Ode to a Skylark - by: Percy Shelley

Hail to thee, blithe Spirit!
Bird thou never wert -
That from Heaven or near it
Pourest thy full heart
In profuse strains of unpremeditated art.
Higher still and higher
From the earth thou springest,
Like a cloud of fire;
The blue deep thou wingest,
And singing still dost soar, and soaring ever singest.
In the golden lightning
Of the sunken sun,
O'er which clouds are bright'ning,
Thou dost float and run,
Like an unbodied joy whose race is just begun.
The pale purple even
Melts around thy flight;
Like a star of Heaven,
In the broad daylight
Thou art unseen, but yet I hear thy shrill delight
- Keen as are the arrows
Of that silver sphere
Whose intense lamp narrows
In the white dawn clear,
Until we hardly see, we feel that it is there.
All the earth and air
With thy voice is loud,
As, when night is bare,
From one lonely cloud
Thou art unseen, but yet I hear thy shrill delight
- Keen as are the arrows
Of that silver sphere
Whose intense lamp narrows
In the white dawn clear,
Until we hardly see, we feel that it is there.
All the earth and air
With thy voice is loud,
As, when night is bare,
From one lonely cloud
The moon rains out her beams, and Heaven is overflowed.
What thou art we know not;
What is most like thee?
From rainbow clouds there flow not
Drops so bright to see,
As from thy presence showers a rain of melody: -
Like a Poet hidden
In the light of thought,
Singing hymns unbidden,
Till the world is wrought
To sympathy with hopes and fears it heeded not:
Like a high-born maiden
In a palace-tower,
Soothing her love-laden
Soul in secret hour
With music sweet as love, which overflows her bower:
   Like a glow-worm golden
      In a dell of dew,
   Scattering unbeholden
      Its aërial hue
Among the flowers and grass which screen it from the view:
   Like a rose embowered
      In its own green leaves,
   By warm winds deflowered,
      Till the scent it gives
Makes faint with too much sweet these heavy-wingéd thieves:
   Sound of vernal showers
      On the twinkling grass,
   Rain-awakened flowers -
      All that ever was
Joyous and clear and fresh - thy music doth surpass.
   Teach us, Sprite or Bird,
What sweet thoughts are thine:
   I have never heard
   Praise of love or wine
That panted forth a flood of rapture so divine.
   Chorus hymeneal,
      Or triumphal chant,
   Matched with thine would be all
      but an empty vaunt -
A thing wherein we feel there is some hidden want.
What objects are the fountains
   Of thy happy strain?
What fields, or waves, or mountains?
What shapes of sky or plain?
What love of thine own kind? what ignorance of pain?
   With thy clear keen joyance
      Languor cannot be:
   Shadow of annoyance
      Never came near thee:
Thou lovest, but ne’er knew love’s sad satiety.
   Waking or asleep,
   Thou of death must deem
   Things more true and deep
      Than we mortals dream,
Or how could thy notes flow in such a crystal stream?
   We look before and after,
And pine for what is not:
   Our sincerest laughter
   With some pain is fraught;
Our sweetest songs are those that tell of saddest thought.
   Yet, if we could scorn
Hate and pride and fear,
If we were things born
Not to shed a tear,
I know not how thy joy we ever should come near.
Better than all measures
Of delightful sound,
Better than all treasures
That in books are found,
Thy skill to poet were, thou scioner of the ground!
Teach me half the gladness
That thy brain must know;
Such harmonious madness
From my lips would flow,
The world should listen then, as I am listening now.

1. Ode, which is from ancient Greek, is:
   a. A long song
   b. A lyrical verse
   c. A poem intended to be a song.
   d. B and C

2. In the singing of the skylark, Shelly finds an ecstasy and rapture which are:
   a. Unattainable by human beings.
   b. Available by human beings.
   c. As attainable as by human beings.
   d. All false

3. The poet .............the sorrow of human life with the joy of the skylark.
   a. Compares
   b. Makes a conjunction between
   c. Contrasts
   d. All false

4. Due to this poem, If it were possible for the poet to experience the gladness of the skylark, he:
   a. Would be able to sing sweet songs like the lark.
   b. Wouldn't be able to sing sweet songs like the lark.
   c. Would try to make it fly away to enjoy quietness.
   d. All false

5. Blithe spirit means:
   a. Sad spirit
   b. Tortured spirit
c. **Excited spirit**
   d. All false

6. The speaker, addressing a skylark, says that its beautiful songs are because it has a “blithe Spirit” rather than:
   a. A bird
   b. A human
   c. A body
   d. All false

7. The poet says this about the skylark’s songs because:
   a. It is a bird who can sing.
   b. Its song comes from Heaven
   c. Its song comes from its full heart pours.
   d. B and C

8. As the skylark flies higher and higher, the speaker loses sight of it, but is still able to:
   a. See it as a dot.
   b. Hear its “shrill delight,.”
   c. Sing just like it.
   d. All false

9. The "shrill delight" comes down as keenly as moonbeams in the:
   a. "Darkness"
   b. “white dawn,”
   c. Cloudy night
   d. All false

10. The speaker says that no one knows what the skylark is, for it is:
    a. Mysterious
    b. Unique
    c. Invisible
    d. All false

11. The rhyme scheme of each stanza is extremely simple:
    a. ABABB
    b. ABAB
    c. ABCD
    d. All false
12. In "“sympathy with hopes and fears it heeded not.”", It is like a lonely maiden عذراء in a ....
   a. A palace tower.
   b. A hotel.
   c. A royal palace
   d. Wedding

13. Due to the writer, this maiden uses her song to:
   a. Call her lover to save her.
   b. Be released.
   c. Soothe her lovelorn soul. روحها المتيمة
   d. All false

14. Calling the skylark “Sprite or Bird,” the speaker asks it to tell him its:
   a. Sorrows
   b. Sweet thoughts
   c. Own problem
   d. All false

15. Due to the speaker, pain and languor:
   a. Always come near the skylark.
   b. Really surround the skylark.
   c. Never came near the skylark.
   d. All false