



**ENGLISH
REVISION
Keeping Quiet**

Name: _____

Date: _____

Class: XII

1. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow.

*“If we were not so single-minded
about keeping our lives moving,
and for once could do nothing,
perhaps a huge silence
might interrupt this sadness
of never understanding ourselves
and of threatening ourselves with death*

(A) What do you think is the mood of the poet in the above extract?

- a) gloomy, cynical
- b) reflective, inspired
- c) introspective, aware
- d) critical, demotivated

(B) Pick the option that DOES NOT complete the given sentence suitably, as per the extract.

Threatening ourselves with death _____

- a) feeds on the fear of death.
- b) challenges finiteness of life.
- c) keeps us rushing through life.

(C) What might the “huge silence” signify?

- a) melancholy
- b) understanding
- c) discomfort
- d) flexibility

(D) Which of the following can be inferred to lead to ‘threatening ourselves with death’?

- (a) Constantly being silent
- (b) Constantly rushing about
- (c) Constantly being sad
- (d) Constantly doing nothing

**2. Perhaps the Earth can teach us
as when everything seems dead
and later proves to be alive
Now I’ll count upto twelve
and you keep quiet and I will go.**

- (a) What does the Earth teach us?
- (b) What does the poet mean to achieve by counting up to twelve?



- (c) What is the significance of 'keeping quiet'?
- (d) What is always alive, even when everything seems to be dead?

3) ***“What I want should not be confused with total inactivity. Life is what it is about; I want no truck with death.”***

(i) About which confusion the poet is referring to here?

- (a) Keeping still means total inactivity.
- (b) Introspect for sometime while being active.
- (c) Stillness and keeping quiet for some time does not mean end of everything.
- (d) All of the above

(ii) What is life about according to the poet?

- (a) Living it gainfully
- (b) Living a hectic life with no time for anything else
- (c) Multiple activities to earn as much money as possible
- (d) Gainfully occupied with time to analyse and introspect

(iii) Choose the book title that perfectly describes the purpose of the given lines.

- (a) Silence: The Power of Quiet in the world full of Noise by Thick Nhat Han.
- (b) Of chaos and clarity by Rubu Yari
- (c) Awareness, Clarity, Power by Jill's McDonald
- (d) The confusion by Neal Stephenson

(iv) Explain: 'No truck with death'.

- (a) Inactivity mean death
- (b) No association with death as life is to be lived fully
- (c) Stillness and inactivity for few minutes in different from death
- (d) Both (b) and (c)

Short questions:

1. Which is the exotic moment that the poet refers to in 'Keeping Quiet'?
2. What is the sadness that the poet refers to in the poem 'Keeping Quiet'?
3. What symbol from nature does the poet use to prove that keeping quiet is not total inactivity?
4. How, according to Neruda, can keeping quiet change our attitude to life?