

I hear leaves drinking rain;

I hear **rich** leaves on top

Giving the poor **beneath**

Drop after drop.

'Tis a sweet noise to hear

These green leaves drinking near.

یہ سنتوں کو بارش کا پانی پیتے ہوئے سنا آتا ہے:

میں چوٹی پر مالدار پتوں کی آواز سنا آتا ہوں

نیچے مفلس پتوں تک پہنچاتے ہوئے

قطرہ قطرہ (بارش کا پانی):

کتنا پیارا شور ہے سننے میں یہ

جو سبز پتے بارش کا پانی پی رہے ہیں۔

And when the Sun comes out,

After this rain shall **stop**,

A **wondrous** light will fill

Each dark, round drop;

I hope the Sun shines **bright**;

It will be a lovely **sight**.

اور جب سورج (بادلوں کی اوٹ سے) باہر آئے گا،

بارش تھم جانے کے بعد،

تو یہ حیران کن روشنی سے بھر دے گا

ہر ایک تاریک، گول قطرے کو؛

جیسے امید ہے کہ سورج پوری آب و تاب سے چمکے گا؛

یہ انتہائی خوب صورت منظر ہو گا۔

WORDS	URDU	SYNONYMS	WORDS	URDU	SYNONYMS
bright	روشن	clearly , brilliantly, radiantly	rich	مالدار	wealthy , well-to-do, well-off
stop	رکنا	cease , finish, halt	sight	نظارہ	spectacle , scene, view
beneath	نیچے	under , below, at the bottom	wondrous	حیرت انگیز	wonderful, amazing, awesome

EXPLANATION WITH REFERENCE TO THE CONTEXT**LINES 1-4**

*I hear leaves drinking rain;
I hear rich leaves on top
Giving the poor beneath
Drop after drop;*

(5 Times)

REFERENCE:

These lines have been taken from the poem “The Rain” by W.H. Davies.

CONTEXT:

The audio-visual effect produced by the rain is very pleasing to human senses. The poet believes that the pinching bitter reality of poverty around us is counterbalanced by the regeneration and enrichment which the sunlight brings.

EXPLANATION:

It is raining and the poet hears the melodious sound of rain drops falling on the uppermost leaves. He is captivated by this natural phenomenon. The poet calls the uppermost leaves “rich” as they directly receive the rain. These rich leaves pass water drop after drop to the leaves that are under them. The poet calls the lower-leaves “poor” as they receive the rain indirectly. The poet hears the noise of falling rain drops and feels as if he were listening to some sweet music.

CRITICAL APPRECIATION:

The poet personifies leaves and gives them human characteristics, when he uses the word ‘drinking’ for them. It seems to the poet as though the leaves were sipping and gulping rain drops like human beings. The rhyme scheme in these lines is ABCB

LINES 3-6

*Giving the poor beneath
Drop after drop;
‘Tis a sweet noise to hear
These green leaves drinking near.*

(2 Times)

EXPLANATION:

It is raining and the poet hears the melodious sound of rain drops falling on the uppermost leaves. He is captivated by this natural phenomenon. The poet calls the uppermost leaves “rich” as they directly receive the rain. These rich leaves pass water drop after drop to the leaves that are under them. The poet calls the lower-leaves “poor” as they receive the rain indirectly. The poet hears the noise of falling rain drops and feels as if he were listening to some sweet music. The poet personifies leaves and gives them human characteristics, when he uses the word ‘drinking’ for them. It seems to the poet as though the leaves were sipping and gulping rain drops like human beings. The poet has also used a figure of speech called ‘Oxymoron’ by using the word ‘sweet noise’. In ‘Oxymoron’ apparently contradictory WORDS are combined for a special effect. The noise is a harsh, irregular sound but the poet calls it sweet noise which means melodious sound.

CRITICAL APPRECIATION:

The poet has used oxymoron in the phrase 'sweet noise' by combining two opposite ideas. This oxymoron serves to heighten the auditory impact of the rain on the readers by converting the apparently unpleasant sound into a symphony. The rhyme scheme in these lines is ABCC

LINES 7-12

*And when the Sun comes out,
After the rain shall stop,
A wondrous light will fill
Each dark, round drop;
I hope the Sun shines bright;
It will be a lovely sight.*

(4 Times)

EXPLANATION:

Each and every form of Nature attracts the poet. After it stops raining, the sun will shine brightly that will fill every spot with sparkling light. The dark drops of water will gain sparkle. The round water drops full of sunshine will present a wonderful sight. The poet hopes that the sun will shine brightly and add to the natural beauty. It will be a glorious scene to see light everywhere. Symbolically, these lines show the poet's optimistic approach towards miseries and sorrows. One day, every dark nook and corner will be brightened by the generosity of the sun. These lines are full of optimism.

