

Jan.
11. The wild Swans at Coole

I ERC

1) The trees are in their autumn beauty,
The woodland paths are dry,
Under the October twilight the water
Mirrors a still sky:
Upon the brimming water among the stones
Are nine-and-fifty swans.

(a) How are the trees described in the first line of the stanza?

(Ans) (a) The trees are described as yellowing in their autumn beauty.

(b) What does the water mirror in the twilight?

(Ans) The water mirror in the twilight is clear and still sky.

c) Do you think the swans disturb the peace of the scenery? why or why not?

(Ans) No, the swans do not disturb the peace of the scenery as they themselves represent tranquility.

2. The nineteenth autumn has come upon me since
I first made my count;
I saw, before I had well finished,
All suddenly mount

And scatter wheeling in great broken rings
upon their clamorous wings.

a) When did the speaker first count the swans?

(Ans) The speaker first counted the swans
nineteen years ago.

b) What did the swans do suddenly and unexpectedly?

(Ans) The swans suddenly mount and scatter water
by their wings.

c) How did the speaker feel after looking upon
those brilliant creatures?

(Ans) Looking at the active swans in the lake, the
speaker's heart turned sore as he realized that he
was growing old.

3. Unwearied still; lover by lover,

They paddle in the cold

companionable streams or climb the air;

Their hearts have not grown old;

passion or conquest, wander where they will,

Attend upon them still.

a) What does the phrase 'lover by lover' signify?

How does it reflect on the state of the speaker?

(Ans) The phrase 'lover by lover' signifies togetherness
and love which still prevail among the swans.
It is in contrast to the solitude of the
speaker.

b) whose hearts have not grown old?

(Ans) The swans' hearts have not grown old.

(c) Mention the qualities associated with the swans in the above lines.

(Ans) Unchanging, loyal, young and passionate are the qualities associated with the swans.

II Answer the following questions:-

1. How does the speaker describe the setting of the poem in the first stanza?

(Ans) In the first stanza, the speaker describes a lake surrounded by yellowing trees in their autumn beauty. The sky is clear which is being reflected by the water in the lake.

2. How many autumns have passed since the speaker first observed the swans?

(Ans) Nineteen autumns have passed since the speaker first saw the swans.

3. How does the sight of the swans affect the speaker?

(Ans) The sight of the swans makes the

speaker remember and be nostalgic about the time gone by.

4. What does the contrast between the swans and the human life in the poem signify?

(Ans) The contrast between the swans and the human life, signify the permanence of the natural world as opposed to the transience of human life.

5. What does the swans' flying away at the end signify?

(Ans) The swan's flying away at the end of the poem signify the acceptance of human mortality and continuation of life in a different world. It also signifies the transient nature of beauty and the ephemeral experiences that bring joy.

III Answer in Detail :-

1) Discuss the Significance of this observation in relation to the theme of the poem :-

(Ans) The contrast between the ever young hearts of swans and the aging Speaker signifies the central theme of the poem where nature has been depicted as everlasting and permanent and man's life is presented as temporary and transitory.