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Poem and Explanation

The Frog and the Nightingale

Once upon a time a frog
Croaked away in Bingle Bog
Every night from dusk to dawn
He croaked awn and awn and awn.

Bingle: name of the bog

bog: an area of land that is very wet and muddy

awn: 'on' misspelt and mispronounced as 'awn' so that it rhymes with 'dawn'

Literary devices

1. Rhyme scheme-aa bb
2. Onomatopoeia- 'croaked'
3. Repetition – awn and awn and awn
4. Alliteration – 'Bingle bog' – 'b' sound repeated
5. Antithesis – 'dusk' 'dawn'

The poet is telling the story of a frog and a nightingale who lived in a marshy land called 'Bingle Bog'. The frog croaked all through the night from sunset till sunrise. It croaked non – stop and to emphasize the continuity of his sound, the poet repeats the word 'awn' thrice.

Other creatures loathed his voice,
But, alas, they had no choice.
And the crass cacophony
Blared out from the
At whose foot the frog each night
Minstrelled on till morning night

loathed: hated

crass: Rude and insensitive

cacophony: a very loud and unpleasant noise

minstrelled: sang

Literary devices

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Alliteration – 'crass cacophony' – 'c' sound is repeated
3. Antithesis- 'morning' 'night'

The other creatures in the Bingle bog like rabbits, elephants, monkeys, birds, etc disliked the harsh and unpleasant sound made by the frog. They could do nothing about it and the rude and loud sound made by the frog could be heard as it croaked sitting at the foot of a tree called sumac. It croaked continuously throughout the night.

Neither stones nor prayers nor sticks,
Insults or complaints or bricks
Stilled the frog's determination
To display his heart's elation
elation: great pride and joy

Literary devices

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb
2. Alliteration – 'his heart's' – 'h' sound is repeated

The creatures of the bog tried different ways to stop the frog. They hit it with stones, bricks and sticks, insulted it, complained against it and even prayed before it to stop making the unpleasant sound. They were unsuccessful as the frog was determined to 'sing' as it was proud of its unique voice.

But one night a nightingale
In the moonlight cold and pale
Perched upon the sumac tree
Casting forth her melody.
Casting forth: to emit or to send out
Literary devices

1. Rhyme scheme- aa bb
2. Visual imagery- The poet constructs an image in the reader's mind – The sky in moonlit and a nightingale is sitting on a sumac tree, singing a melodious song.
3. Alliteration- night nightingale – 'n' sound is repeated.

The character of the nightingale is now introduced in the poem. One night, the sky was full of the moon's light. The weather was cold, and everything seemed dull. A nightingale bird sat on a branch of the sumac tree and sang in its melodious voice.

Dumbstruck sat the gaping frog.
And the whole admiring bog
Stared towards the sumac, rapt,
And, when she had ended, clapped,
Ducks had swum and herons waded
To her as she serenaded
Dumbstruck: so shocked or surprised as to be unable to speak
Rapt: totally interested, so that you cannot think of anything else
Heron: A water bird
Serenaded: sang beautifully
Literary devices

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Transferred epithet - the whole admiring bog Stared towards the sumac

The frog was shocked to hear the melodious voice of the nightingale. It was unable to speak. All the creatures of the Bingle bog appreciated the song. They clapped and praised it when the song ended. Ducks and herons swam and came near the sumac tree to hear it as the nightingale sang beautifully.

And a solitary loon
Wept, beneath the summer moon.
Toads and teals and tiddlers, captured
By her voice, cheered on, enraptured:
"Bravo!" "Too divine!" "Encore!"
So the nightingale once more,

Solitary: alone, single
loon: a large water bird
teal: a small duck
tiddlers: small fishes
enraptured: filled with fascination and delight
encore: 'sing some more'
Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Alliteration – 'Toads teals tiddlers' – 't' sound is repeated

A large water bird called loon who was alone felt emotional on hearing the nightingale's melodious song. It started weeping as the nightingale sang through the night with the moon in the sky. 'Summer moon' means that it was the summer season when the moon is comparatively lower in the sky. Even the tiny creatures like the small frogs, ducks and fishes were attracted to the melodious voice and cheered it to sing more. They cheered the nightingale by saying that it was a brave bird, its song was heavenly and asked it to sing more.

