



INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



Subject : English

Topic : NOT MARBLE, NOR
THE GILDED MONUMENTS

Worksheet No. :9

Date : _____

Name of the Student : _____ Class & Division : _____ Roll Number : _____

S.No. Read the following extracts and answer the questions. Marks

1. *“Not marble, nor the gilded monuments of princes, shall outlive this powerful rhyme”* 4

(a) What are gilded monuments?

Ans : The monuments that are decorated and embellished with gold.

(b) What purpose do the monuments serve?

Ans : They are symbols of power and riches to remember the dead and the mighty.

(c) What will powerful rhyme achieve?

Ans : The powerful rhyme will immortalise the person in whose memory it is written.

(d) Name the poetic device that is used?

Ans: Hyperbole- ‘shall outlive this powerful rhyme ‘, the poet has exaggerated the importance of rhyme.

2. *“But you shall shine more brightly in these contents Than unswept stone, besmeared with sluttish time”* 4

(a) Identify ‘you’

Ans : The subject of the poet’s poem (it is not clearly indicated)

(b) Explain – “sluttish time”

Ans : Time is known to bring great changes. Similarly, the beauty of a slut also undergoes changes.

(c) Who shall shine more brightly?

Ans : The subject of the poet’s poem will be remembered forever and its worth will not diminish with the passage of time.

(d) Name the poetic device that is used?

Ans: Personification- time is personified.

3. *“Nor Mars his sword nor war’s quick fire shall burn The living record of your memory.”* 4

(a) Who is ‘Mars’?

Ans : In Greek mythology, he is the ‘god of war’.

(b) How will ‘living record’ survive the test of time?

Ans : The written words of the poet will never be destroyed by nature or time.

(c) How are other things destroyed with time?

Ans : Other things, like monuments, statues will be destroyed by nature-made or man-made disasters or war.

(d) Name the poetic device that is used in the first line?

Ans: Personification- Mars is personified.

4. *“Shall you pace forth, your praise shall find room
Even in the eyes of all posterity
That wear this world out to the ending doom”* 4
- (a) What will happen to the praise of the poet’s friend?
Ans : The poet’s friend will be remembered even by the coming generations.
- (b) What is the future of the world predicted?
Ans : The physical world is doomed, it will be destroyed.
- (c) What do the above lines reflect about the poet’s personality?
Ans : The poet is too concerned and loves his friend too much.
- (d) Name the poem and the poet.
Ans: Not marble nor gilded monuments by William Shakespeare.

5. *“So till the judgement, that yourself arise
You live in this and dwell in lover’s eyes”* 4
- (a) What is ‘judgement’? Who delivers it?
Ans : Judgement Day or Doomsday is when everyone is rewarded or punished for their deeds by God.
- (b) Who will survive? How?
Ans : All else will be destroyed but poet’s love for his friend will survive.
- (c) Explain — “dwell in lover’s eyes”.
Ans : Poet’s love for his friend will survive because it will live on in the eyes of the lovers.
- (c) What does the ending couplet emphasize?
Ans: The ending couplet is a summary of the survival theme of the sonnet.

Short answer questions (30-40 words)

- (a) How does the poet compare ‘gilded monuments’ with ‘powerful rhyme’? 2
Ans : Both gilded ‘monuments’ and ‘rhyme’ are for someone’s memory. But all kinds of monuments will never stand the test of time, they all will be destroyed with time. But the poet’s love for his friend will survive and be immortalised.
- (b) What happens to monuments with time? 2
Ans : The monuments are erected to honour someone or to show one’s wealth or power. Any man-made disaster like war or natural calamities can destroy these physical signs of memory. They can be razed to the ground.
- (c) Explain – “Nor Mars his sword nor wars’ quick fire shall burn the living record of your memory.” 2
Ans : The poet says that no kind of wars and even the God of war with his powerful sword can ever destroy the poems the poet has written for his friend. He means to say that written words are immortal and cannot be destroyed by anyone.

- (e) How will 'posterity' react to the verses that are written? 2
 Ans : 'Posterity' means 'coming generations'. Writing is a permanent record of memory. Since the poems written for the poet's friend will live forever, so future generations will remember and admire them.
- (f) Explain – "You live in this, and dwell in lover's eyes" 2
 Ans : The poet's friend will live forever for he is immortalised in the verses written by the poet. Everything else will perish. But the poet's love for his friend will not perish, it will live in the eyes of the lovers forever.
- (g) Explain in your words how his 'poetry' has been glorified by the poet, in the poem, 'Not Marble, Nor the Gilded Monuments.' 2
 Ans : In the very beginning of the poem, the poet talks about how time will not destroy the poem, though it will destroy the world's most powerful structures. He glorifies his poetry by saying that all the marble or gold plated monuments of the princes will get destroyed but the magnificence his poetry will live. The subject of poetry will remain bright and will shine forever in comparison to a neglected stone monument which is spoilt with time.

LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS(100-120 words)

- i) How is Time personified in the poem? What purpose does it serve? 8
 Ans : Time is a great leveler. It destroys everything like the monuments or statues. All the magnificent structures of the world will be razed to the ground. Then 'time is personified as a slut which is an unfavourable comparison. Just as a slut's beauty changes with time, similarly, time also changes everything. A slut's physical beauty does not last, nor does her attractions. Similarly time changes all relations or equations that one forges in life.
- ii) What is the poet's message in sonnet 55? 8
 Ans : The poet wishes to communicate that Love is beyond all barriers, whether materialistic or physical. All the other things are doomed for destruction but love will stand the test of time. Since there is no end to love, it will exist forever. Time's cruel knife cuts everything, changes all relations but not love. So the poet's love for his friend will continue strongly even in the face of death and enmity. It will live forever in the eyes of the lovers. So the theme is love and the power of love that outlives all.
- iii) How does the poet declare his rhyme to be powerful? Or What comparisons does the poet draw between the poetry and monuments? 8
 Ans: The poet tells how time will not destroy the powerful rhyme (the poem), though it shall destroy the world's most magnificent structures. He makes comparisons between the poetry and various monuments to show how poetry is stronger than these structures. Neither the precious marble nor the gold-plated monuments meant to be the graves of princes can match the powerful effect of the poem that the poet has written in praise of his young friend. Sluttish time destroys everything. Even the great monuments once carefully preserved are tarnished and

left uncared with the passage of time. But the time will have no sway over the poem that glorifies the young friend in as lines.

- iv) What is the theme of the sonnet 'Not Marble, nor the Gilded Monuments ? 8
- Ans: Shakespeare's sonnet 55 deals with the idea that his friend, his love will be made immortal in these verses, though everything else will be lost through war, "sluttish" time, or other violent forces. Shakespeare considers poetry as superior and the only assurance of immortality in this world. Thus, his theme is that everything will be destroyed and forgotten except the friend, who will be praised forever, because he is immortalized in these lines. This, he proves by comparing his verse with marbled, gilded monuments of the princes. He is glad to declare that these great monuments too have been ravaged by time and are in a state of neglect. But neither time nor any other mode of destruction has reduced the effect of his powerful rhyme' in which his friend has been shining through ages. The poet goes on to say that wars and broils too have done great damage to the great statues and great buildings of architecture. But neither Mars, his sword nor any devastating fire resulting the wars can burn the verses in which the poet has immortalized his friend. His love for his friend is imminent when he ensures that he will be remembered till posterity until the last judgment day. Thus the poet immortalizes his friend forever in his verses.

Assignment:

1. Why do you think the rich and powerful people get monuments and statues erected in their memory? 2