and hardships in life. Instead, we should make ourselves mentally and physically strong to face challenges.

The literary devices used in the poem

Anaphora - When a word is repeated at the start of two or more consecutive lines, it is the device of Anaphora.

Lines 2, 3, 4 begin with 'don't'.

Lines 6, 7, 8 begin with 'you'.

Personification - wind has been personified. When the poet says 'you are', he is referring to wind as 'you' that means he is treating wind as a person.

Repetition - 'crumbling' is repeated many times to lay emphasis. The poet wants to say that the wind crushes everything that is weak. That is why he repeats the word crumbling.

Alliteration - the repetition of a consonant sound in close connection. 'wind winnows'.

'won't want'

Symbolism - Symbolism means that the thing refers to some other thing. wind is a symbol. It refers to the challenges in life. He is using wind as a symbol for the adversities in our life.

Answer the following questions:

1. What are the things the wind does in the first stanza?
2. What does the poet say the wind god winnows?
3. What should we do to make friends with the wind?
4. What do the last four lines of the poem mean to you?
5. Why should we build strong house?
6. Why does the poet ask the wind to come softly in the beginning of the poem?
7. How does the wind make fun of weaklings?
8. What does the 'wind' symbolise?

GRAMMAR AND WRITING

1. ERROR OF OMISSION

	BEFORE		ANSWER	AFTER
Everyone knows these are different	(a)	.....	.....
stages in life. Among them student	(b)	.....	.....
life in the most important stages	(c)	.....	.....
in one`s life. This stages begins the age of	(d)	.....	.....
five and ends approximately at age of	(e)	.....	.....
sevevteen. This is the best period one`s life	(f)	.....	.....

2. FILL IN THE BLANKS WITH THE MOST GRAMMATICALLY APPROPRIATE WORDS:-

The industrial revolution brought (a) a big change in the way people worked and (b) goods. After 1850, it (c) In Japan and USA. Machines in huge factories replaced (d) Craft workers.

3. ERROR OF EDITION

	INCORRECT		CORRECT
The passengers were waiting at			
the station when five policemen rushing	(a)	.....
into difference compartments of a	(b)	.....
train. After sometimes one of them	(c)	.....
comes out with two young men	(d)	.....
and soon another policemen joined him.			

4. REARRANGE THE FOLLOWING WORDS/PHRASES TO FORM MEANINGFULL SENTENCES

- (a) Courageous/he/as/a/writer/is/well/known
- (b) Between/writings/link/the/east/the/west/and/depicts/his/the
- (c) To/appointed/a/he/has/been/literature/Knight/for/his/above/all/services

5. Write an article on 'Stress management'.
