
IF (POEM)

Summary

In this poem the poet tells us not to keep anything for tomorrow. Whatever you want to give it right away otherwise it would be late.

According to the poet if you want to say a kind word or give something, do it right now. If you wanted to make someone happy or lessen someone's sorrow do it right now without delaying.

If some good news has to be given, or you have to tell how caring a friend you are or you want to praise someone or gift a trust give it right now.

If you can give courage to someone or lessen someone's pain or please someone do it now without any delay because tomorrow might be late.

This poem gives a message do not postpone anything for tomorrow. Whatever good you want to tell, give or do, do it right now as it might be late the next day.

A. Talking about the poem.

1. The poet is addressing a kind man. (True / Not True)

Ans. Not True

2. The poet is not talking about the good deeds that we can do. (True / Not True)

Ans. Not True

3. How can you make someone glad? Or someone less sad? Can you give an example each?

Ans. I can make someone glad by helping him / her in the way they want. If he / she is in need of something, help by giving it, students can help each other by discussing assignments, group study etc.

less glad – I can make someone less glad by going away from the promise I had made earlier like sharing my notes, lending money which I had promised earlier.

4. The poet is saying you should praise people in order to gain favour. (True / Not True)

Ans. Not True

5. The poet is saying you have to be strong yourself to do good to others. (True / Not True)

Ans. Not True

6. a. The poet is assuming you may not have a forceful personality.

- b. The poet is advising you to develop a forceful personality.

(Underline the True statement)

Ans. b. The poet is advising you to develop a forceful personality.

7. Look at the good qualities given below—
a. kindness; b. charity; c. broad mindedness; d. helpfulness; e. trust worthiness; f. friendliness; g. courage; h. mercy

Do you know someone who has any of these qualities? Give an example. Remember Maqbool Butt. He had three of these qualities.

Ans. d. helpfulness; e. trust worthiness; g. courage;

8. The poet is telling us what is correct behavior. (True / Not True)

Ans. True

9. The general idea of the poem is that procrastination is good. (True / Not True)

Ans. Not True

10. "Procrastination is the thief of time".

- a. Discuss the meaning of this proverb with your teacher. What "figure of speech" is used here?

It has been said "never put off for tomorrow what you can do today". "Yet there are many people who have the habit of postponing things. Such people do not realize the dangers of delaying. Work does not disappear if we postpone it. The more we postpone it, the more work piles up. Finally we have no choice but to tackle it. Then the amount of work seems too much. We then have to work for long hours under great strain and tension. Finally we do it hurriedly and in a casual manner.

- a. The proverb means if you delay doing something, it will take longer time to do it later on. The figure of speech is metaphor.