Quite unused to such applause,
Sang till dawn without a pause.
Next night when the Nightingale
Shook her head and twitched her tail,
Closed an eye and fluffed a wing
And had cleared her throat to sing

Applause: Praise, appreciation
Twitched: A short, sudden jerk or movement
Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Alliteration – 'Next night' – 'n' sound is repeated
'twitched her tail' – 't' sound is repeated

The nightingale had never received appreciation and it was so happy that it sang continuously till sunrise. The next night it again prepared to sing – it shook its head, jerked its tail, closed an eye to concentrate on the song and fluffed its wing. Before starting the song, it cleared its throat also.

She was startled by a croak.
"Sorry - was that you who spoke?"
She enquired when the frog
Hopped towards her from the bog.
"Yes," the frog replied.

Startled: Taken aback, surprised and shocked

Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb
2. Onomatopoeia – 'croak' is the sound produced by the frog

The bird was interrupted by the 'croak' sound of the frog. As it hopped towards the nightingale, it asked the frog whether it was the frog who spoke. The frog replied that it was his sound.

"You see,
I'm the frog who owns this tree.
In this bog I've long been known
For my splendid baritone
And, of course, I wield my pen
For Bog Trumpet now and then".
baritone: a male singing voice, fairly deep
wield: hold and use
Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Personification – The frog has been personified – 'I wield my pen'
3. Antithesis – now then

The frog introduces itself to the nightingale as the owner of the sumac tree on whose branch the bird was sitting and singing. Further it said that it was famous in the bog for singing in its unique, deep voice. It also wrote occasionally for the Bog Trumpet magazine.

"Did you... did you like my song?"

"Not too bad - but far too long.

The technique was fine of course,

But it lacked a certain force".

technique: a method of doing something

Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb
2. Repetition – ‘Did you... did you’
3. Alliteration – ‘bad – but’ – ‘b’ sound repeated

The humble bird asks the frog if it liked her song. The frog replies that it wasn't bad, but it was very long. Further it comments on her skill and says that the method of singing was fine, but her voice lacked force.

"Oh!" the nightingale confessed.

Greatly flattered and impressed

That a critic of such note

Had discussed her art and throat:

"I don't think the song's divine.

But - oh, well - at least it's mine".

Flattered: Happy and pleased

Impressed: influenced

Critic: A person who judges the merits of artistic works.

art: Here, singing talent

Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc

The nightingale felt bad that her singing was not upto the mark. It was happy that such an expert musician had analyzed her song and her voice. It was impressed by the frog's style. The bird consoles itself that even if her song is not heavenly, at least it is her own composition.

"That's not much to boast about".

Said the heartless frog. "Without

Proper training such as I

And few others - can supply.

You'll remain a mere beginner.

But with me you'll be a winner".

Boast: Praise oneself

Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc

The frog scolds the bird for being proud. It is harsh towards the bird and belittles it by saying that it lacks training which only a few masters like the frog can give. The frog also says that without the training the bird will remain just a beginner all its life and if it wanted to become a winner – a perfect singer, then it had to learn from him.



"Dearest frog", the nightingale
Breathed: "This is a fairy tale -
And you're Mozart in disguise
Come to earth before my eyes".
Mozart: Name of a very talented musician
disguise: Cannot be recognized
Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb
2. Metaphor – a comparison between two things without using like or as. - "This is a fairy tale and you're Mozart in disguise" The nightingale compares the frog to Mozart, indicating a belief in his musical talent.
3. Allusion - The nightingale makes a reference to a famous classical composer, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: "And you are Mozart in disguise / Come to earth before my eyes". This reference functions to highlight how innocent the nightingale is, that she genuinely believes the frog possesses the same level of musical genius as Mozart.

The nightingale praises the frog and compares it to the most famous musician Mozart. It says that this is like a fairy tale – a dream come true that such an accomplished singer is present before her.



"Well I charge a modest fee.
Oh!... But it won't hurt, you'll see"
Now the nightingale inspired,
Flushed with confidence, and fired
With both art and adoration,
Sang - and was a huge sensation.
Modest: small
flushed: full of, very excited and pleased
adoration: Strong admiration
sensation: Widespread reaction of interest and excitement
Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Alliteration – 'Now the nightingale' – 'n' sound is repeated

The frog tells the nightingale that it will teach her the skill but will charge a small fee. It assures her that the amount will be small and paying it will not be tough for the bird. The nightingale regains its confidence and takes inspiration from the frog's consent. It is full of talent and admiration for the frog. With this new-found confidence, it sang well. The bird's music became famous and creatures from far off places were attracted to it.

