



## WIND

**Central Idea of the Poem.**

This poem is derived from the poet's observation and devotion. He sees the effects of the wind in general and of the stormy weather. He also praises the wind god. We are able to appreciate the keenness of the poet's vision, and his unique thought process about something as apparently simple as the wind. The poet suggests everyone to be physically and mentally strong. Wind is the symbol of difficulties or obstacles humans have to face for their survival.

**EXPLANATION.****Stanza - 1**

Wind, come softly,

Don't break the shutters of the windows.

Don't scatter the papers.

Don't throw down the books on the shelf.

The poet requests the wind not to blow so violently that it breaks down shutters of the windows, as they separate man from the stormy environment outside. So he is asking the wind for protection. He also asks the wind not to scatter the papers in his room, or to throw down the books from his bookshelves with its force.

**Stanza - 2.**

These, look what you did - you threw them all down -  
You tore the pages of the books.



### You brought the rain again

Here the poet accuses the wind of blowing too strongly and creating a mess in his room with the books thrown down from the shelves and their pages torn. He sees outside and tells the wind that it has brought rain with it again.

### Stanza 3

You're very clever at poking fun at weaklings:  
Frail crumbling houses, crumbling door, crumbling rafters,  
Crumbling wood, crumbling bodies, crumbling lives, crumbling hearts—

The wind goes windows and crushes them all.

Now the poet speaks in a subdued tone to the wind, saying it makes mischief whenever it encounters anyone who is too meek and mild to protest against its actions. It tears down windows and doors, leaving people without shelter from the harsh world outside. This implies to the troubles we face in life suddenly and also leave suddenly. Difficulties in life can lead to a loss of hope as well as loss of life.

### Stanza - 4.

He won't do what you tell him.

So, come, let's build strong homes,

Let's join the doors firmly.

Practise to firm the body.

Make a heart steadfast.

Do this, and the wind will be friends with us.

The poet now says that the wind does not listen to anybody and its actions are governed by it alone. To escape its harmful effects, we must build strong homes



and ensure that their doors cannot be easily penetrated by the wind. We must train our bodies and our hearts to combat and face the ill-effects of the wind. If we are able to do this, then we will no longer consider the wind an enemy. This means that if we make our character strong, we will be able to combat any troubles easily. If our character is weak, the troubles will create problems for us.

### Stanza - 5

The wind blows out weak fires.  
He makes strong fires roar and flourish.  
His friendship is good.  
We praise him everyday.

Here the poet describes how the wind has both bad and good effects. The bad effect is that it can blow out a weak fire, but if the fire is burning strongly then the wind will make it burn fiercer. The poet comes to the conclusion that if we are strong, then the wind is a good friend for us to have, as it will increase our strength. This means that all troubles that we face in life will strengthen us if our characters are strong. He also says that we should sing our devotion to the wind god on a daily basis - meaning we should happily face any troubles in our lives.

P.T.O. →



Answer the following questions.

1. What does the poet say the wind god winnows?

Ans The poet says that the wind destroys weak houses, everything at home, weak bodies, weak hearts and even takes lives of those that are weak.

2. What should we do to make friends with the wind?

Ans As the wind favours the strong, we should build strong houses with sturdy doors, make our bodies and hearts strong to make friends with the wind.

3. What do the last four lines of the poem mean to you?

Ans The last four lines convey the message that only strong people, both physically and mentally, are able to withstand the troubles that come in their way in life, not only this, these make them stronger. On the other hand, weak people are swept away and defeated.

4. Who all are disturbed by the blowing of the wind and who are not?

Ans All people who are physically weak and mentally not determined are disturbed by the blowing of the wind. Self-confident and strong people do not get disturbed by the wind blowing.

5. How does the wind cause rain?

Ans The wind blows violently, so that it appears as if a storm is coming. It brings clouds from distant places. As a result it causes rain.

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