

**St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School**  
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**Session 2024-2025 Notes**

**Class: IX**

**Topic: The Brook**

**Subject: English**

**Q1. Describe the various things a brook travels past to join the river.**

Ans. The brook emerges from the mountaintop where coots and herons live and flows down the hills and across valleys to empty into the river. It bubbles with energy as it flows down the hill side making a lot of noise.

As it passes through different landforms, like forests, fields that are either fertile or fallow, grassy lawns and flower- filled gardens with forget-me-nots and hazel trees, it slows down considerably. It does not follow a straight path but meanders on around rocks and boulders without letting anything stop its path. Thus it continues to flow from its source to the river eternally.

**Q2. When does the sound of the brook resemble a "chatter", a "babble" and a "murmur"?**

Ans. As the brook passes over small and large stones, it makes a series of high-pitched sounds like monkeys do. Hence it has been called chatter.

When the brook passes over pebbles and stones, it makes a lot of noise. It seems as if it were babbling or talking gaily.

When the brook reaches the end of its journey the speed slows down considerably and the sound resembles a "murmur".

**Q3. Explain the lines "For men may come and men may go but I go on forever."**

Ans: These lines highlight the eternal nature of the brook which continues to flow year after year from its source to the river without fail. It expresses the fact that though men die and others are born, the brook is immortal. Therefore, these lines highlight the short-lived quality of human life as compared to nature which is eternal.

**Q4. How does the poet use the brook to draw a parallel with the life of a man?**

Ans. This is a poem that traces the life of a brook or a small stream as it emerges from the mountaintop and flows down the hills and across valleys to empty into the river. On a deeper

level, the poet uses the brook to draw a parallel with the life of a man. Like the brook, man is energetic, lively and moves swiftly when he is young but slows down later on in life just like the brook does before it reaches the river.

**Q5. What does the poet mean by the line-'I Make the netted sunbeam dance'?**

Ans. In the morning, the sun's rays fall on the flowing water of the brook. The rays pass through the trees and appear to be 'netted'. The rays are then reflected here and there due to the rippling water of the brook and hence they seem to 'dance'.