



Year 9 Poetry 14: The Silent Violin

Read the following poem and answer the questions below:

The Silent Violin

In a dusty corner of a silent room,
Lies a violin wrapped in twilight's gloom,
Its strings are still, its wood turned grey,
A relic of a bygone day.

Once it sang with notes so bright,
Its melodies a dance of light,
But time has claimed its vibrant sound,
Now silence is its only ground.

The bow that rests beside the case,
Holds traces of a bygone grace,
Each stroke a whisper of the past,
A symphony that couldn't last.

Yet in the quiet, soft and deep,
The memories of music sleep,
A haunting echo in the air,
Of moments when the world was fair.

Though it's silent, it still speaks,
To those who listen and who seek,
A story of a song's lost light,
In shadows of the coming night.



Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the main subject of the poem?
 - A) A new musical instrument
 - B) A forgotten violin
 - C) A lively concert
 - D) A musician's performance

2. What does the violin symbolize in the poem?
 - A) Modern music
 - B) Lost beauty and faded memories
 - C) A new beginning
 - D) Everyday sounds

3. How is the violin described in its current state?
 - A) Bright and shiny
 - B) Dusty and silent
 - C) New and vibrant
 - D) Modern and active

4. What literary device is used in "Its melodies a dance of light"?
 - A) Simile
 - B) Metaphor
 - C) Personification
 - D) Hyperbole



5. What does the phrase “A symphony that couldn’t last” represent?
- A) The violin’s future performances
 - B) The fleeting nature of music and time
 - C) The violin’s new opportunities
 - D) The loudness of the music
6. How does the poet convey a sense of nostalgia in the poem?
- A) By focusing on the violin’s current silence
 - B) By reflecting on the violin’s past music and grace
 - C) By describing a new concert hall
 - D) By detailing a musician’s success
7. What does the line “Though it’s silent, it still speaks” suggest about the violin?
- A) It is no longer important
 - B) It continues to hold significance through its memories
 - C) It has been replaced by modern instruments
 - D) It is completely forgotten
8. What mood is evoked by the line “A haunting echo in the air”?
- A) Joyful
 - B) Melancholic
 - C) Excited
 - D) Anxious



9. What role does the bow play in the poem's narrative?

- A) It symbolizes the violin's new sound
- B) It represents the lost grace and memories of the past
- C) It is a modern addition to the violin
- D) It signifies the violin's future potential

10. Which technique is used in "Lies a violin wrapped in twilight's gloom"?

- A) Simile
- B) Alliteration
- C) Metaphor
- D) Hyperbole



Short Answer Questions

1. What is the significance of the violin in the poem?

2. How does the poet use imagery to convey the theme of lost music?

3. What role does the “silent room” play in the poem’s setting?

4. Explain the personification of the violin in the context of the poem.



5. How does the poet contrast the violin's past and present states?

6. Discuss the symbolism of the bow in the poem.

7. What does the phrase "A story of a song's lost light" suggest about the violin's past?

8. How does the poem explore the theme of memory and nostalgia?



9. Describe the mood created by the line "A haunting echo in the air."

10. How does the ending of the poem contribute to its overall theme of lost beauty and memory?



Answer Key

Multiple Choice Answers:

1. B) A forgotten violin
2. B) Lost beauty and faded memories
3. B) Dusty and silent
4. B) Metaphor
5. B) The fleeting nature of music and time
6. B) By reflecting on the violin's past music and grace
7. B) It continues to hold significance through its memories
8. B) Melancholic
9. B) It represents the lost grace and memories of the past
10. C) Metaphor

Short Answer Key:

1. The violin symbolizes lost beauty and faded memories, representing a time when it was actively used and cherished.
2. The poet uses imagery such as "dusty corner" and "twilight's gloom" to convey the theme of lost music and the passage of time.
3. The "silent room" creates a setting of stillness and forgotten memories, emphasizing the contrast between the past and present states of the violin.
4. The violin is personified as having a past grace and a "haunting echo," attributing human-like qualities to its silence and memories.
5. The poet contrasts the violin's vibrant past with its current state of silence and decay, highlighting the impact of time on its beauty.
6. The bow symbolizes the lost grace and musical memories of the violin, connecting it to the past.
7. The phrase "A story of a song's lost light" suggests that the violin's past music was once full of life and beauty but is now faded.
8. The poem explores memory and nostalgia by reflecting on the violin's past music and its current state of silence, evoking a sense of longing.
9. The mood created by "A haunting echo in the air" is melancholic, reflecting on the lingering memories of the violin's music.
10. The ending reinforces the theme of lost beauty and memory by emphasizing that despite the violin's silence, its past significance and beauty remain.



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