Animals for miles around

Flocked towards the magic sound,

And the frog with great precision

Counted heads and charged admission

Though next morning it was raining,

He began her vocal training.

Precision: exact and accurate

Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Alliteration – ‘He began her’ – ‘h’ sound is repeated

Animals gathered from far – off places to hear the magical song of the nightingale. The frog organized concerts and charged an admission fee from all the creatures who came to hear the bird's song. The next morning after the concert, it was raining, and the bird did not want to sing. The frog insisted and commenced her training.



"But I can't sing in this weather".

"Come my dear - we'll sing together.

Just put on your scarf and sash,

Koo-oh-ah! ko-ash! ko-ash!"

Sash: a long piece of cloth that you wear round the waist or over the shoulder, usually as a badge of honour.

Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb
2. Alliteration – scarf and sash – ‘s’ sound is repeated
3. Repetition – ‘ko-ash! ko-ash’
4. Onomatopoeia – ‘Koo-oh-ah! ko-ash! ko-ash’ is the sound produced by the frog and the nightingale

Despite the nightingale's refusal to sing in the rainy weather, the frog forces it to sing. It asks her to cover her head with a scarf to save herself from the rain and to wear a sash given to her as she has joined his music class. Both sing a song – “Koo-oh-ah! ko-ash! ko-ash!”

So the frog and nightingale

Journeyed up and down the scale

For six hours, till she was shivering

and her voice was hoarse and quivering.

Scale: a sequence of musical notes that go up and down, one after the another

hoarse: rough and unclear

quivering: shaking, trembling

Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme - aabb
2. Alliteration – ‘she was shivering’ – ‘sh’ sound is repeated
3. Antithesis – up and down

The frog and the nightingale continued singing for six hours. They sang different musical notes from high to low and vice versa. By the end of the class the poor bird was trembling, and her voice became rough and shaky due to singing in an unpleasant weather and for such a long time.

Though subdued and sleep deprived,

In the night her throat revived,

And the sumac tree was bowed,

With a breathless, titled crowd:

Owl of Sandwich, Duck of Kent,

Mallard and Milady Trent,

Subdued: quiet, with little energy

deprived: Not getting enough of something

revived: improved

Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Alliteration – ‘subdued and sleep’ – ‘s’ sound is repeated, ‘Mallard and Milady’ – ‘m’ sound is repeated
3. Allusion- The poet makes a reference to famous titles – ‘Owl of sandwich’ refers to the Earl of Sandwich, ‘Duck of Kent’ refers to the Duke of Kent, ‘Mallard and Milady Trent’ refer to My Lord and My Lady of Trent. The poet wants to say that a royal crowd had gathered to hear the melodious bird. As the creatures were animals, so the first names have been replaced by such names of animals which create rhyming effect.

The sumac tree on whose branch the nightingale sat and sang in its melodious voice was crowded and it seemed that it had bent as a mark of respect to the royal gathering which had come for the concert. The royal creatures that had come were the owl of Sandwich, the duck of Kent, Mallard and Milady of Trent. The poet has added the names of animals like owl, duck, Mallard to the names of historical figures like ‘Earl of Sandwich’, ‘Duke of Kent’, ‘My Lord and My Lady of Trent’ to show that a titled crowd had gathered.



Martin Cardinal Mephisto,

And the Coot of Monte Cristo,

Ladies with tiaras glittering

In the interval sat twittering -

And the frog observed them glitter

With a joy both sweet and bitter.

Tiaras: a semi - circular metal band decorated with jewels and worn by wealthy women on formal occasions.

twittering: chatting

Literary devices-

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Allusion -The poet makes a reference to famous titles – ‘Coot of Monte Cristo’ refers to the Count of Monte Cristo.
3. Onomatopoeia – Twittering is the sound produced by the crowd
4. Imagery – ‘Ladies with tiaras glittering In the interval sat twittering’ – The reader experiences visual and aural imagery by imagining the royal audience wearing glittering tiaras can be heard chatting among themselves.
5. Antithesis – sweet and bitter

The crowd included Martin cardinal Mephisto and the coot of Monte Cristo. All the royal ladies were wearing tiaras which were full of shining metal and precious stones. They talked with each other during the interval in the concert. The frog saw the royal gathering which had come to hear the nightingale’s song. He had mixed feelings of happiness and jealousy. He was happy as a huge crowd meant monetary gain. He was jealous of the nightingale’s fame as his song had never got such an exceptional audience.

