



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where Leaders Learn

E-Learning for Previously Disadvantaged Schools

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Sustainable:

- easy for teachers to create interactive lessons

Intuitive:

- simple content navigation
- fluid user interface
- modular lesson structure

Interactive:

- questions with instant feedback
- multimedia

Grade 12 English Poetry

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Home Language

To Autumn

An Irish Airman Foresees His Death
Ozymandias
Preludes
Sonnet 104
you cannot know the fears i have

First Additional Language

Lessons on this poem

Exploring To Autumn

Exploring To Autumn

Context: Keats the Romantic

Romanticism refers to the artistic period between 1780 and 1850, when people began to search for new ways of viewing and expressing life. This movement was a reaction to the orderly, rational and structured ways of thinking which characterized the 18th century. It was also a reaction to the industrial revolution which brought people from the country into the cities. Romantic poets like Wordsworth and Coleridge, and later Keats, Blake and Shelley, believed that urban life was detrimental to the human spirit, and their poetry reflects a desire to reconnect with the natural world.

Typical Romantic characteristics are:

- A concern with nature
- An awareness of the transience of life
- A sense of impending change
- A focus on feeling, emotion and passion over rationality
- An emphasis on sensual imagery

Question: Say which of the following extracts from the poem demonstrates an awareness of the transience of life, which is a typical feature of Romantic poetry.
(select the correct answer)

This line refers to the figure of autumn and has no reference to the transience of life or the coming of night or winter.

Multimedia

Images

To Autumn
By John Keats

I
1 | Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
2 | Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
3 | Conspiring with him how to load and bless
4 | With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run;
5 | To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,
6 | And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
7 | To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
8 | With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
9 | And still more, later flowers for the bees,
10 | Until they think warm days will never cease,
11 | For summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells.

II
12 | Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?
13 | Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
14 | Thee sitting on a granary floor,

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