



## Year 10 Poetry 2: The River's Silent Cry

Read the following poem and answer the questions below:

### The River's Silent Cry

A river runs deep through the heart of the land,  
Its waters murmur a forgotten song.  
The trees on its banks stand hand in hand,  
As time and tide move them along.

The river remembers what we've long ignored,  
The stories untold, the whispers unsaid.  
It carries the burdens that we've stored,  
The hopes that have withered, the dreams long dead.

Its surface is calm, but beneath it lies,  
A current strong, with a silent plea.  
For all that's been lost, for all the goodbyes,  
It flows to the ocean, yearning to be free.

The rocks in its bed are worn smooth by time,  
Shaped by the hands of endless years.  
Yet the river flows on, with a rhythm and rhyme,  
Through valleys of laughter and mountains of tears.

It knows the secrets that we can't erase,  
The pain and joy that we cannot hide.  
And though we may leave, it stays in its place,  
A witness to life, by the river's side.

But listen close to the river's cry,  
A soundless echo that fills the air.  
It tells of a truth we cannot deny,  
That life flows on, whether or not we care.

So stand by the river, and feel its pull,  
The gentle tug of a world unseen.  
It's a silent cry, so deep and full,  
A reminder that life is more than it seems.



## Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the primary metaphor used in the poem?
  - A) The river as time
  - B) The river as love
  - C) The river as death
  - D) The river as nature
  
2. The phrase "A soundless echo that fills the air" is an example of:
  - A) Oxymoron
  - B) Simile
  - C) Personification
  - D) Alliteration
  
3. What do the "rocks in its bed" symbolize?
  - A) Obstacles in life
  - B) Time and history
  - C) Love and loss
  - D) Nature's power
  
4. How does the poet use imagery in the poem?
  - A) To describe the physical appearance of the river
  - B) To create a sense of movement and time
  - C) To convey the emotions of the speaker
  - D) To depict the river's strength



5. Which word best describes the mood of the poem?

- A) Joyful
- B) Reflective
- C) Anxious
- D) Angry

6. The river's "silent cry" suggests:

- A) Happiness
- B) Sorrow
- C) Anger
- D) Peace

7. Which of the following best represents the tone of the poem?

- A) Optimistic
- B) Melancholic
- C) Indifferent
- D) Celebratory

8. The poet's use of "hand in hand" to describe the trees suggests:

- A) Conflict
- B) Unity
- C) Isolation
- D) Disagreement



9. What is the effect of the poet's use of personification in the poem?

- A) It emphasizes the power of nature.
- B) It gives the river human qualities, making it relatable.
- C) It creates a humorous tone.
- D) It makes the river seem dangerous.

10. Which of the following is a theme of the poem?

- A) The inevitability of change
- B) The beauty of nature
- C) The power of love
- D) The struggle for survival



## Short Answer Questions

1. How does the poet use metaphor to convey the theme of time in the poem?

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2. Discuss the significance of the river as a symbol in the poem.

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3. Analyze the use of oxymoron in the line "A soundless echo."

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4. How does the poet create a sense of movement and flow in the poem?

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5. What emotions does the poet evoke through the imagery of the river?

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6. Explain the meaning of the line "life flows on, whether or not we care."

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7. How does the poet's use of personification enhance the reader's understanding of the river?

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8. What role does the imagery of the "rocks in its bed" play in the poem's message?

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9. How does the poem's tone contribute to its overall impact?

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10. What message does the poet convey about the relationship between humans and nature?

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## Answer Key

### Multiple Choice Answers:

1. A) The river as time
2. A) Oxymoron
3. B) Time and history
4. B) To create a sense of movement and time
5. B) Reflective
6. B) Sorrow
7. B) Melancholic
8. B) Unity
9. B) It gives the river human qualities, making it relatable.
10. A) The inevitability of change

### Short Answer Key:

1. The poet uses the river as a metaphor for time, suggesting that just as a river flows continuously, time moves forward, carrying with it the experiences and emotions of life.
2. The river symbolizes the passage of time and the continuity of life, serving as a reminder that time is both relentless and indifferent to human concerns.
3. The oxymoron "A soundless echo" creates a paradox that emphasizes the silent yet profound impact of time, which can resonate deeply without making a sound.
4. The poet creates a sense of movement and flow through the rhythmic structure and the use of phrases like "runs deep," "flows to the ocean," and "pull of a world unseen," which mimic the continuous movement of a river.
5. The imagery of the river evokes emotions of melancholy and reflection, as the poet describes it as a keeper of forgotten memories and unspoken truths.
6. The line "life flows on, whether or not we care" suggests that time and life are indifferent to individual concerns; they continue regardless of human actions or desires.
7. The poet's use of personification gives the river human-like qualities, making it easier for the reader to relate to it and understand its significance as a symbol of time and life.
8. The imagery of the "rocks in its bed" symbolizes the enduring nature of time and history, which, despite being shaped by the passage of years, remain constant beneath the surface.
9. The melancholic tone of the poem enhances its reflective nature, prompting the reader to consider the inevitability of time and the transient nature of life.
10. The poet conveys a message about the interconnectedness of humans and nature, suggesting that while humans may come and go, nature—and time—remains a constant, silent witness to all that occurs.





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