

1(1). What are the things the wind does in the first stanza?

Sol. In the first stanza, the wind seems to be a trouble maker. It breaks the shutters of the windows, scatters the papers all around, throws down the books on the shelf, and tears the pages of the books. The destruction caused by the strong blows of the wind ultimately results in bringing about an intense spell of a downpour.

1(2). Have you seen anybody winnow grain at home or in a paddy field? What is the word in your language for winnowing? What do people use for winnowing? (Give the words in your language, if you know them.)

Sol. Yes, people can often be seen winnowing grains in a paddy field. The word 'winnowing' is known as 'soop' in the Hindi language.

Winnowing is an ancient agricultural method used for separating grains from the chaff. People use a winnowing fan or a winnowing fork (also known as a shovel) in this process.

1(3). What does the poet say the wind god winnows?

Sol. The poet describes the plight of the weak, affected by the strong blows of the wind in relation to the process of winnowing. He describes the situation by stating that the wind God winnows the delicate crumbling houses, doors, rafters, wood, bodies, lives, and hearts which eventually results in their complete destruction.

1(4). What should we do to make friends with the wind?

Sol. The poet suggests that we should build strong houses and fix the doors firmly to make friends with the wind. Moreover, we should be strong enough to face the difficulties in life.

1(5). What do the last four lines of the poem mean to you? (Answer the context of Beehive The Sound of Music)

Sol. In the last four lines of the poem, the poet compares the strong blows of the wind with the adversities of human lives. He attempts at giving a deeper insight into the word 'wind' by inspiring the readers to face the difficulties in the path of life with utmost courage and tenacity. The lines "The wind blows out weak fires. He makes strong fires roar and flourish." reveal a very thought-provoking message in which the poet throws light on the fact that the hardships intimidate the weak and feeble while they make the strongly will powered much more firm and bold. Thus, he suggests embracing the wind or the hardships of life and becoming friends with them.

1(6). How does the poet speak to the wind - in anger or with humour? You must also have seen or heard of the wind **crumbling lives**. What is your response to this? Is it like the poet's?

Sol. The poet speaks to the wind in anger. It is certainly true that wind symbolizes intense devastation of life and property, destroying houses, means of livelihood, trees and causing immense damage to human lives. Yet, I do not agree with poet whole-heartedly as every situation has its pros and cons. If the wind is the cause of damage and destruction, on one hand, it is also the creator of the cool breeze and the soothing effect in the weather.