Every day the frog who’d sold her
 Songs for silver tried to scold her:
 "You must practice even longer
 Till your voice, like mine grows stronger.
 In the second song last night
 You got nervous in mid-flight.
 Mid - flight: In the middle of the song
 Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Alliteration – ‘Songs for silver’, ‘second song’ – ‘s’ sound is repeated

The greedy frog earned a lot of money by selling tickets to the nightingale’s concert. Still, he scolded the poor bird and showed it down by saying that its voice was not strong enough and that it needed to practice more. He also pointed out her mistake and said that the previous night, during the second song, she had got nervous in the middle of the song.

And, my dear, lay on more trills:
 Audiences enjoy such frills.
 You must make your public happier:
 Give them something sharper, snappier.
 We must aim for better billings.
 You still owe me sixty shillings."
 Trills: singing two musical notes one after the other, repeatedly and very quickly
 Billings: publicity for a concert, show, etc.
 Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Alliteration – ‘must make’ – ‘m’ sound is repeated, ‘better billings’ – ‘b’ sound is repeated

The frog orders the nightingale to use fancy notes in her song so that the audience enjoys it more and more and more creatures gather to hear her sing. The frog wants her to please the audience and use sharp notes, sing snappy songs which are liked by them. He wants her to aim at earning more and more money. He reminds her that she still owes him sixty shillings (he is referring to the fee that she must pay him for the music training).

Day by day the nightingale
 Grew more sorrowful and pale.
 Night on night her tired song
 Zipped and trilled and bounced along,
 Till the birds and beasts grew tired
 At a voice so uninspired
 Zipped: sang quickly
 Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Alliteration – ‘birds and beasts’ – ‘b’ sound is repeated
3. Repetition – ‘Day by day’, ‘Night on night’

With each passing day the nightingale became sad and weak. With each passing day, the bird's song reflected its tiredness and lack of interest. It sang quickly and would not enjoy singing. The songs were no longer melodious, and the creatures of the bog did not enjoy them anymore. The bird's voice did not attract crowds any longer.

And the ticket office gross
 Crashed, and she grew more morose
 For her ears were now addicted
 To applause quite unrestricted,
 And to sing into the night
 All alone gave no delight.
 Morose: miserable, bad tempered
 Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Alliteration – ‘more morose’ – ‘m’ sound is repeated.

There was no audience for the nightingale's concert. This made the bird sad as now, she had got used to the praise from the audience. Now, it no longer enjoyed singing alone all through the night.

Now the frog puffed up with rage.
 "Brainless bird - you're on the stage -
 Use your wits and follow fashion.
 Puff your lungs out with your passion."
 Rage: anger
 Wits: intelligence
 Puff: take a very deep breath
 Passion: show strong emotions
 Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb
2. Alliteration – ‘Brainless bird’ – ‘b’ sound is repeated.

As the frog's earnings stopped, it got furious at the nightingale. It called it a ‘brainless bird’ and scolded it. It said that it should realize the importance of performing on a stage and should use its intelligence. It asked the bird to sing according to the choice of the audience and to follow the latest trends. It forced the bird to take very deep breaths and sing with lots of force and emotions.

Trembling, terrified to fail,
 Blind with tears, the nightingale
 Heard him out in silence, tried,
 Puffed up, burst a vein, and died.
 Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme- aa bb
2. Alliteration – ‘Trembling, terrified’ – ‘t’ sound is repeated

The nightingale was trembling with fear of the frog as it had failed to perform well. It cried and as its eyes were full of tears, it could not even see properly. It did not oppose the frog's words. It tried to take a deep breath but could not bear it. As a result, the nightingale died as one of the vein in its body burst.

Said the frog: "I tried to teach her,
 But she was a stupid creature -

Far too nervous, far too tense.
Far too prone to influence.
Well, poor bird - she should have known
That your song must be your own.
Stupid: unintelligent
Prone: likely to suffer from
Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb cc
2. Alliteration – ‘tried to teach’, ‘too tense’ – ‘t’ sound is repeated, ‘she should’ – ‘sh’ sound is repeated.
3. Anaphora – repetition of ‘far too’ in line 3 and 4

The frog comments on the dead nightingale bird. It says that the nightingale was not intelligent and that it tried to teach her also. She was nervous, became tense and lacked self - confidence. It further added that the poor bird should have sung her own song in her own way. It should not have changed its style and get influenced by the frog. This shows that the frog is a cheat. It forced the bird into the wrong path due to jealousy.

