

Class 9 chapter poem Wind.

About the poet: Chinnaswami Subramanian Bharatiyar was an Indian writer, Indian Independence activist and social reformer from Tamil Nadu. He is popularly known as 'Mahakavi Bharati' and pioneer of modern Tamil poetry. In fact he was one of the greatest Tamil literary figures of all times. His fiery songs kindled patriotism and nationalism during the Indian Independent movement. Today many remember him as the people's poet, a great nationalist, outstanding freedom fighter and social visionary of the country.

Answer the following questions (page 31)

1. What are the things that the wind does in the first stanza?
 - A. The wind breaks the doors of the window, scatters the paper and throws down the books on the shelf. It also tears the pages of the books and brings rain.
2. Have you seen anybody winnow grain at home or in a paddy field? What is the word in your language for winnowing? (give the words in your language if you know them)
 - A. Yes, I have seen ladies winnow grain in my village. People winnow grains to remove straws, chaff and dust found in grains there. It is called 'Barsana'
3. What does the poet say the wind god winnows?
 - A. The wind god winnows weak things and crushes them.
4. How do we make wind our friend?
 - A. The poet suggests that we should build strong houses and fix the doors firmly to make friends with the wind. Moreover we should be strong enough to face the difficulties.
5. What do the last four lines of the poem mean to you?
 - A. The last four lines convey the message that those who are not determined and lack confidence to face defeat. And those who set their targets and make sincere efforts are not disturbed by any obstacle.
6. How does the poet speak to the wind in anger or with humor? You must also have seen or heard of the wind "crumbling lives". What is your response to this? Is it the same as the poet's?
 - A. The poet speaks to the wind with humor. I have also seen the wind devastating the property mercilessly. The poet invites the wind to attack him and intends to prepare himself for the attack.
7. What does the wind do to the books?
 - A. The wind tears the pages of the books off and throws them down from the book shelf. The powerful wind scatters the books and sheets of paper on the floor. It disturbs everything.
8. What moral lesson do we get from the poem 'Wind'?
 - A. The poem 'Wind' is full of moral lessons. The poet has poured out his heart in the present poem. He says that people must be strong at heart because only the weak at

heart are troubled by difficulties. Here wind symbolizes a difficulty which has power to devastate life on the earth. But if the people are strong at heart, they face the challenges thrown out by difficulties. They struggle and at last .Come out with flying colors.

9. How can you say that friendship with the strong is good?

A. When we have friends with the strong, we learn several new things. We learn that we may become strong when we fight with difficulties. The people say that if we are strong, the wind may be our friend, because the wind likes to be the friend of the strong .So, if we desire to have the strong to be our friends, we have to show courage ourselves. This is the main reason that the poet talks about the steadfast heart in the poem.