

## 1.1 Where the mind is With out fear.

### ENGLISH WORKSHOP

1. In your notebook write down lines from the poem as a proof for the following.

(a) Tagore wishes for a nation where people are truthful.

Ans. 5th line

(b) The poet would like everyone to work hard to reach their goal and in the long run to reach perfection.

Ans. 6th line

(c) The poet wishes that everyone in his country holds his head high in dignity.

Ans. 1st line

(d) The poet dreams of a nation where knowledge should be free to all.

Ans. 2nd line

(e) The poem is a 'prayer'

Ans. Last line

(2) Read the columns carefully and match the expressions with their meanings:

Ans. (1) The head is held high—A person with self-respect, and proud of possessing it.

(2) Narrow domestic walls - Narrow-mindedness

(3) Knowledge is free - Education is given to all

(4) Depth of truth - Sincerity of heart

(5) Mind is without fear - A fearless person

(6) Stretches its arms - Aim at perfection

(7) Clear stream of reason - Clear thinking

(8) Dead habits - Dried, infertile land of sands

(9) Ever-widening thought and action - Broadening the outlook and attitude

3. (A) Answer the following questions in your own words.

(a) How is the world broken into fragments?

(b) Explain what the 'tireless striving' should, be for.

(c) 'Where come out from the depth of truth.' Explain in your own words.



**(d) Who is 'Thee' in the poem? What does the poet appeal to 'The' to do?**

**(e) What qualities does the poet wish to inculcate in his countrymen?**

**(B) Write your own response to the following questions, and justify where needed:**

**(a) Is the poem a prayer for India alone?**

**Ans.** The poem is a prayer for India alone, but it is also relevant for countries all over the world.

**(b) What should the words we speak reflect?**

**Ans.** The words we speak should reflect your sincerity and truthfulness.

**(c) What should people keep on widening? How can it be done?**

**Ans.** People should keep on widening their attitude and outlook. This can be done by getting rid of prejudice, travelling to different places and through education.

**(d) From what darkness of night should our nation awaken?**

**Ans.** Our nation should awaken from the darkness of prejudices, division of society, old traditional rituals and customs that are harmful, imparting of knowledge to selected people, insincerity, untruthfulness, fear and lack of self-respect.

**(e) What attributes of Rabindranath Tagore does the poem (prayer) reflect?**

**Ans.** The poem reflects Rabindranath Tagore's patriotism and love for his country, his clear-thinking, his broad outlook, his scientific attitude and his emphasis on hard work.

**(f) What effect does the repetition of the word 'where' at the beginning of each line achieve?**

**Ans.** The repetition of the word 'where' at the beginning of each line gives a musical touch to the poem.

**(4) Read the poem carefully and complete the table after the discussion in pairs.**

Concepts in the poem	Present situation	Expected/ideal situation
(1) mind	Mind is full of fear.	Fearless mind.
(2) head	Head is bowed down.	Head is held high.
(3) knowledge	Knowledge is limited to a select few people.	Knowledge is free and available to all.
(4) words	Words are insincere.	Words are truthful and sincere.
(5) habit	Old traditional rituals and customs that are harmful are followed.	There is reason and clarity of thought.
(6) thought and action	Thoughts and actions are	Thoughts and actions are



	determined by a narrow-minded attitude	determined by a broad outlook.
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**5. (A) Complete the following sentences using your own interpretation:**

- (1) When the mind is without fear and the head is unbowed, we enjoy complete freedom.
- (2) When knowledge is free, every citizen enjoys the right to learn and obtain knowledge.
- (3) We can prevent social injustice when we pull down discriminatory walls of caste, class, religion, etc.
- (4) Constant effort and strife leads to achieving your goals and to perfection.
- (5) Logical thinking and reasoning can put a stop to the following of old traditions and customs that are harmful.
- (6) Tagore appeals to God to make his country a heaven where people have good thoughts, say good words and do good actions.

**(B) Fill in the blanks:**

- (1) Students should keep themselves aloof from old harmful tradition.
- (2) When knowledge is free everyone will be literate.
- (3) It is the social duty of every student of the modern world to uproot narrow-mindedness from societies.
- (4) Students must develop broad outlook and attitudes.
- (5) In the world of sycophancy, students must have self-respect.

**6. Find examples of Metaphor from the poem.**

**Ans.** (1) 'Clear stream of reason'. Here reason has been implicitly compared to a clear stream.

(2) 'Dreary desert sand of dead habit'. Here old habits have been implicitly compared to dreary desert sand.

**7. Work in groups of six students and compose your poem regarding 'Ideal School'.**

**Begin your lines with the word 'Where'.....**

**Ans.** Ideal School An 'Ideal School' is one...

Where fun, games and studies go hand in hand, Where teachers come from all over the land,



Where no punishment is given to one, nor any blame, Where motivation and encouragement is the name of the game.  
Need to be fix.

