

MENDING WALL

THEME

1. "The Mending Wall" by Robert Frost is a poem of the physical barrier of the wall representing the psychological or symbolic barrier between two human beings.
2. The wall causes an alienation and separation between the two people.
3. The wall represents two view points of two different persons, one by the speaker and the other by his neighbour. Not only does the wall act as a divider in separating the properties, but also acts as a barrier to friendship & communication.
4. The speaker in "Mending Wall" describes the yearly practice of mending the wall as a sort of "out-door game" he plays with his neighbour. Although it is the speaker who reaches out to his neighbor to initiate this year's repairs, the neighbor insists of having boundaries between people.
5. The narrator mentions how the neighbour seems to be walking not only in the thick shade of woods and trees, but in actual "darkness", implying ignorance or inhospitable sentiments.
6. The narrator concludes with the line-
"Good fences make good neighbours"
Meaning: It is better for people to mind their own business and to respect the privacy of others.

I.ERC:-

1. We keep the wall between us as we go.
To each the boulders that have fallen to each.
And some are loaves and some so nearly balls

We have to use a spell to make them balance:
'Stay where you are until our backs are turned!'

- a. Whom does 'we' refer to?
- b. Why do they want to keep the wall between?
- c. Spell means _____
- d. What do loaves and balls mean?
- e. Identify the figure of speech in the fifth line.
- f. What led the speaker say 'Stay where you are until our backs are turned'?

2. Spring is the mischief in me, and I wonder

If I could put a notion in his head:

'Why do they make good neighbors? Isn't it

Where there are cows? But here there are no cows.

a. Who does 'I' refer to?

i. neighbour

ii. poet

iii. father

b. Why does the poet consider the spring to be mischief ?

i. outdoor game during spring

ii. reason for the wall to fall.

iii. i only

c. What notion does the speaker want to put ?

i. that the hunters are the reason for the gap.

ii. spring could be the reason for creating gap.

iii. there is no need for the wall .

II. Answer the following:- (20-30 words)

1.What, according to the poet, are the causes for walls breaking down?any two

Ans: Spring/ hunters/elves

2.How do the hunters damage the wall in mending wall?

3.Describe the neighbour and his thoughts on building the wall.

III. Answer the following (30-40 words)

1.What argument does the speaker give to convince his neighbour that they do not need the wall?

2.Throw light on the message of the poem ' Mending Wall.'

IV.Write character sketch for :-

*Poet

* Narrator.