



Year 8 Poetry 7: Echoes of the Past

Read the following poem and answer the questions below:

Echoes of the Past

In the valley where shadows lay,
There lingers still the light of day.
But as the sun sinks low and fades,
The past awakens in the shades.

Whispers of a time long gone,
Resound like echoes at the dawn.
The trees, they sway to ancient tunes,
Underneath the rising moons.

The winds carry tales untold,
Of battles fought and fortunes bold.
In every stone and every stream,
Lie memories that haunt like dreams.

The land remembers every tread,
Of those now lost, the living dead.
And in the night, the echoes rise,
A chorus of the endless skies.

Yet with the morning's gentle glow,
The echoes fade, the shadows go.
But deep within the earth's embrace,
The past lies waiting, in its place.



Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the primary setting of the poem?

- A) A bustling city
- B) A serene valley
- C) A deserted island
- D) A dense forest

2. What do the "echoes" symbolize in the poem?

- A) Present joys
- B) Forgotten dreams
- C) Memories of the past
- D) Future hopes

3. Which language technique is used in "The past awakens in the shades"?

- A) Simile
- B) Metaphor
- C) Alliteration
- D) Personification

4. What mood is created by the line "Whispers of a time long gone"?

- A) Joyful
- B) Nostalgic
- C) Chaotic
- D) Indifferent



5. What does the poet imply by "The land remembers every tread"?
- A) The land is untouched by history
 - B) The land is alive with memories
 - C) The land erases all traces of the past
 - D) The land is barren and empty
6. How does the poet describe the relationship between the land and the past?
- A) The land is indifferent to the past
 - B) The land preserves and recalls the past
 - C) The land rejects the past
 - D) The land mocks the past
7. Which language technique is evident in "A chorus of the endless skies"?
- A) Hyperbole
 - B) Personification
 - C) Onomatopoeia
 - D) Metaphor
8. What does the poet mean by "The winds carry tales untold"?
- A) The winds are silent
 - B) The winds bring new stories
 - C) The winds are indifferent to the past
 - D) The winds spread forgotten histories



9. How does the poet use contrast in the poem?

- A) By contrasting light with darkness
- B) By contrasting past with present
- C) By contrasting nature with man
- D) By contrasting noise with silence

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

- A) The beauty of nature
- B) The persistence of memory
- C) The inevitability of change
- D) The uncertainty of the future



Short Answer Questions

1. How does the poet use personification in the poem?

2. What is the effect of the metaphor "The past awakens in the shades"?

3. Identify the rhyme scheme of the first stanza.

4. How does the poet create a sense of nostalgia in the poem?



5. Discuss the significance of "The land remembers every tread" in the poem.

6. What does the phrase "The echoes rise" suggest about the past?

7. How does the poet contrast the night with the morning?

8. What is the mood conveyed in the third stanza, and how is it achieved?



9. How does the poet convey the theme of memory in the poem?

10. What is the overall message of the poem regarding the relationship between the past and the present?



Answer Key

Multiple Choice Answers:

1. B) A serene valley
2. C) Memories of the past
3. D) Personification
4. B) Nostalgic
5. B) The land is alive with memories
6. B) The land preserves and recalls the past
7. B) Personification
8. D) The winds spread forgotten histories
9. B) By contrasting past with present
10. B) The persistence of memory

Short Answer Key:

1. The poet personifies the land, the past, and the echoes by describing them as having the ability to remember, awaken, and rise, adding depth and emotion to the depiction of history and memory.
2. The metaphor "The past awakens in the shades" suggests that as night falls, memories of the past come to life, creating a connection between the darkness and the hidden histories that surface in quiet moments.
3. The rhyme scheme of the first stanza is AABB.
4. The poet creates a sense of nostalgia through imagery like "Whispers of a time long gone" and "Resound like echoes at the dawn," which evoke longing for a past that lingers in the present.
5. "The land remembers every tread" signifies that the land retains the imprint of everyone who has walked upon it, symbolizing the lasting impact of past events on the present.
6. The phrase "The echoes rise" suggests that the past is not dormant but actively resurfaces, continuing to influence the present, as memories or reminders of history emerge again and again.
7. The poet contrasts the night with the morning by describing how the echoes and shadows of the past emerge in the night but fade with the morning light, symbolizing the cyclical nature of memory.
8. The mood conveyed in the third stanza is haunting and reflective, achieved through the imagery of "winds carrying tales untold" and "memories that haunt like dreams," emphasizing the lingering presence of the past.
9. The poet conveys the theme of memory by illustrating how the past is preserved in the land, the stones, and the streams, and how it resurfaces through echoes, showing the persistence of history in the present.
10. The overall message of the poem is that the past and present are deeply intertwined, with memories of the past continually resurfacing and influencing the present, even as time moves forward.



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