Class X

English literature (Poem)

<u>Sea Fever</u>

Summary of the poem:

In the poem 'Sea Fever' by John Masefield, the poet yearns to return to the sea. He cannot avoid the irresistible call of the sea, the adventure, exploration and independent living associated with the sea voyage. It signifies the joy and excitement man achieves from travelling. The poet expresses his wish for a strong ship to sail, the North Star to guide him and strong winds for an easy journey. He wants to see the foamy waves, listen to the cry of sea gulls and the company of a jovial fellow sailor. After the voyage, he wants a peaceful sleep. The poet thinks and dreams of the sea as if affected by sea fever.

Word Chart

Word	Synonym	Antonym
Steer	To guide the course of a vessel	-
Flung Spray	A jet of water sprayed by the	-
	ship during its journey	
Spume	Foam of sea water	-
Vagrant	Wanderer	Disciplined
Whetted	Sharpened	Blunt
Yarn	An incredible story or tale	-
Fellow Rover	Co-sailor	-
Trick	Journey	-

Important Questions and Answers:

1. Where does the poet want to go repeatedly and what does he require?

Ans: The poet wants to explore the sea which is vast and lonely.

To start his journey, the poet requires a strong ship and a star to show proper direction in the unknown sea.

2. Why does the poet wish to go to the seas?

Ans: The poet's deep urge to experience the adventures of sea voyage and explore the beauty of the sea make him restless and allure him to go to the seas.

3. What does 'tall ship' suggest?

Ans: A 'tall ship' refers to a strongly built ship which can withstand any kind of rough weather in the stormy sea.

4. Why is the wind compared to a 'whetted knife'?

Ans: A 'whetted knife' means a sharp knife. The wind that blows on the sea is bitterly cold and biting. The wind is so cold that it creates a feeling of cutting the skin like a sharp knife.

5. What message do we get from the poem 'Sea fever'?

Ans: Human life is full of success and failures. The sea journey on turbulent waters has been compared to the ups and downs of human life.

6. What wish does the poet make at the end of the poem?

Ans: The poet wants a happy ending at the end of the sea journey. After the struggle and challenges, the poet wants a quiet sleep and a sweet dream which suggests a peaceful life.

<u>Home work</u>

Answer the following questions: (to be done in your classwork copy)

- 1. How does the poet describe the sea?
- 2. Why does the poet use the word 'again'?
- 3. How is the call of the running tide?
- 4. What kind of life does the poet want?
- 5. Whose way does the poet want to follow?
- 6. What does the poet want to see on the sea's face?
- 7. What does the poet want to hear from his fellow rover?
- 8. What does the poem 'Sea Fever' speak of?

Note:

- Drop your queries regarding the chapter in comment box, if any.
- Mention your NAME, CLASS, SEC, ROLL NO.
- Provide your CONTACT NO. (we shall directly contact you if required)

