



Year 9 Poetry 15: The Forgotten Carousel

Read the following poem and answer the questions below:

The Forgotten Carousel

In an empty park where shadows play,
Stands a carousel, rusted and frayed,
Its colors faded, once so bright,
Now lost in the grip of endless night.

The horses, carved with skillful hands,
Now stand still in their silent bands,
Their eyes once filled with joyful dreams,
Now glazed over, devoid of gleams.

The music box that used to sing,
Lies broken, lost its cheerful ring,
Its melodies now just a hum,
Echoes of what's gone and done.

Yet in the stillness, there's a trace,
Of laughter, joy, and a fleeting grace,
A memory of the rides once taken,
Now only whispers, softly shaken.

Though it's silent, the carousel's past,
Holds a magic that will last,
In the hearts of those who remember,
The joy of each bright December.



Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the main subject of the poem?

- A) A modern amusement park
- B) A forgotten carousel
- C) A lively festival
- D) A bustling city

2. What does the carousel symbolize in the poem?

- A) The thrill of new experiences
- B) The joy of the past and faded memories
- C) The excitement of the present
- D) The chaos of change

3. How is the carousel described in its current state?

- A) Vibrant and cheerful
- B) Rusted and faded
- C) New and colorful
- D) Modern and active

4. What literary device is used in "Its colors faded, once so bright"?

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



5. What does the broken music box represent?
- A) The future of the carousel
 - B) The end of the carousel's joyful sounds
 - C) The new music of the park
 - D) The carousel's new features
6. How does the poet create a sense of nostalgia in the poem?
- A) By focusing on the carousel's current state of decay
 - B) By reflecting on the carousel's past joy and memories
 - C) By describing a new amusement park
 - D) By highlighting the carousel's future potential
7. What does the line "Yet in the stillness, there's a trace" suggest about the carousel?
- A) It is completely forgotten
 - B) It still holds remnants of its past joy and magic
 - C) It has been replaced by a new attraction
 - D) It is not remembered by anyone
8. What mood is evoked by the line "Echoes of what's gone and done"?
- A) Joyful
 - B) Melancholic
 - C) Anxious
 - D) Excited



9. What role do the horses play in the poem's narrative?

- A) They symbolize the carousel's current vibrancy
- B) They represent the joy and dreams of the past
- C) They are new additions to the park
- D) They signify the carousel's future

10. Which technique is used in "In the hearts of those who remember"?

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



Short Answer Questions

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

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

3. What role does the broken music box play in the poem's narrative?

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



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

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

7. What does the phrase "A memory of the rides once taken" suggest about the carousel?

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



9. Describe the mood created by the line “The joy of each bright December.”

10. How does the ending of the poem contribute to its overall theme of remembrance and enduring magic?



Answer Key

Multiple Choice Answers:

1. B) A forgotten carousel
2. B) The joy of the past and faded memories
3. B) Rusted and faded
4. B) Metaphor
5. B) The end of the carousel's joyful sounds
6. B) By reflecting on the carousel's past joy and memories
7. B) It still holds remnants of its past joy and magic
8. B) Melancholic
9. B) They represent the joy and dreams of the past
10. B) Alliteration

Short Answer Key:

1. The carousel symbolizes the joy of the past and faded memories, reflecting on its former vibrancy contrasted with its current state of decay.
2. The poet uses imagery such as "rusted and frayed" and "The music box that used to sing" to convey the theme of lost joy and the passage of time.
3. The broken music box represents the end of the carousel's joyful sounds, emphasizing the loss of its former cheerfulness.
4. The carousel is personified as holding remnants of its past joy and magic, giving it human-like qualities and a sense of lingering significance.
5. The poet contrasts the carousel's vibrant past with its present state of decay, highlighting the impact of time and abandonment.
6. The horses symbolize the joyful dreams and memories associated with the carousel, representing its past experiences.
7. The phrase "A memory of the rides once taken" suggests that the carousel's past joy and experiences are now just memories.
8. The poem explores nostalgia and memory by reflecting on the carousel's past joy and its current state of decay, evoking a sense of longing.
9. The mood created by "The joy of each bright December" is one of warmth and reminiscence, emphasizing the enduring significance of the carousel's past.
10. The ending reinforces the theme of remembrance and enduring magic by affirming that despite its current silence, the carousel's past joy remains significant in the hearts of those who remember.



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