



Year 7 Poetry 13: The Distant Mountains

Read the following poem and answer the questions below:

The Distant Mountains

The distant mountains stand so tall,
With peaks that touch the sky and call,
Their snow-capped crests in morning light,
A stunning sight, both bold and bright.

Their shadows stretch across the land,
A silent, stoic, grand command,
They hold the secrets of the past,
In rocky folds and winds that last.

The clouds drift slowly by their sides,
As if to brush their ancient hides,
And rivers wind through valleys deep,
Where echoes of the past still seep.

The mountains watch the world below,
With patient eyes that seem to know,
The stories etched upon their face,
Of time and change, of strength and grace.

So gaze upon their rugged might,
And find in them both day and night,
A reminder of the ages gone,
And the beauty of the earth, withdrawn.



Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the main focus of the poem?
 - A) A river
 - B) The distant mountains
 - C) A forest
 - D) A desert

2. How does the poet describe the peaks of the mountains?
 - A) As foggy and obscured
 - B) As snow-capped and bright
 - C) As dark and threatening
 - D) As low and flat

3. What literary device is used in "Their shadows stretch across the land"?
 - A) Simile
 - B) Metaphor
 - C) Personification
 - D) Hyperbole

4. How does the poet convey the mountains' connection to the past?
 - A) By describing their snow
 - B) By mentioning their secrets and the echoes of the past
 - C) By focusing on their height
 - D) By describing the weather



5. What is the mood of the poem?
- A) Melancholic and dreary
 - B) Awe-inspiring and reflective
 - C) Chaotic and intense
 - D) Joyful and lighthearted
6. What effect do the clouds have on the imagery of the mountains?
- A) They obscure the mountains entirely
 - B) They gently brush the mountains' sides
 - C) They create a stormy atmosphere
 - D) They add to the sense of distance
7. What does the poet suggest about the mountains' knowledge?
- A) The mountains are indifferent to change
 - B) The mountains are oblivious to history
 - C) The mountains seem to know the stories of time and change
 - D) The mountains are unaware of their surroundings
8. How does the poet use personification in the poem?
- A) By giving the mountains the ability to watch with patient eyes
 - B) By describing the clouds as brushing the mountains
 - C) By referring to the mountains as having stories
 - D) By saying the rivers wind



9. What is the significance of the mountains being described as "stoic"?

- A) It emphasizes their emotional detachment
- B) It highlights their grandeur and timelessness
- C) It suggests they are easily affected by change
- D) It means they are unstable and unreliable

10. What message does the poem convey about the natural world?

- A) The natural world is chaotic and unpredictable
- B) The natural world is temporary and fleeting
- C) The natural world is grand and enduring
- D) The natural world is insignificant and small



Short Answer Questions

1. How does the poet use imagery to describe the mountains in the poem?

2. What role do the mountains play in the poem's depiction of time and history?

3. Identify an example of personification in the poem and explain its effect.

4. How does the poet create a sense of awe and reverence for the mountains?



5. What does the phrase "The clouds drift slowly by their sides" suggest about the relationship between the mountains and the clouds?

6. Describe the mood of the poem and how it is achieved.

7. How does the poet use the imagery of rivers and valleys to enhance the poem?

8. What does the poet mean by "the beauty of the earth, withdrawn"?



9. How does the poem contrast the mountains with the world below?

10. Explain how the mountains are depicted as symbols of strength and endurance.



Answer Key

Multiple Choice Questions:

1. B) The distant mountains
2. B) As snow-capped and bright
3. C) Personification
4. B) By mentioning their secrets and the echoes of the past
5. B) Awe-inspiring and reflective
6. B) They gently brush the mountains' sides
7. C) The mountains seem to know the stories of time and change
8. A) By giving the mountains the ability to watch with patient eyes
9. B) It highlights their grandeur and timelessness
10. C) The natural world is grand and enduring

Short Answer Questions:

1. The poet uses imagery such as "snow-capped crests in morning light" and "shadows stretch across the land" to vividly describe the mountains and their appearance.
2. The mountains play a role in depicting time and history by holding "secrets of the past" and having "stories etched upon their face," symbolizing endurance and change.
3. An example of personification is "The mountains watch the world below," which gives the mountains human-like qualities and emphasizes their enduring presence.
4. The poet creates a sense of awe and reverence by describing the mountains as grand and timeless, with their "stoic" and "rugged" features.
5. The phrase suggests that the clouds move gently around the mountains, highlighting their majesty and the peaceful interaction between the natural elements.
6. The mood of the poem is awe-inspiring and reflective, achieved through the description of the mountains' grandeur and timeless presence.
7. The imagery of rivers winding through valleys enhances the poem by adding to the sense of depth and history surrounding the mountains.
8. The phrase "the beauty of the earth, withdrawn" suggests that the mountains hold a quiet, reserved beauty that is both majestic and distant.
9. The poem contrasts the mountains' enduring presence with the changing world below, emphasizing the mountains' timeless and stable nature.
10. The mountains are depicted as symbols of strength and endurance through their "grand command," "stoic" nature, and the "stories" they hold.



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