

St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

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Session: 2024-2025- Notes

Class: X

Subject: English

Topic: Poem - For Anne Gregory

Answer the following questions:

Q1. What does the young man mean by "great honey-coloured/Ramparts at your ear?" Why does he say that young men are "thrown into despair' by them?"

Ans. "Great honey-coloured/Ramparts at your ear", refers to the thick locks of hair that fall over her ears and protect them like 'ramparts' which means the same as defensive walls. Upon seeing the beautiful honey coloured hair, the boys would be distracted so severely that they would be thrown into despair,

Q2. What colour is the young woman's hair? What does she say she can change it to? Why would she want to do so?

Ans. The colour of the young woman's hair is yellow. She says that she can dye it 'brown, black or carrot'. She would want to do, so that her lover must love her internally, not physically.

Q3. What is the central idea of the poem, 'For Anne Gregory'?

Ans. The poem conveys the idea that physical beauty may be important for young men or human beings, but God does not love human beings for their physical beauty, in this poem, the poet gives an example of a lover who loves the yellow hair of a young lady and is fascinated by the way it stands as ramparts around her ear. He loves her for what she looks like, but the girl wants to be loved for what she is.

Q4. Evaluate the poem in the context of the given quote.

"If only our eyes saw souls instead of bodies, how very different our ideals of beauty would be."

Ans. The poet shares that God loves us unconditionally, for who we are and not our appearances. This quote states that if humans had the ability to look beyond physical appearances, the concept of beauty would have been entirely different. Only God has the ability to resist outward physical temptations. Human beings, without God's strength, can't look beyond physical beauty.

Q5. The advice given by elders is crucial to young lives. Explain in the context of the poem "For Anne Gregory'.

Ans. Anne is in her young age. The poet, being an elder, advises her about the concept of love. He also resolves the conflict Anne had in her mind. Quoting a religious text, he makes her understand that only God has the ability to withstand the temptations of physical beauty.



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