That's why I sing with panache
"Koo-oh-ah! ko-ash! ko-ash!"
And the foghorn of the frog
Blared unrivalled through the bog.
panache: a very confident, elegant style
foghorn: a very loud, unpleasant noise
unrivalled: unopposed
Literary devices –

1. Rhyme scheme – aa bb
2. Alliteration – ‘foghorn of the frog’ – ‘f’ sound is repeated
3. Repetition – ‘ko-ash! ko-ash’

The frog ends by saying that it had confidence in its singing talent and sang in its unique style. Once again, the frog sang its song - "Koo-oh-ah! ko-ash! ko-ash!". The frog's song could be heard all over the bingle bog and he became the unopposed singer.

Summary

In the Bingle bog, under a sumac tree a frog sang in its unpleasant voice. All the creatures in the bog hated its harsh sound. They tried using different ways – requests, sticks, stones, insults and complaints but the frog could not be stopped. It was proud of its voice and sang with confidence.

One night when the sky was lit with the moonlight, a melodious nightingale sat on the sumac tree and sang beautifully. All the creatures were attracted towards the melodious voice. The frog was amazed as it had never heard such a beautiful voice. All the creatures praised and cheered the bird and asked it to sing more.

The nightingale had never received such praise and so, it got flattered. It sang continuously throughout the night. The next night, as the bird prepared to sing the frog who was jealous of it interrupted it. It introduced itself as the owner of the tree on which the bird was sitting. It said that it was famous for its deep manly voice and also wrote occasionally for the bog trumpet magazine.

The frog told the nightingale that her song was not bad, but pointed out that it was too long and lacked force. The innocent bird felt great that such a great musician has evaluated her singing talent. The frog scolded her for being proud that her song was her own original composition. He said that she had to get formal training to become a perfect singer.

The innocent nightingale was trapped by the clever frog. It requested the frog to train it and praised it by saying that it was the great musician Mozart. The frog agreed hesitantly but would charge a fee. The frog forced the little delicate bird to sing in bad weather, for long hours which made her weak. Her voice lost its melody.

After some rest, the nightingale's throat felt better, and it again started singing. As a huge crowd would gather to hear the melodious voice, the greedy frog started charging admission fee for the ‘concert’. It attracted a royal crowd of birds and animals from distant places who attended the concert in their fine dresses.

The frog was happy that he was earning so much money but at the same time, was jealous of the nightingale's popularity. As the frog became greedy for more money, it would scold the poor bird, force it to practise more and pointed out mistakes in its singing technique. All this took a toll on the little bird.

As it became sad, overworked and weak, its song lost its melody and became boring. The crowd started decreasing which infuriated the frog. One day as the bird tried to draw a deep breath to sing loud and strong, a vein in it burst and it died.

Now the frog calls the nightingale stupid, nervous and prone to be influenced by others. It says that it should have had confidence rather than being influenced by what the frog said.

The frog says that it believes and so now, once again it is the unopposed singer in the bog.

Question and answers

Q. The following is a summary of the poem but it is jumbled up. Write out the events in their correct order to form a continuous paragraph.

- a) As a result, her voice lost its beauty, and the other creatures stopped coming to hear her sing.
- b) Soon the nightingale became famous, and creatures from miles around came to hear her sing.
- c) All the creatures in the bog cheered and clapped at her beautiful song.
- d) He offered to train the nightingale, so that she could sing even more beautifully.
- e) So the frog could sing unrivalled in the bog once more.
- f) The next night the frog introduced himself.
- g) The frog charged an admission fee, and earned a lot of money from these concerts.
- h) A frog croaked all night in a bog, in an unpleasant voice.
- i) But the frog made the nightingale rehearse continuously in the rain.
- j) One night a nightingale began to sing in a melodious voice.
- k) Finally the nightingale burst a vein and died.

A.

1. h) A frog croaked all night in a bog, in an unpleasant voice.
2. j) One night a nightingale began to sing in a melodious voice.
3. c) All the creatures in the bog cheered and clapped at her beautiful song.
4. f) The next night the frog introduced himself.
5. d) He offered to train the nightingale, so that she could sing even more beautifully.
6. b) Soon the nightingale became famous, and creatures from miles around came to hear her sing.
7. g) The frog charged an admission fee, and earned a lot of money from these concerts.
8. i) But the frog made the nightingale rehearse continuously in the rain.
9. a) As a result, her voice lost its beauty, and the other creatures stopped coming to hear her sing.
10. k) Finally the nightingale burst a vein and died.
11. e) So the frog could sing unrivalled in the bog once more.

