

Poem: "Try Again" – Questions

A. RTC – Set 1

Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow:

1. "He flung himself down in low despair,
As grieved as man could be;
And after a while he pondered there,
'I'll give it all up,' said he."

- Write who is referred to as "he" in the stanza? (1)
- State the meaning of the word "despair" in this context? (1)
- Name one reason why the king felt so disappointed? (1)
- Find the word in the stanza that means "thought deeply about something"? (1)
- Mention what decision did the king make while sitting there? (1)

B. RTC – Set 2

2. "Its head grew steady — again it went,
And travelled a half-yard higher;
'Twas a delicate thread it had to tread,
And a road where its feet would tire."

- Identify the creature referred to as "it" in the stanza. (1)
- Write the meaning of the word "delicate" as used in the stanza. (1)
- The line "Its head grew steady" suggests that the creature became _____. (1)
- State what the spider had to walk on according to the stanza. (1)
- Replace the word "tire" with a suitable synonym from the following:
(a) rest (b) become exhausted (c) jump (d) climb. (1)

Short Answer Questions (SAQs) (30–40 words each, 2/3 marks)

1. Elaborate briefly the reason of King Bruce's hopelessness at the beginning of the poem?

2. Describe briefly the attempts the spider made again and again to reach its web.
3. Analyse how watching the spider changed King Bruce's attitude?
4. Identify the moral lesson that the poem teaches us about dealing with failure?

HOTs (Higher Order Thinking Questions)(80–100 words – 5/6 marks)

1. The spider becomes a teacher for King Bruce in the poem. Explain how a small creature could inspire the king to regain courage and determination.
2. Many people give up after repeated failures. Using the poem "Try Again," Explain why persistence and determination are important qualities for success in life.