



About Eliza Cook:

Eliza Cook was a popular English poet, writer, and journalist of the 19th century. She was born on 24 December 1818 in London, England. Cook became well known for writing simple and inspiring poems that encouraged people to work hard, be brave, and never give up.

Her poems were written in easy language, so ordinary people and young readers could understand them easily. Many of her works focused on determination, moral values, and perseverance, which is why poems like "Try Again" are often taught in schools.

Besides poetry, she also edited a magazine called Eliza Cook's Journal, where she wrote about social issues and encouraged education and self-improvement. She passed away in 1889, but her poems continue to inspire readers with their strong message of hope and persistence.

Some famous works of Eliza Cook include:

"The Old Armchair"

"The Old Farm Gate"

"Home in the Heart"

"The Sailor's Grave"

Rhyme Scheme

The poem mainly follows an alternate rhyming pattern (ABAB).

Important Themes

- Perseverance
- Courage
- Learning from nature
- Hope after failure
- Determination

Important Word Notes

1. Monarch : a king or ruler.

Synonyms: king, sovereign.

Antonyms: subject.

2. Deed: an important action.

Synonyms: act, task.

Antonyms: inaction, idleness

3. Despair: complete loss of hope.

Synonyms: hopelessness, misery.

Antonyms: hope, confidence.

4. Pondered: thought deeply about something.

Synonyms: considered, reflected.

Antonyms: ignored, neglected.

5. Endeavour: a strong effort to achieve something.

Synonyms: attempt, effort.

Antonyms: neglect, avoidance.

6. Mounted: climbed up or went up.

Synonyms: ascended, rose.

Antonyms: descended, came down.

7. Defied: resisted bravely.

Synonyms: challenged, opposed.

Antonyms: obeyed, submitted.

8. Toils: Works very hard and with great effort.

Synonyms: labour, struggle, exert, work hard.

Antonyms: rest, relax, idle.

9. Native: A person who is born in a particular place or belongs naturally to that place.

Synonyms: local, inhabitant, indigenous, original.

Antonyms: foreigner, outsider, immigrant.

10. Strive: To make a great effort to achieve something.

Synonyms: struggle, attempt, endeavour, try hard.

Antonyms: give up, surrender, neglect

Figures of Speech in the Poem Try Again

1. Alliteration

Definition: Repetition of the same consonant sound at the beginning of nearby words.

Examples from the poem:

- *"steadily, steadily"*

The s sound repeats, creating rhythm

2. Repetition

Definition: Repeating the same word or phrase to emphasize an idea.

Examples:

- *"Up, up it ran"*

- *“steadily, steadily inch by inch”*

3. Personification

Definition: Giving human qualities to animals or objects.

Example:

“The spider up there defied despair”

Here the spider is described as if it can challenge or resist despair like a human.

4. Imagery

Definition: Language that creates a vivid picture in the reader’s mind.

Examples:

- *“silken filmy clue”*
- *“a delicate thread”*
- *“steadily, inch by inch”*

Helps readers clearly visualize the spider climbing the thread.

5. Hyperbole

Definition: Deliberate exaggeration for emphasis.

Example:

“As grieved as man could be”

This exaggerates the king’s sadness.

Brief Summary:

King Bruce of Scotland was sad because he had failed many times in his efforts. He felt hopeless and decided to give up trying. At that moment he noticed a spider trying to climb up to its web. The spider fell many times but continued trying again and again. After several attempts, the spider finally succeeded in reaching its web. Watching this, the king felt inspired and realized he should not give up. He gathered courage, tried again, and eventually succeeded in his mission.

Moral / Lesson of the Poem

Never give up. Repeated efforts lead to success. *“If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again.”*