**8. Read the poem. Write an appreciation of the poem in about 12-15 lines with the help of the given points.**

**Ans. APPRECIATION OF POEM**

Introduction: Writing an 'appreciation of something means analyzing and giving an opinion about a piece of literature (generally a poem), sensitively and intelligently. You should not only have read the work completely but also have understood it thoroughly.

Here we are going to discuss the appreciation of a poem which should address (1) Its content and (2) Its form.

While discussing content, you should describe what the poem is about, that is, (a) the central idea of the poem (b) if there is an inner or implied meaning or message (c) the special features, etc.

While discussing form, you should address literary techniques like the (a) structure and tone (b) the rhyme scheme (c) the figures of speech, etc.

You can also discuss what you have liked or not liked, and what has impressed or not impressed you.

The appreciation of a poem is usually written in the form of a paragraph/paragraphs.

**Points to be considered while writing the Appreciation of a Poem:**

The Appreciation of a poem consists of:

- (1) the title of the poem and
- (2) the name of the poet who has written it. If the name of the poet is not mentioned. One can write 'anonymous'.
- (3) The central idea i.e., the main idea of the poem. This can be written in 3-4 lines.
- (4) the rhyme scheme of the poem.

A rhyme scheme is the pattern of endings of a line of a poem or a song. For example, if the last word of the first line rhymes with the last word of the second line, both are given the same letter.

Say (a). Any other last word of any other line rhyming with these two will also be given the same letter (a). The other lines with different rhyming words at the end, which do not rhyme with (a) will be given different letters:



Example:

Out of the night that covers me. (a)

Black as the Pit from pole to pole (b)

I thank whatever gods may be (a)

For my unconquerable soul. (b)

In this stanza me rhymes with be, so both are given the letter a

Similarly. Pole rhymes with soul, but not with me or be, so both are given the next letter b.

Rhyme scheme of the above stanza is ab,ab.

(5) One figure of speech with explanation.

Choose one which you can explain well. You may also mention the other figures of speech.

(6) The special features of the poem, like imagery in the poem, or the beautiful descriptions of nature, or the implied meaning, if there is any. You can also discuss the message the poet wants to give you. This should be written in about 5-6 lines.

(7) 1 or 2 of your favourite Lines from the poem.

(8) Why you liked or disliked the poem - whether it made you laugh or enjoy, or made you think, or if the rhymes were good, etc.

### Point format (for understanding)

The title of the poem: 'Where the mind is without fear.....!'

**The poet:** Rabindranath Tagore

**Theme/Central idea:** This is a prayer to God.

Tagore asks Him to awaken his country into a heaven of freedom, where there is total freedom of good thoughts, good words and good actions.

**Rhyme scheme:** written in free verse without any rhyme scheme or metre.

**Figures of speech:** Personification, Repetition, Metaphor, Alliteration, etc.

**Special Features:** (Type of poem, imagery, implied meaning if any, etc.) reflective poem; conveys strong feelings for the progress of the country; an extremely patriotic poem.

**Favourite line/lines:** Where Their mind is without fear and the head is held high'.

**Why I like/don't like the poem:** I like the poem as it is deeply sensitive, fresh and beautiful.

9. Imagine you have to deliver a speech on 'Independence Day' or 'Republic Day' in the school assembly. Prepare a speech to deliver on 'My dream India/The India I dream of'.



**Used the steps given below:**

- Ans. 1) Greeting and solution  
2) Self introduction  
3) Introduction of the topic  
4) Elaboration of the topic and example  
5) Conclusion  
6) Thanking audience

### **Dream India**

Respected Principal, teachers and my dear friends, Today, 15th August, is the day India won her freedom. No doubt, at that time the citizens of free India had many dreams for their country, some of which would have certainly come true. I, Rohan Mehta, often think about my dream India too, and I would like to tell you something about it.

In the India of my dreams, there would be no poverty. Every Indian would be able to live a comfortable life. Every single person would be literate and the acquisition of knowledge would be open to all, irrespective of caste, creed or religion. Corruption eats away a country, and in my dream India there would be no corrupt people. Truth and sincerity would reign. The growth of the population would be controlled and there would be no shortage of natural resources.

Every man, woman and child would be able to hold up his or her head with dignity and self-respect. There would be no dependence on other countries for the fulfilment of our basic needs. India would have her rightful place among the other countries of the world, and these same countries would look up to her with respect. There would be no need to have a police force because there would be no crime and no criminals everyone would be happy and content with what they had.

This is my dream India in brief and there are many more things I would like to add to this list.

I will certainly do my bit to make my dream come true. Will all of you do so too? Thank you

