

On Killing a Tree

Prepared by

Dr. D. Jockim

St. Xavier's College (Autonomous)

Palayamkottai

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“On Killing a Tree” is a small poem written by Gieve Patel. The first two stanzas of the poem describe the strength of the tree and the last two stanzas give step-by step instructions to kill a tree completely. The poet says that we cannot kill a tree by a simple knife. The tree is the child of mother earth. It has grown eating the dust, consuming air, water, sunlight etc. It is very strong. The discoloured bark of the tree gives an impression that the tree has been suffering from some leprosy kind of disease. But it is a wrong impression. The tree is not sick. Since the roots are inside the earth, it looks like that.

The green leaves, twigs, flowers and fruits are the evidence for the strength of the tree. The repeated hacking and chopping of tree will make the tree bleed but they will not kill the tree. The tree is an example for resilience. If you cut them, the boughs will start growing again in the former place. The tree should be uprooted to be killed. It is the root that gives enormous strength to the tree. After that, the tree will pale, stiffen, dry up and will meet its death inch by inch. Thus this poem talks about the power of nature and man's insensitive nature.

1. The poem On Killing A Tree is written by -

(1)- H.W.Lonfellow

(2)- John Keats

(3)- Gieve Patel

(4)- Arthur Rimbaud

Answer: Gieve Patel

2. On Killing A Tree is a/an -

- (1)- Romantic poem
 - (2)- Love poem
 - (3)- Ironical poem
 - (4)- None
-
- Ans: Ironical poem

3. To kill a tree it takes -

- (1)- Much time
- (2)- Little time
- (3)- Few times
- (4)- A few times

- Ans: much time

4. The poet says that a tree can't be killed by -

- (1)- Bullets
- (2)- A simple jab of knife
- (3)- Schythe
- (4)- Blade
- Ans: A simple jab of knife

5. In the poem **On Killing A Tree** twig is -

- (1)- Bark
 - (2)- Branch
 - (3)- Leaves
 - (4)- Stem
-
- Ans: Leaves

6. The most sensitive part of a tree is its

- (1)- Root
- (2)- Leaf
- (3)- Branch
- (4)- Stem
- Ans: root

7. The root of a tree is -

- (1)- White and dry
- (2)- White and wet
- (3)- Dark and dry
- (4)- Dark and wet
- Ans: white and wet

8. In the poem killing of tree has been presented as a/an -

- (1)- Ceremonial task
- (2)- Woodcutter's job
- (3)- Very easy task
- (4)- None of the above
- Ans: Ceremonial task

9. The poem is written in

- iambic pentameter
- rhyming couplet
- free verse
- blank verse.
- Ans: free verse

The word 'crust' means

- sandy layer
 - outer layer
 - muddy layer
 - inner layer.
-
- Ans: Out layer

"And out of its leprous hide." -- Here
the phrase 'leprous hide' suggests that
the tree is

- diseased
 - just born
 - young
 - very old.
-
- Very old

'The bleeding bark will heal.' -- Here
the phrase 'bleeding bark' is an

- alliteration example of
 - assonance
 - hyperbole
 - oxymoron
-
- Ans: alliteration

