

St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

9th Avenue, I.P. Extension, Patparganj, Delhi – 110092

Session: 2026-2027 - Notes

Class -IX

Subject - English.

Topic: Canvas Of Soil (Poem)

Answer the following questions :

Q1.How does the metaphor 'Brushstrokes of seeds', enhance the understanding of gardening as an art form?

Answer: It shows that planting seeds is like painting, and gardening needs creativity and care just like art.

Q2.What can you infer about the poet's perspective on the relationship between nature and creativity from the following lines? 'Each plot, a canvas wide,/Where art and life coincide.'

Answer: The poet believes that nature and creativity work together, and gardening is where art and life meet.

Question 3.Do you think the imagery in the poem successfully paints a vivid picture in the reader's mind? If yes, why? If no, why not?

Answer: Yes, because the poet uses colour words and painting imagery like palette, canvas, brushstrokes and blossoms, which create a clear picture of a colourful garden.

Question 4. Support the view that the poet's mention of the colour yellow, besides red, blue and green, would have lent effectively to the imagery.

Answer: Yes, yellow would have added brightness and warmth, making the picture of the garden more lively and cheerful.

Question 5. Considering the line 'Gardens become paintings still', what can you interpret about the poet's view on the timelessness of nature's beauty?

Answer: It suggests that nature's beauty looks timeless and peaceful, like a still painting that can be admired forever.

Answer the following questions in detail:

1. Justify the title of the poem, 'Canvas of Soil'.

Answer. Canvas' is the artist's surface - blank ground ready to be filled with colour and meaning, signalling the poem will treat the garden as art. • 'Soil' is the gardener's surface - humble. organic, and life-giving, sustaining everything in a garden. • The combination declares from the title that soil is the canvas - the earth is the surface on which nature paints its masterpieces and gardeners exercise their creative art. • It captures the poem's deeper meaning: boundaries between art and nature dissolve in the garden - soil is not mere land but a creative medium of infinite possibility.

2. Considering the line 'Gardens become paintings still', what can you interpret about the poet's view on the timelessness of nature's beauty?

Ans: The line carries two complementary meanings:

1. 'Still' as 'even now' (adverb): Gardens

continue to become paintings today - nature's creative cycle is unchanged even in the modern world,.

2. 'Still' as 'motionless' (adjective):

Gardens become still-life paintings - so perfectly composed at any moment that they are already finished works of art.

Together, these convey that nature's beauty is both eternal and instantaneous - a self-renewing masterpiece that has always already been art.