

The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree

CBSE 2025

Questions

- I. Fill the blank to complete the sentence.
Shaking down of dust of snow gave the speaker a change of heart by
- II. How does the interaction between the natural elements (crow, snow, hemlock tree) contribute to the speaker's emotional transformation in the poem? Answer in about 40 words.
- III. 'Dust of Snow' is referred to as
- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| A mist | B dust of branches |
| C snow residue | D snowflakes |
- IV. The crow and the hemlock tree represent
- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| i. sorrow | ii. elation |
| iii. hope | iv. anxiety |
| v. enthusiasm | |

Options

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------|
| A i only | B ii, iii and v |
| C iv only | D i, iv and v |

Some say the world will end in fire
Some say in ice.
From what I've tasted of desire
I hold with those who favour fire.

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Questions

- I. The speaker offers evidence to support his preference for one theory over the other. Mention the evidence.
- II. What is the prediction of the poet about how the world will come to an end? Answer in about 40 words.
- III. 'Fire' and 'Ice' are used in the poem as

A similes	B metaphors
C repetition	D oxymorons
- IV. Comment on the overall mood of the extract.

But he's locked in a concrete cell,
His strength behind bars,
Stalking the length of his cage,
Ignoring visitors.

Questions

- I. What does the phrase 'His strength behind bars' suggest about the tiger?
 - A He is physically weak and helpless.
 - B His power and freedom are confined by captivity.
 - C He enjoys being protected by the cage.
 - D He has lost his natural instincts.
- II. What does the phrase 'concrete cell' indicate about the tiger's living conditions?
- III. Why does the poet mention that the tiger is 'ignoring visitors'?
- IV. Despite being powerful, the tiger's strength behind bars indicates his

He should be snarling around houses
At the jungle's edge,
Baring his white fangs, his claws,
Terrorising the village!
But he's locked in a concrete cell,
His strength behind bars,
Stalking the length of his cage,
Ignoring visitors.

Questions

- I. Which qualities of the tiger are highlighted by 'stalking the length of his cage' and 'ignoring visitors'?
- i. Restlessness ii. Strength
 - iii. Aggression towards humans
 - iv. Helplessness v. Detachment

Options

- A i, ii and iii
 - B ii, iii and v
 - C i, iii and iv
 - D i, iv and v
- II. What does the tiger's behaviour in the cage indicate about the effects of captivity on wild animals?
- III. Which line from the extract conveys the poet's idea that captivity restricts the tiger's natural freedom?
- IV. The tiger's detachment from visitors indicates his and inability to adapt to human-controlled environments.