

Poem – 4 - Ozymendias

Short Answer Type:-

1. What is ironic about the inscription on the pedestal of 'Ozymendias' statue?
2. What quality of King Ozymendias does the poem reflect?
3. What did Ozymendias expect from his future generations? Was his hope fulfilled?
4. What did traveller see in the desert?
5. How does the poet present the overpowering nature of prosperity upon glory?
6. Whose hands mocked and whose heart fed?
7. How does the sculptor appear to be more deserving to claim " I am king of kings; look on my works , ye Mighty, and despair?
8. How does the poem convey the briefness of human life?
9. What does the dilapidated state of the statue suggest?
10. Ozymendias' boast could never be justified. Explain.

Long Answer Type (Value Based):-

1. People with might and power are not always respected. What should be the qualities in a person that will gain him respect amongst his people?
2. The poem 'Ozymendias' highlights the vanity of human story of power. Elaborate.
3. Bring out the central idea of the poem 'Ozymendias' in your own words.
4. What remained of the 'Shattered statue'?
5. 'Ozymendias' is a poem on the conceit of those in power. Does the current political and bureaucratic scenario also practice such attempts?

Extract based:-

1. "I met a traveller from an antique land
Who said: Two vast and trunkless legs of stone

Stand in desert. Near them, on the sand, Half
Sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown.”

- (a) Where was the traveller coming from?
- (b) What had happened to the statue?
- (c) What does the ‘visage’ mean?
- (d) Who does ‘I’ represent?

2. “And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked, them and the heart that fed;”
- (a) What do ‘lifeless’ things mean?
 - (b) How do we know that he was a good sculptor?
 - (c) How did the heart feed the passions?
 - (d) Whose ‘hand’ and ‘heart’ are referred to here?

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