St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

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Session: 2026- 2027

NOTES

Class - VIII Subject - English Topic - You are Old, Father William (Poem)

Q1. RTS-

1.
(a) The father in his youth feared that constantly standing on his head would injure the brain.

(b) No, the fear was not justified. In fact, the father was sure that he had no brain, so injuring it was out of the question.

(c) 'It' refers to the action of standing constantly on his head.

2.
(a) Four.

(b) 'Airs' means showy.

Q2. Answer the following questions briefly -

1. The young man is trying to say that his father has grown old.

2. The father dislikes his son's criticism of standing on his head and tells him to go away or he would be kicked down stairs. The father thinks that the questions put up by the son are a waste of time.

3. The old man can constantly stand on his head. He can turn a back somersault in at the door. He can eat a goose with the bones and beak and balance an eel on the end of his nose.

4. The father argued each case with his wife, which strengthened his jaw muscles.

5. The father stopped answering the questions because he felt irritated and thought the questions were a waste of time.

6. Father William is a humorous and disciplined character. He breaks the age-old stereotype that in old age we cannot do certain things because they would harm the body. The old man patiently hears his son and is mature enough to answer the questions of the young man.

Father William is not only happy but also healthy in his old age. He is a little eccentric and loves doing the same things he did in his youth.