Q1. On the basis of your understanding of the poem, complete the sentences given below by choosing the appropriate option.

1. The frog's aim was to
2. make the nightingale a sensation
3. make the nightingale as good a singer as him
4. maintain his supremacy in the bog
5. make a lot of money

A. c. maintain his supremacy in the bog

Q2. The animals reacted to the nightingale's song with

1. hatred
2. admiration
3. indifference
4. suggestions for improvement

A. b. admiration

Q3. The nightingale accepted the frog's tutelage as she

1. was not confident of herself
2. wanted to become as good a singer as the frog
3. wanted to become a professional singer
4. was not a resident of Bingle Bog

A. a. was not confident of herself

Q. Read the stanza given below and complete the sentences by choosing the appropriate option.

Day by day the nightingale

Grew more sorrowful and pale.

Night on night her tired song

Zipped and trilled and bounced along,

Till the birds and beasts grew tired

At a voice so uninspired

And the ticket office gross

Crashed, and she grew more morose -

For her ears were now addicted

To applause quite unrestricted,

And to sing into the night

All alone gave no delight.

1. The nightingale was sorrowful and pale because

1. she had been practicing in the rain
2. she had been performing all night
3. she was losing confidence in herself
4. she was falling ill

A. 3. she was losing confidence in herself

2. The audience was tired of her song because

1. they had heard it many times
2. it had become mechanical
3. she looked tired
4. she had added trill to her song

A. 2. it had become mechanical

3. She no longer enjoyed singing alone as

1. she wanted to sing only for titled crowd
2. she was now used to the appreciation she got
3. the frog was no longer with her
4. she had become proud of herself

A. 2. she was now used to the appreciation she got

Q: Which are the different ways in which the frog asserts his importance?

A: The frog asserts his importance in the following ways:

1. He says that he is the owner of that tree.
2. He is famous for his splendid voice.
3. He writes for the periodical, 'Bog trumpet'.
4. He is a music trainer and critic like Mozart.

Q: Why is the frog's joy both sweet and bitter?

A: The frog's joy was sweet as the nightingale was attracting huge crowds at the concert and, so he was minting a lot of money through them. His joy was bitter due to jealousy as such crowds had never gathered to hear him sing. The frog was bitter as he was jealous of the nightingale.

Q: Why was the frog angry?

A: The frog was angry at the nightingale because there no crowds at the concert any more. As she was tired, her voice had become rough and it was trembling. So, the audience no longer came for the concerts organized by the frog. He could not earn money and so was angry with the bird.

Q4: How did the frog become the unrivalled king of the bog again?

A: The frog once again became the unrivalled king of the bog as the nightingale had died. The bird had been stressed by the frog and, so she died as one of her veins burst.

Once again, no one else but the frog sang in the bingle bog.

Q5: Bring out the irony in the frog's statement - 'Your song must be your own'.

A: The irony in the frog's words is that initially when he met the nightingale and she said that she was satisfied that the song was her own composition, he reprimands her that it is nothing too great to boast about and later, when the bird is dead, he says that the poor bird should have known that she should have sung her own song in her own way.

Q6: Do you think the end is justified?

A: The poem teaches us to have confidence in our abilities. It shows us the jealous face of the society and warns us to save ourselves from such people. I think that although the end is harsh as the innocent bird dies but it gives a powerful message and warns us not to be prone to influence.

Q7: Do you think the nightingale is 'brainless'? Give reasons for your answer.

A: The nightingale is not brainless, but she is innocent, meek and dismissive. As she lacks self-confidence, she is easily overpowered by the clever, crafty frog. As she wanted to become a famous singer, she accepts the frog's offer of training her.

Q8: In spite of having a melodious voice and being a crowd puller, the nightingale turns out to be a loser and dies. How far is she responsible for her own downfall?

A: The nightingale is herself responsible for her death as she relies upon the evil frog and is not able to judge him. Her innocence and foolishness lead her to death.

Q9: Do you agree with the Frog's inference of the Nightingale's character? Give reasons for your answer.

A: Yes, I agree with the frog's verdict about the nightingale. I think that she was brainless, stupid and meek as she could not identify the real aim of the frog. The innocent, talented bird got trapped in the clever frog's trap and lost her melodious voice and even her life

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