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Class :9

03/09/2020

Subject : English.

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BASED ON NCERT

No Men Are Foreign. (Poem)

Have you ever thought of some people as strange, or other countries as "foreign"? We have many ways to think of other people as different from "us", as "them," "They" may belong to a different country, or speak a different language. In this poem, however, the poet reminds us of the many ways in which we are all the same: for we all human.

Now read the poem

Remember, no men are strange, no
countries foreign

Beneath all uniforms, a single body
breathes

Like ours: the land our brothers walk upon
Is earth like this, in which we all shall lie.

They, too, aware of sun and air and water,
Are fed by peaceful harvests, by war's long
winter starved

Their hands are ours, and in their lines we
read

A labour not different from our own.

Remember they have eyes like ours that
wake

Or sleep, and strength that can be won

By love. In every land is common life

That all can recognise and understand.

Let us remember, whenever we are told

To hate our brothers, it is ourselves

That we shall dispossess, betray,

condemn.

Remember, we who take arms against

each other

It is the human earth that we defile.

Our hells of fire and dust outrage the

innocence

Of air that is everywhere our own,

Remember, no men are foreign, and no

countries strange.

James Kirkup

Now write the theme of the poem