

St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

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Session: 2024-2025 - NOTES

Class: VII

Subject: English Literature

Topic: People Equal

B) RTS:

- a) The phrase 'a hilltop is too far' indicates that what one person perceives as an achievable goal or aspiration may seem unattainable or too distant for another.
- b) The poet portrays two individuals with contrasting life goals: one aims high, while the other sets a more modest goal compared to reaching for a star.
- c) The poet suggests that despite having different aims or aspirations, both individuals are equal in their worth and dignity. Their aspirations do not affect their right and value as equal human beings.

C. Question / Answers:

1. The repetition in the poem is the phrase 'Yet-people equal. Equal' which appears at the end of each stanza. This repetition serves to reinforce the central theme of equality despite differences. The poet stresses on the idea that regardless of individual traits or circumstances, all people are inherently equal and deserve respect.
2. By likening people to tomatoes with varying levels of sweetness, the poet highlights the diversity among individuals. The phrase 'non-sugar tomato' illustrates the diversity among people. Just as some tomatoes are sweet while others are not, some people may have a pleasant, charming, agreeable voice or perspective, whereas others may have more straightforward, less embellished voice or manner of expression.
3. The poem uses 'show' to symbolize the active participation of some people in the journey of life, akin to performers confidently presenting themselves. Conversely, 'never get on the go' refers to those who might be reluctant or slow to start, perhaps due to reservation or uncertainty.
It's a contrast between those who take charge of their life's narrative and those who may be more passive.
4. The poet argues for people's equality by highlighting various differences among individuals, such as height, abilities, ambitions, and personalities, yet consistently reaffirming their equality through the repeated phrase "Yet-people equal. Equal." Despite these differences, the poet asserts that all people are equal in their humanity and worth. By showcasing diverse perspectives and experiences, the poet wants us to accept the richness of human diversity.