CRITICAL APPRECIATION:

The visual images like 'the sun', 'round', 'bright' and 'light' balance the impact of rain and sunlight on the landscape. The rhyme scheme in these lines is ABCBDD

TEXTBOOK EXERCISE

Q.1 Write a critical appreciation of the poem?

Critical Appreciation

Ans. The audio-visual effect produced by the rain is very pleasing to human senses. The poet believes that the pinching bitter reality of poverty around us is counterbalanced by the regeneration and enrichment which the sunlight brings. The poet has employed poetic devices like personification and oxymoron in the poem.

Q.2 How can a rainy day be enjoyed?

(7 Times)

Rainy Day can be Enjoyed in Different Ways

Ans. We can enjoy a rainy day in different ways. We can enjoy it by playing outside with our friends. We can go on a rainy day walk. We can sing in the rain or go ahead and get wet. We can cozy up at a café, or find tranquility at some spa. Children can play in the mud. Old people may lie down and let the sound of the rain soothe them. Women can cook special foods on a rainy day.

Q.3 Explain the first stanza with reference to the context.

Ans. For answer, see EXPLANATION WITH REFERENCE TO THE CONTEXT

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM PAST PAPERS

- Q.1** What will happen after the rain stops? (5 Times)
 How does the scenery look after rain? OR (3 Times)
 What happens when the sun shines bright? OR (2 Times)
 How does the sun rise after rain? OR (2 Times)
 How does the sun shine after rain? OR (1 Time)
 What is the scene of the sunshine after rain? (1 Time)

A Lovely Sight after Rain

Ans. A wonderful light will fill each dark raindrop after the rain stops. The poet hopes that the sun will shine brightly and give a fresh and beautiful look to everything. The poet says that it will be a lovely sight and beautiful scenery when the sun rises after the rain. The freshness and brightness will sparkle everything.

- Q.2** What is the symbolic significance of the poem “The Rain”? OR (3 Times)
 Give symbolic importance of the rain in three or four lines. (1 Time)

Every Cloud Has a Silver Lining

Ans. The symbolic significance of the poem “The Rain” is that every cloud has a silver lining. The poem inspires us to be as generous and large-hearted as nature is. The rain stands for purification, regeneration and enrichment. We find optimism in the last lines that promise a bright future ahead after a dark cloudy present.

- Q.3** What is the theme of the poem “The Rain”? OR (4 Times)
 Write the theme of the poem "The Rain"? (1 Time)

A Message of Optimism

Ans. The poem is a depiction of a beautiful rainy scene. The poet enjoys the phenomenon of nature which becomes a source of comfort and pleasure. The poem gives a message of optimism that one day the divine sunshine will drive away the darkness of poverty, misery and deprivation.

- Q.4** What does the word “poor” mean in the poem “The Rain”? (2 Times)

Poor Means Poor People

Ans. The word “poor” in the poem “The Rain” means poor people who do not have direct access to the basic necessities of life. The poet wants to say that rich people should care for poor people as rich leaves care for poor leaves. Nature gives us a lesson of generosity and large-heartedness.

- Q.5** How does the poet feel when he hears the rain falling on the leaves? OR (2 Times)
 Write down the scene of rain described by the poet in "The Rain". OR (1 Time)
 What does the poet of the poem "The Rain" hear? OR (1 Time)
 What are the feelings of the poet standing near the dark leaves? (1 Time)

Enlivened and Fascinated

Ans. The poet feels enlivened and fascinated when he hears the rain falling on the leaves. He hears thirsty leaves drinking rain, and it is soothing and pleasing to hear. He hears rich leaves on top passing rain drops to the poor leaves beneath. The rain noise is sweet because it is rhythmic and melodious.

- Q.6** What does the poet hear in the poem, "The Rain"? (2 Times)

Thirsty Leaves Drinking Rain

Ans. The poet hears thirsty leaves drinking rain water and sharing this blessing with the poor leaves beneath. He enjoys the beautiful rhythm created by the rain drops falling on the leaves of the tree. He calls the sound of the rain a sweet noise as it pleases his aesthetic sense.

- Q.7** What is meant by the rich leaves? OR (1 Time)
 Why does the poet call the upper leaves the rich leaves? OR (1 Time)
 What does the poet mean by "rich leaves"? OR (1 Time)
 Write the symbolic importance of "rich leaves"? (1 Time)

Rich Leaves Stand for Rich People

Ans. The poet calls the upper leaves the rich leaves as they drink rain water directly. Rich leaves also stand for rich people who have direct access to the pleasures and luxuries of life. Rich leaves inspire us to be as caring and generous to poor people as they are to poor leaves.

