

# Class Notes

**Class: VIII**

**Topic: Poem 1. Travel**

**-By Robert Louis Stevenson**

**Subject: ENGLISH**

C. Answer these questions in 80-100 words:

1. Describe how the speaker's imagination is vividly brought out in the description of the places he wishes to visit. (To be written in notebook of English)

Ans: The speaker gives a vivid description of the places that he wishes to visit. Some places described by the speaker are real while some are products of his imagination. The Parrot islands are anchored under another sky, the apples that grow are golden and lonely Crusoes are watched by cockatoos and goats. The Eastern cities stretch for miles in the sunshine and their gardens are sandy. The bazaar is full of goods from far and near, the cities on the other side of the desert have forests that are hot as fire, wide as England and tall as spire. They abound in apes and cocoa-nuts and hunters hut. The knotty crocodile lies blinking, watching the flamingo fly after hunting fish before his eyes. There are jungles full of man-eating tigers who are always watchful. Then the speaker describes a deserted city amidst sandy desert devoid of its inhabitants. He describes a world of imagination where he would travel to a city with the camel caravan exploring the houses that have pictures of heroes, fights and festivals on their walls. Finally he imagines looking at the toys of the Egyptian children who have left the city long back.

2. Write a short note on any one thing about the poem that you like most. You may choose words, phrases or lines from the poem to support your description. (To be written in notebook)

Ans: All reasonable answers will be accepted.

3. Write the critical appreciation of the poem 'Travel'.  
(Only for reference. No need to write it in notebook)

Ans: This poem was part of Robert Louis Stevenson's collection of poems called A Child's Garden of Verses. Like many poems in the collection, "Travel" is written in the voice of a child, probably a boy. In this poem, the boy imagines being able to travel to faraway places, some real, some fictional. Another fictional land the boy would like to visit is the desert island where Robinson Crusoe, hero of Defoe's novel, lived. The boy then mentions an Eastern city and China's great wall. He also describes scenes from Egypt and Africa. The last sixteen lines of the poem discuss an imaginary site of an ancient city, now empty, lying in the desert sands of Egypt. The boy describes a deserted city. During the day, no footstep is heard in the city, and at night no lamps are lit. The boy imagines that he will visit this site when he is a man. He will hire a caravan of camels and journey there. Upon his arrival, he will sit down in one of the homes and light a fire in its dining room. He will observe the paintings on the walls and find in a corner a collection of toys that the Egyptian boys left behind. The rhyme scheme of the poem is 'aabb'. The poet has used a number of figures of speech. Alliteration has been used in the second, sixth and ninth line of the poem. Vivid description of places are presented through imagery by the poet, especially, where he describes the Eastern cities with mosque and minarets. Simile has been used to compare the forests with fire, its width with England and its length with spire.

|  |
|--|
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |