

# The Lake Isle of Innisfree

classmate

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B Explain the meanings of these lines from the poem.

1. "For peace comes dropping slow, dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings"

Ans:- The poet desires peace which he can find only a way out from the hustle and bustle of the town. Peace is something he cannot create or have control over. It comes to him slowly from nature, from the fog, the morning dew or the mist which is lifted when the sun rises in the morning. He finds peace in the songs of the crickets who sing in the woods, grass and flowers and in other nooks and corners.

2. "These midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow"

Ans:- Here the poet gives an imaginary vision in his mind's eye. It is a delightful image of the magical qualities of the different times of the day where the

midnight glimmers and the noontime glows purple.

This all adds to his motivation to leave the city life and build a cabin in the secluded country ruled by the beauty of nature.

C. Answer the questions:-

1. What are the things that the poet wishes to do in Innisfree?

Ans:- In the simple, nature place full of beauty and peace, the poet wants to build a small cabin of clay and wattle. He wants to plant nine rows of beans and he also desires to keep honey bees' hive.

2. How does the poet imagine life to be in Innisfree?

Ans:- The poet imagines Innisfree to be a peaceful, secluded place with a tranquil atmosphere. Here he would

be able to escape the noise of the city and live among birds, the singing of crickets, buzzing of honey bees, midnight glimmers, morning mist, purple glow of the moon.

3. Why does the poet want to go to Innisfree?

Ans:- The poet wants to escape from the stressful city life and experience the pleasure of a beautiful island. Living a solitary life in nature would give solace to him. He will escape from the turmoil of the city and enjoy the serenity of natural environment.

4. How can we say that the Isle of Innisfree has a deep influence on the poet's mind and heart?

Ans:- We know that the Isle of Innisfree had a deep influence on the poet's mind for that he says that he is constantly reminded of the sound of lapping of lake water and he can feel the calmness and peace of the place in the very depths of his heart.

5. Can we say that the poet lives in a city? Give reasons.

Ans:- Yes, we can say that the poet lives in a city because he says, 'while I stand on the roadway, or on the pavement grey', which refers to concrete paths of the city.

D Think and Answer

1. What can we say about the present state of the mind of the speaker?

Ans:- The poet seems to be leading a drab urban existence and is feeling restless and trapped in it. He dreams so intently of a peaceful, tranquil place because he lives in an environment that does not contain the peace which he craves for. He is at present surrounded by roads and pavements both of which are not classical manifestations of nature.

2(a) which aspects of daily life does he probably dislike?

→ The poet dislikes noise, pollution, crowds of daily life in city where there is complete absence of beauty of nature, calmness and peace.

(b) How does Isle of Innisfree present a contrast to them?

Ans:- The Isle of Innisfree is a happy place in stark contrast to where he was. The surroundings in the town were harsh, dull and manmade and countryside would be green, beautiful, calm and peaceful.

(c) which colour suggest this contrast?

Ans:- In Innisfree, the afternoon sky turns purple due to the brightly shining sun. On the other hand, the poet describes the city road as 'pavement grey'. While purple is a bright colour, grey

is dull, and this brings out the contrast between nature and city life.

(3) Will the poet be happy and satisfied if he permanently lives in the Isle of Innisfree? Do you think he will want to return to his previous life after a few days? Give a reasoned answer.

→ As the poet longs for a place to provide peace and solace to his mind, the poet will be lucky if he gets a chance to remain in the Lake Isle of Innisfree. This green island is surrounded by relatively peaceful lake waters as opposed to the hustle and bustle of city where the poet presently stays. He imagines constructing a simple cabin and plant beans and have honey bees for his maintenance. As he hates the urban environment which makes him restless, the natural surroundings might prove a good escape. As the speaker stands on the pavement he

feels detached and isolated from the calm natural world. We feel he will not feel contented there and will not return to the city as he deeply desires to have an ideal life in the beautiful island.