



ABOUT THE POEM

This is a brief inspiring poem written by Langston Hughes which tells us about how precious and important dreams are to every individual. They can be the driving force and the guiding light in our lives. The poet says that if our dreams die or go away, life is like a bird with broken wings; it cannot fly. Dreams give us freedom to explore and expand. In the second metaphor, the poet says that without dreams, life is like a desert, frozen over with snow. Nothing grows in a desert. So, lack of dreams makes our lives as barren as a desert in which there is no growth. In addition, it is frozen with snow. So, there is no anticipation of any change either. Even the future is one without any growth or progress, without our dreams. In other words, the poet asks us to hold on tightly to our dreams, and to follow them.

READ AND DISCOVER

- ▶ Read the poem aloud. Explain it to the students as given above.
- ▶ Ask the students to learn and recite it correctly: Pronunciation and rhythm.

Outcome: Reading, reciting and understanding the words, meanings, spellings and metaphors.

ENJOY AND UNDERSTAND

- ▶ Exercises A to F: These exercises can be done by the students on their own after a discussion in the class.
- ▶ The teacher must assess the work of the students individually along with other written work.