

On Killing a Tree Class 9 NCERT | Summary, Notes, MCQs, Keywords – Beehive Chapter

Meta Description:

On Killing a Tree Class 9 NCERT Beehive chapter summary, notes, MCQs, keywords, important questions and exam tips in simple language.

Introduction of the Chapter – On Killing a Tree (Class 9 NCERT)

On Killing a Tree is a powerful poem prescribed in **Class 9 English Beehive (NCERT)**. Written by **Gieve Patel**, the poem highlights the cruelty of human beings towards nature. It explains that killing a tree is not an easy or quick act; it requires deliberate violence against nature. The poem carries a strong environmental message and is highly important for exams.

Just like chapters such as *Kathmandu* in Class 9, this poem also reflects human behavior and values, making it significant for moral and value-based questions.

Short Notes – On Killing a Tree Class 9

- Poem written by **Gieve Patel**
 - Prescribed in **Class 9 NCERT Beehive**
 - Theme: **Man's cruelty towards nature**
 - A tree symbolizes **life, growth, and resilience**
 - Cutting branches is not enough to kill a tree
 - Roots are the real source of life
 - Strong message on **environmental conservation**
 - Important for **MCQs, short answers, and long answers**
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Detailed Summary – On Killing a Tree (200–250 Words)

The poem **On Killing a Tree** by Gieve Patel describes the brutal process required to kill a tree. The poet begins by saying that a simple jab of a knife cannot kill a tree. A tree grows

slowly over time, feeding on sunlight, air, and water taken from the earth. Even if its branches are chopped off, new leaves and twigs will grow again.

To kill a tree completely, one must uproot it from the earth. The poet explains that the roots, which are hidden under the soil, are the tree's most vital part. These roots hold the tree firmly and supply nourishment. When the roots are pulled out and exposed to sunlight and air, they begin to dry, harden, and eventually die.

The poem uses harsh and violent imagery to show how humans destroy nature mercilessly. The tone of the poem is ironic and critical. The poet indirectly condemns human beings for their insensitivity towards the environment.

On Killing a Tree is not just about cutting a tree; it is a symbolic poem that highlights ecological destruction. Like other Class 9 NCERT chapters such as *Kathmandu*, it makes readers think deeply about human actions. The poem urges students to respect nature and understand the consequences of environmental destruction.

Flowchart / Mind Map – On Killing a Tree

Tree grows slowly
↓
Knife cannot kill it
↓
Branches chopped
↓
New leaves grow again
↓
Roots must be uprooted
↓
Roots exposed to sun and air
↓
Roots dry and die
↓
Tree finally killed

Important Keywords with Meanings – On Killing a Tree

- **Jab** – A sudden sharp hit
- **Hack** – Cut roughly
- **Bleeding bark** – Sap flowing like blood
- **Anchoring earth** – Soil holding roots firmly
- **Scorching** – Burning heat
- **Browning** – Drying and dying

- **Resilience** – Ability to recover
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Important Questions & Answers – On Killing a Tree

Short Answer Questions

Q1. Who wrote the poem On Killing a Tree?

A. Gieve Patel wrote the poem.

Q2. Why can't a simple jab of a knife kill a tree?

A. Because a tree is strong and can regrow from its roots.

Q3. What is the strength of a tree?

A. Its roots that remain hidden under the earth.

Long Answer Question

Q. Explain the theme of the poem On Killing a Tree.

A. The poem highlights human cruelty towards nature. It shows that killing a tree requires complete destruction of its roots, symbolizing deliberate violence. The poet criticizes deforestation and gives a strong message about environmental conservation, which is important for Class 9 NCERT exams.

MCQs – On Killing a Tree Class 9 (with Answers)

1. Who is the poet of On Killing a Tree?

- A. Robert Frost
- B. Gieve Patel
- C. Ruskin Bond
- D. W.B. Yeats

Answer: B

2. What feeds a tree over time?

- A. Water only
- B. Sun and air
- C. Earth, sun, air, and water
- D. Fertilizers

Answer: C

3. What does "bleeding bark" mean?

- A. Tree crying
- B. Sap coming out
- C. Tree dying
- D. Bark falling

Answer: B

4. Which part is most important for a tree's life?

- A. Leaves
- B. Branches
- C. Roots
- D. Stem

Answer: C

5. What finally kills the tree?

- A. Cutting leaves
- B. Cutting branches
- C. Uprooting roots
- D. Lack of water

Answer: C

6–20. (Additional MCQs can be added similarly for practice and exams.)

Exam Tips / Value-Based Questions – On Killing a Tree

- Learn **keywords and poetic devices**
 - Practice **MCQs and short answers**
 - Focus on **theme and message**
 - Value-based question: *Why should humans protect trees?*
 - Compare themes with chapters like **Kathmandu Class 9** for better answers
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Conclusion – On Killing a Tree Class 9 NCERT

On Killing a Tree is a deeply meaningful poem from **Class 9 NCERT Beehive** that exposes human cruelty towards nature. Through powerful imagery and irony, the poet urges readers to respect and protect the environment. This chapter is important for exams, MCQs, value-based questions, and competitive exams. Mastering **On Killing a Tree** will help students score well and develop environmental awareness.