3. The Voice of the Rain

In this poem, the poet Walt Whitman asks the soft falling raindrops that who she is. It is strange that the rain answers, calling itself the poem of the Earth. The rain says that she can not be touched and rises up in the form of vapor out of the land and deep sea and floats up to heaven, where it changes its form and becomes a cloud but its core existence remains the same. Then it falls back to the surface of the Earth to refresh (wash) the draught-filled land. The seeds which are dormant (inactive) under the soil, grow (germinate) with its help. The Earth becomes vital and beautiful because it always gives new life to the Earth and it returns to its origin (mother Earth). It makes the Earth clean and green. The poet says that the rain returns to its birth place ( the Earth) making complete its cycle. It does not care whether any body pays heed or not, rain continuously does her own work.

Q: How is cyclic movement of rain brought out in the poem?

A: IN the poem, the water rises from ‘the land and the bottomless sea’ to reach the sky. There, it transforms itself into vague formation of clouds, different in their structure than the water from which they originate. After wandering, these clouds descend to the Earth in the form of rain to provide relief to the drought-ridden areas and infuse life into the unborn and latent seeds. The rain renders the Earth with beauty and purity.