

Summary of the Poem

The poem "To The Cuckoo" has been written by a romantic English poet William Wordsworth. The poet was a lover of nature and was often wandering through the woods.

He has written many poems for children. 'To The Cuckoo' reminds him of the days when as a schoolboy he used to visit forest woods to seek it. In this poem, the poet admires the voice of a bird. The poet is happy about hearing the voice of cuckoo and asks it to call a bird or wandering voice because he had only heard the voice but not the bird. Lying on the grass, he hears the double rising and subsiding sound that seems to be passing from hill to hill

Though the voice is quick but reminds the poet of the days when he used to seek it in woods. The poet welcomes the bird and considers it as a darling of spring. The poet says that this voice is a mystery for him as he used to listen to this voice when he was a schoolboy and has never seen the bird. In his schoolboy days, this voice made him look for the bird everywhere especially in bushes, trees, and sky. To seek this bird, he often used to wander through woods, and on the grass. The poet had a hope to see the bird. He travelled a long distance but failed to see the bird.

Now the poet hears the same voice again and wishes the childhood days to come again so that he can search the bird through woods. The poet asks the bird that it has been is not good for us.

Understanding the Poem

Q1. How does the cuckoo's voice charm the poet?

Ans. The cuckoo's voice makes the poet very happy. He rejoices when he listens the sweet voice of the bird because it reminds him of the days of his childhood.

Q2. Why does the poet call cuckoo voice 'and of the spring'?

Ans. The poet calls the cuckoo as a wandering voice because he had not seen the bird but only the voice through the woods, trees, grass, and throughout the whole valley. He calls the cuckoo as the darling of the spring because the birds and its voice is visible only in the coming of the spring season.

Q3. Which childhood experiences does the poet describe in stanzas five and six?

Ans. In stanzas five and six the poet describes the experiences of schoolboy days

when he listens to the voice which he looks a thousand ways In bush, tree, and sky. He used to seek the birds through woods and on the grass. He liked and loved the voice and had hope, for that he could travel long distances.

Q4. What does 'golden time' refer to?

Ans. Golden time refers to the poet's childhood days or it may be the time when the poet finds the bird whose voice makes him happy and reminds his schoolboy days.

Q5. Who is personified in the poem?

Ans. The whole poem is about the cuckoo and its voice. So, we can say that the cuckoo bird is personified in the poem.

Q6. What is the rhyme scheme of the poem?

Ans. The poem has a good rhyming scheme, as usual, we see in other poems of Wordsworth. The poem has an 'abab' rhyming scheme.

Q7. What imagery does Wordsworth use to portray the Beauty of nature in the poem?

Ans. The whole poem is naturally portrayed. The imagery of the cuckoo, its voice, the green grass, hill, sunshine, flowers, spring, woods, bushes, trees, sky, plain, etc. shows and reminds us about the beauty of nature.