



LESSON - 12

Freedom

NOTES:

About the poet:

James Russell Lowell was the most intellectual of American poets. He wrote much on the abolition of slavery and had contributed much admirable moral and sacred poetry.

Substance:

The poem “Freedom” has been taken from “Stanzas on Freedom” by J.R. Lowell which is a poem about slavery and the way people should feel about it in Lowell’s opinion.

In this poem, people who are in bondage to cowardice or fear for their own well-being are being compared to actual slaves. The real slaves are the free people who would rather be silent in fear than stand up for what is right. The poet is trying to provoke them and persuade them to do all they could to free their fellow human beings rather than selfishly living for themselves and ignoring their fellow man. The rhyme scheme of the poem is aabbaacc.

