



**CLASS X**  
**ENGLISH LITERATURE READER**  
**POETRY : CHAPTER 6**  
**THE FROG AND THE NIGHTINGALE**  
**(VIKRAM SETH)**

**NOTES**

**SUMMARY**

The poem "*The Frog and the Nightingale*" revolves around the two main characters- the nightingale and the frog. The poet **Vikram Seth** very cleverly gives us a message of importance of self-confidence and moral courage in his poem.

The poem highlights the plight of those gullible people whose simplicity and credulous nature make them complete misfits in the world, it is thus important to have worldly wisdom.

In the poem, the frog represents the cunning and shrewd people who, even if, not talented make their way to the top. He is a cunning, hard-hearted creature. He lacked skills but ultimately triumphed because of his self-confidence. On the other hand, the nightingale is a talented bird having a melodious voice but lacks self-confidence that causes a great harm to her. She cannot see through the frog's plotting and scheming. She is easily influenced. The poem teaches us not to be gullible and to realize our self-worth.

**POETIC DEVICES USED IN THE POEM**

**Alliteration:** Occurrence of the same letter/sound at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words

- Toads and teals and tiddlers.
- Neither stone nor prayer nor sticks.
- Bingle Bog.

**Metaphor:** A figure of speech in which a word/phrase is applied to an object/action to which it is not literally applicable

- a solitary loon
- Mozart in disguise



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**Personification:** The attribution of a personal nature or human characteristics to something non-human or the representation of an abstract quality in human form

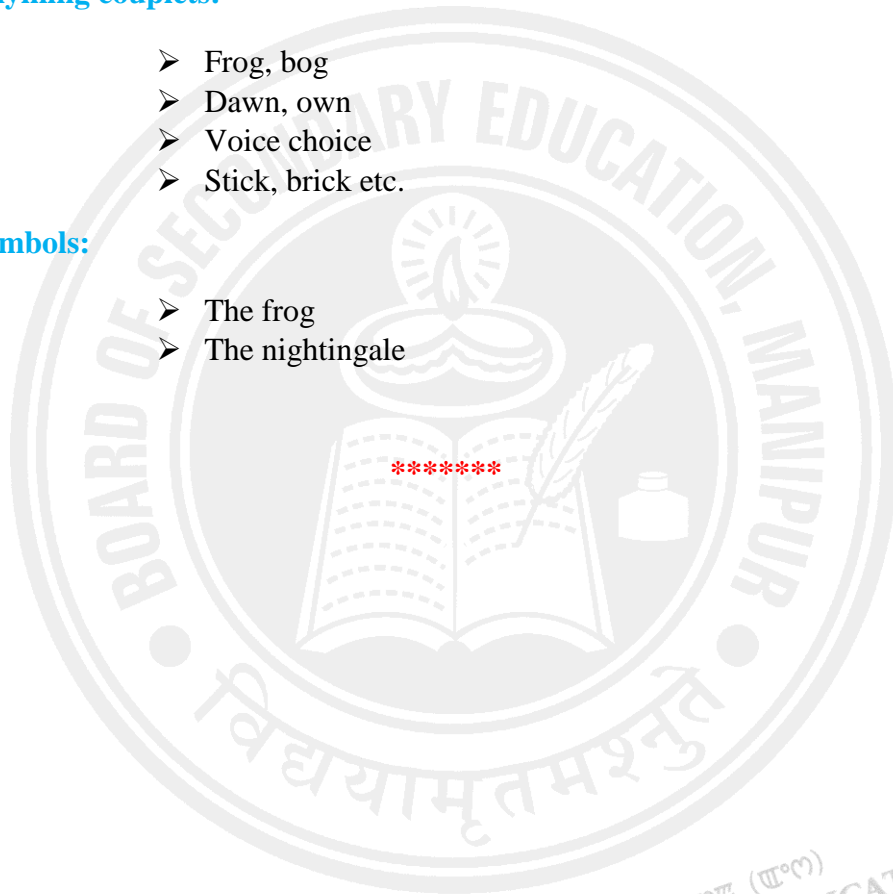
- Animals are attributed to human qualities.

**Rhyming couplets:**

- Frog, bog
- Dawn, own
- Voice choice
- Stick, brick etc.

**Symbols:**

- The frog
- The nightingale



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