**Section 3 Trains**

**Poem appreciation**

**2. a. Why does the poet call the train ‘tedious’?**

The poet calls the train ‘tedious’ because of the long journeys it makes every day. In the dark of the night the trains move like huge elephants, in the hot afternoons when people sleep they still continue their journey. They go on through hills, bridges and streams, never stopping for a little while. Their restless journey continues all day and night.

**b. In the middle of the night, what does the train reminds the poet of and why?**

In the middle of the night the train reminds the poet of a huge crawling serpent. When

he hears the low distant rumbling sound of the train he wakes up from his sleep and sits on his bed rubbing his eyes. And beneath the flickering light of the moon the train appears just like a huge serpent.

**c. Do you find the trains fascinating?**

Trains are fascinating because they help people travel long distances. They can take us

anywhere at any point of the day. It is a very useful mode of transport. One can avail this

transport throughout the year. Trains are also capable of traversing forests, mighty streams, hills and plains. However difficult the road might be, a train can always help you travel the distance you need to travel.

**d. The poem ends with a question. Why do you think this question troubles or puzzles the poet?**

The poem ends with an obvious question which arises in the mind of the poet. He asks the simple question: Where do the trains go at the end of their restless journeys? This question puzzles the poet because each and every one of us at the end of each day retires to our homes and we go to sleep. But the trains are always moving; they cross bridges, streams, hills and plains—it seems to the poet that their journey is never going to end. It surprises him that the trains never stop, so he wonders whether the trains stop and rest at all. Thus, he ends the poem with this question.