

Chapter Review

- "For Anne Gregory" is a poem by W. B. Yeats. It is a conversation between a young man and a young woman, Anne Gregory.
- The young man says that young men are driven to despair by the great honey-coloured ramparts (heavy, beautiful yellow hair) at her ear. They can never love her for herself, only for her hair.
- Anne replies that she can change her hair colour: she can dye it black, brown or carrot-coloured, and then young men will love her for herself.
- The speaker answers that he heard a man say, 'God alone could love you for yourself and not for your yellow hair.'
- The message: real love is not for outer beauty, but for the person within. Only God's love is unconditional.
- The poem is short, with clear rhymes and a calm tone.

Key Terms

Ramparts – Walls built for defence; here, thick waves of hair.

Honey-coloured – Yellow-brown like honey.

Despair – Loss of all hope.

Dye – To change the colour of something.

Superficial – Only on the surface.

Unconditional – Without any condition.

Beauty – The quality that pleases the eye.

Inner self – One's true nature.

Diagrams / Flowcharts

Outer Beauty vs Inner Self

Outer Beauty

- Honey-coloured hair
- Can be changed (dye)
- Attracts young men
- Not lasting

Inner Self

- Soul and nature
- Cannot be changed by dye
- Loved only by God truly
- Real and lasting

Poem at a Glance

Young man praises her hair



Men are in despair



Anne: I can dye my hair



So that men love me for myself



Only God can love for yourself

About the Poet

- William Butler Yeats (1865-1939) was an Irish poet and Nobel Prize winner (1923). He wrote about love, beauty and Irish culture.

Poetic Devices

- Metaphor: 'ramparts at your ear' compares hair to defensive walls.
- Dialogue: the poem is a conversation between the young man and Anne.
- Rhyme: a b a b pattern in quatrains.
- Irony: she changes her hair to prove that real love needs no beauty.

- Imagery: honey-coloured hair and dyed shades (black, brown, carrot).

Theme / Message

- Love should be for the person, not for looks or riches.
- Outer appearance can be changed, but character and soul cannot.

Textbook Exercise Questions

Q.1 What does the young man mean by "great honey-coloured ramparts at your ear"? Why are young men 'thrown into despair'?

Ans. He means Anne's beautiful yellow hair falling behind her ear like a wall. Young men fall hopelessly in love with it, but they cannot truly have her, so they despair.

Q.2 What colour is the young woman's hair? What does she say she can change it to? Why?

Ans. Her hair is honey-yellow. She says she can dye it black, brown or carrot-coloured. She wants young men to look past her external beauty and love her for her inner self.

Q.3 Objects have qualities that make them desirable. What qualities make one object more desirable than another?

Ans. Car: colour, speed, fuel efficiency, brand. Dress: pattern, colour, material, fit. Phone: technology, memory, user-friendliness, price. While selling, we emphasise the qualities in which the object is better than others.

Q.4 Do we love others because of their qualities, or can we love 'for themselves alone'?

Ans. We often love people for qualities, but some love is unconditional: a parent's love for a child, a pet's love, or true friendship. A parent loves a

child, whether clever or challenged, for the child's own sake. Public love for stars is admiration for achievements.

Q.5 Can the person be separated from looks, sounds and walk? How have you or a friend changed and has your relationship changed?

Ans. Sample: People change with age, but good relationships continue. We should value a person's character and nature, not just appearance, and accept them as they are.

Board Exam Questions (Important)

Q.1 What is the central idea of the poem? (4 lines)

Ans. The poem says that true love is for the person, not for beauty. Anne can change her looks, but she wants to be loved for her real self. Only God, says the poem, loves a person for herself alone.

Q.2 Reference to context: "But I can get a hair-dye and set such colour there, Brown, or black, or carrot." (a) Who says this? (b) Why?

Ans. (a) Anne Gregory. (b) She wants to show that hair colour is changeable and external. She wants to be loved for herself.

Q.3 What does the last stanza say?

Ans. The last stanza says that only God can love a person for herself and not for her yellow hair. Human beings usually love for appearance.

Q.4 Value-based: Should we judge people by looks?

Ans. No. We should value kindness, honesty and character. Looks change, but good qualities remain.