

Upon Westminster Bridge.

* While going to France, Wordsworth, on his way from London to Dover, stopped his horse carriage on Westminster Bridge and wrote this poem.

Composed upon Westminster Bridge is a Petrarchan or Italian sonnet, with the first eight lines, the octave, being observation, and the last six lines, the sestet, the conclusion.

ANALYSIS :- This poem is Wordsworth's dedication to the capital of England, the city of London. This is a whole new view of a great city before it has properly woken up. The speaker is adamant that a person would have to be dull of soul not to be affected by such a moving and majestic scene.

The metropolis comes alive in the following line - it wears the morning, a calm personified giant.

But this is a city of dream-like quality, as yet unpeopled, set in fresh light, at ease with fields and sky, not yet subject to the smoke of the chimney stacks or the smog of industry.

The poet could be forgiven for thinking that this is not London he's looking at but some other natural habitat, perhaps a mountain or a series of lightly lit cliffs and rocks.

He is clear in his heart and mind. He's never felt so calm. Perhaps we've all experienced similar feelings when waking up really early in some great city, and venturing out to take

in that special atmosphere, where there's no one around at all and the streets are deserted.

So in conclusion, beyond reality lies the romantic, be it a city turned into a natural phenomenon as in this sonnet, coated some mighty say, in too sweet a layer of wonder.

Rhyme scheme :- abbaabba cdcdcd

Simile :- This city now doth, like a garment, wear

Personification :- personifies city of London, wearing a new garment.

river Thames has been personified as one who is gliding on his own free will and the houses of London as people who are fast asleep.

I Choose the correct option :-

1. 'Upon Westminster Bridge' describes the city of

a) Kolkata b) Liverpool c) New York d) London (✓)

2. The poem describes the city viewed from Westminster Bridge

a) in the early morning (✓) b) at noon
c) in a moonlit night d) in the evening