

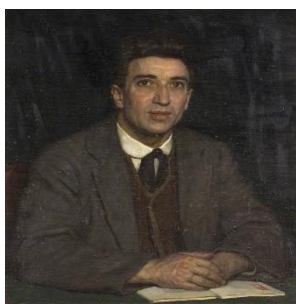


INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of Submission: APRIL 2023
STUDY NOTES	Topic: THE FOG	NOTE: FOR REFERENCE

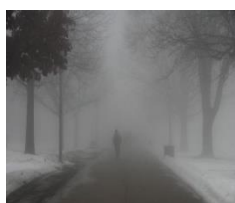
About the poet: William Henry Davies

William Henry Davies was born in Newport, Monmouthshire, Wales. On completing his apprenticeship as a carver and gilder, he tramped in U.S.A. and Canada, but lost his foot in a train-jumping accident in March 1899. He returned to England, determined to succeed as a poet. After many difficulties and setbacks, he published his first book, *The Soul's Destroyer and Other Poems*, in March 1905. Other books followed and, by 1911, he was an established poet and author, with eight books to his credit, and was the recipient of a Civil List pension. In 1923 he married Helen Payne. In 1929, for his services to literature, he was awarded the honorary degree of D.Litt. by the University of Wales. Most of his poetry is on the subject of nature or life on the road and exhibits a natural simple, earthy style. He also wrote two novels and autobiographical works, his best-known being *Autobiography of a Super-Tramp*. A selection of his papers and manuscripts is held at the National Library of Wales. His most famous poem *Leisure* was published in 1911 in the collection *Songs of Joy and Others*.



Setting & Theme of the poem

The poem takes place in a foggy street in London.



The poet explains a trip on this particular street when it was very foggy.

The poem is about how the people trust only what they literally see and lack awareness of love, faith, belief, religion, conditions etc.

Summary:

The poet finds himself in a fog so thick that he is disoriented and cannot find his way home. He is then helped by a man who promised to take him home. Once the poet got home, he realized that the man who had led him home was blind.

Stanza 1:

The poet talks about how the fog grew thicker by the minute and soon it became impossible for him to see or understand anything. It completely blinded his senses and made him disoriented. As he looked around through the fog, he found that young boys appeared much taller, almost like men and the tall men appeared huge like giants.

Stanza 2:

The fog slowly started having an effect on him. He felt as if the fog was clutching onto his throat and choking him. He started coughing. His mind became empty and his eyes felt hot and heavy. He could clearly feel the heat in his eyes.



Stanza 3:

As the fog grew thicker, it became darker around the poet. The poet, at that point in time, lost all his power of judgment of space and distance. He was not able to decide whether he had to move or stand still. He also could not determine how far he had walked or how much more he had to walk.

Stanza 4:

The street lamps and the lights of the cars around him started looking like heavenly light. He could not make out whether they were on the earth or starred in the sky.

Stanza 5:

A man passing by offered to help the poet reach home when the poet asks the way. Holding the man by his arm, the poet followed him blindly.

Stanza 6:

Upon reaching a house, the man rapped on its stone walls and asked the poet to follow him inside. The poet did what he was told. Once inside, he discovered that the man who had guided him to safety was blind himself. This poem talks about an incident where the poet gets disoriented in a thick fog and cannot find his way home. A person whom he meets on the road offers to help him. Once the poet reaches home, he realizes that the person who had helped him was blind. This discovery makes him realize that we as human beings trust only those things that we can see and question unseen things like love, faith, belief, etc. From this poem, we learn that we should not judge a book by its cover.

Poetic Devices:

Metaphor: A metaphor is said to be used when the poet compares one thing with another in the course of his verse. Davies also repeatedly draws comparison between the following:

1. 'It made tall men of boys
And giants of tall men.'
2. The street lamps and the lights
Upon the halted cars,
be the heavenly stars.

Simile: A simile is a figure of speech that directly compares two things. Similes differ from metaphors by highlighting the similarities between two things using words such as "like" or "as", while metaphors create an implicit comparison.

Except two heavy eyes
Like balls of burning lead.

Personification: Personification is used in the statement, 'it clutched my throat'.

The poet uses personification, giving attributes of a man to the fog, to intensify the effect of the fog on him.

Rhyme: A rhyme is a repetition of similar-sounding words, occurring at the end of lines in poems or songs. Some pairs of rhyming words from the poem are-

ken – men
head – lead
place – space
cars – stars
said – led

Rhyme Scheme: abcb dece fcbe

Some 'fog' words and phrases: fog of war, in a fog, fog up, foggiest idea, fogbank

Synonyms of fog: Murk, mist, smog, haze, clag

Weather Idioms:








IDIOMS ABOUT WEATHER

<p>Dog days of the summer The hottest day of summer</p> 	<p>Have your head in the clouds Not know what is happening around you</p> 	<p>In the dark Not informed</p> 
<p>It never rains but it pours Bad luck and bad things tend to happen at the same time</p> 	<p>On Cloud Nine Extremely happy</p> 	<p>Once in a blue moon Very rarely</p> 
<p>Rain Cats And Dogs Rain heavily</p> 	<p>Soak up the sun To enjoy the sun</p> 	<p>Under the Weather Feeling ill</p> 

WEATHER IDIOMS

<p>To get a frosty reception the person is not happy to see you and not interested in talking to you <i>I got a very frosty reception when I rang her to check how she was.</i> www.englishlessonviaskype.com</p> 
<p>My mind is in a fog I'm confused <i>Oh, my mind is in a fog. I can't really think straight today.</i> www.englishlessonviaskype.com</p> 
<p>To steal somebody's thunder to use someone else's ideas to your advantage <i>Sarah stole my thunder at the meeting when she proposed having an extra holiday.</i> www.englishlessonviaskype.com</p> 
<p>To have a face like thunder to be in a bad mood <i>I wouldn't go near the boss. He just came in with a face like thunder.</i> www.englishlessonviaskype.com</p> 
<p>To be as right as rain to be OK, to be in good health <i>I'm as right as rain. It was just a little bit of a head cold. Nothing really serious.</i> www.englishlessonviaskype.com</p> 

WEATHER CONDITIONS

<p>HURRICANE this is a very strong storm with powerful winds</p> 	<p>HEATWAVE this is a period of very hot weather</p> 
<p>SHOWER this is a short period when it rains</p> 	<p>MIST this is light fog</p> 
<p>FROST this is white ice, like a powder on the ground</p> 	<p>BLIZZARD this is a heavy snowstorm</p> 
<p>HAIL this is a frozen rain</p> 	<p>HAIL this is a frozen rain</p> 