- Q.8** What kind of feelings does the rain create? (1 Time)

Thrill, Joy and Excitement

Ans. The rain creates feelings of thrill, joy and excitement. We feel fascinated by the beautiful, rhythmic sound of the rain drops. Of all kinds of noise, the only sweet noise is of the rain. The scene of the rain soothes us by its audio-visual effect. It enlivens us and pleases our esthetic sense.

- Q.9** How does the rain water fall on the leaves? OR (1 Time)
 What impression does the sound of rain falling on leaves give to the poet? (1 Time)

Beautifully and Rhythmically

Ans. The rain water falls on the leaves beautifully and rhythmically. It creates a sweet noise. The rain falling on the leaves creates a melodious sound which pleases the poet's esthetic sense. He enjoys the charming sound of rain falling on leaves. He is fascinated by the sweet noise of the rain.

- Q.10** How does rain water fall on poor leaves? OR (1 Time)
How does the rain water drop on poor leaves? (1 Time)

Rain Water does not Fall Directly

Ans. Rain water does not fall on poor leaves directly. Poor leaves receive rain water from rich leaves on top. We get a message of love, care, sympathy and generosity from nature. Rich leaves inspire us to be caring and generous to the less fortunate people.

- Q.11** What is meant by rich and poor leaves? (1 Time)

Rich People and Poor People

Ans. Rich leaves are on top of the tree that have direct access to rain. Poor leaves are beneath the rich leaves, and they do not receive rain directly. Rich leaves also stand for rich people and poor leaves stand for poor people. Nature gives us a message of love, care and generosity.

- Q.12** What is the effect of rain on the poor? (1 Time)

Rain May not be Thrilling and Fascinating

Ans. The effect of rain on the poor may not be as thrilling and fascinating as it is to the rich. The poor are already living in miserable conditions, and the rain may add to their discomfort. The poor may not enjoy the rain and seek pleasure as the rich people do.

TEXTBOOK MCQS

1. **Who was drinking rain?** (1 Time)
(a) a man (c) a bird
(b) the leaves (d) a tree
2. **What was making the noise sweet?**
(a) a guitar (c) a singer
(b) drops of rain (d) trees
3. **When did the sun come out?**
(a) in the morning (c) in the noon
(b) in the clouds (d) when the rain would stop.
4. **The round drops are brightened by** (1 Time)
(a) sunshine (c) colour
(b) moonlight (d) star light

ANSWER KEY

1.	B	2.	B	3.	D	4.	A
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MORE MCQS FOR PRACTICE

1. **Rich leaves on top give drop after drop to _____ leaves beneath.**
 (a) the wealthy (c) the poor
 (b) the fresh (d) the wet
2. **The noise the poet hears is _____.**
 (a) queer (c) unpleasant
 (b) sweet (d) loud
3. **A _____ light will fill each dark, round drop when the sun comes out.**
 (a) sharp (c) wondrous
 (b) dim (d) low
4. **The poet hopes that after the rain the sun will shine and it will be _____.**
 (a) a clear sight (c) a gloomy sight
 (b) a poor sight (d) a lovely sight
5. **Who is the poet of the poem, "The Rain"?**
 (a) W.H. Davies (c) T.S. Eliot
 (b) W.H. Auden (d) Jan Stallworthy

ANSWER KEY

1.	C	2.	B	3.	C	4.	D	5.	A
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SYNONYMS FROM PAST PAPERS

1. **Life is full of care.** (2 Times)
 (a) joy (b) worry (c) fun (d) pleasure
 (a) joy (b) happiness (c) laziness (d) worry
2. **I hope the sun shines bright.** (2 Times)
 (a) bold (b) clearly (c) briefly (d) happily
3. **I hear rich leaves on top.** (1 Time)
 (a) wealthy (b) green (c) dry (d) happy
4. **After this the rain shall stop.** (1 Time)
 (a) stay (b) move (c) cease (d) come
5. **Giving the poor beneath.** (1 Time)
 (a) up (b) close (c) near (d) under
6. **It will be a lovely sight.** (1 Time)
 (a) matter (b) spectacle (c) issue (d) situation

ANSWER KEY

1.	B/D	2.	B	3.	A	4.	C	5.	D	6.	B
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MORE SYNONYMS FOR PRACTICE

1. It's a sweet noise to hear.
(a) melodious sound (c) awful sound
(b) strange noise (d) funny sound
2. And when the sun comes out
(a) vanishes (c) conceals
(b) appears (d) descends
3. A voracious light will fill, each dark, round drop.
(a) odd (c) marvelous
(b) strange (d) awful
4. It will be a lovely sight.
(a) magical (c) peculiar
(b) gorgeous (d) loving
5. Giving the poor beneath
(a) living (c) eccentric
(b) dead (d) deprived

ANSWER KEY

1.	A	2.	B	3.	C	4.	B	5.	D
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