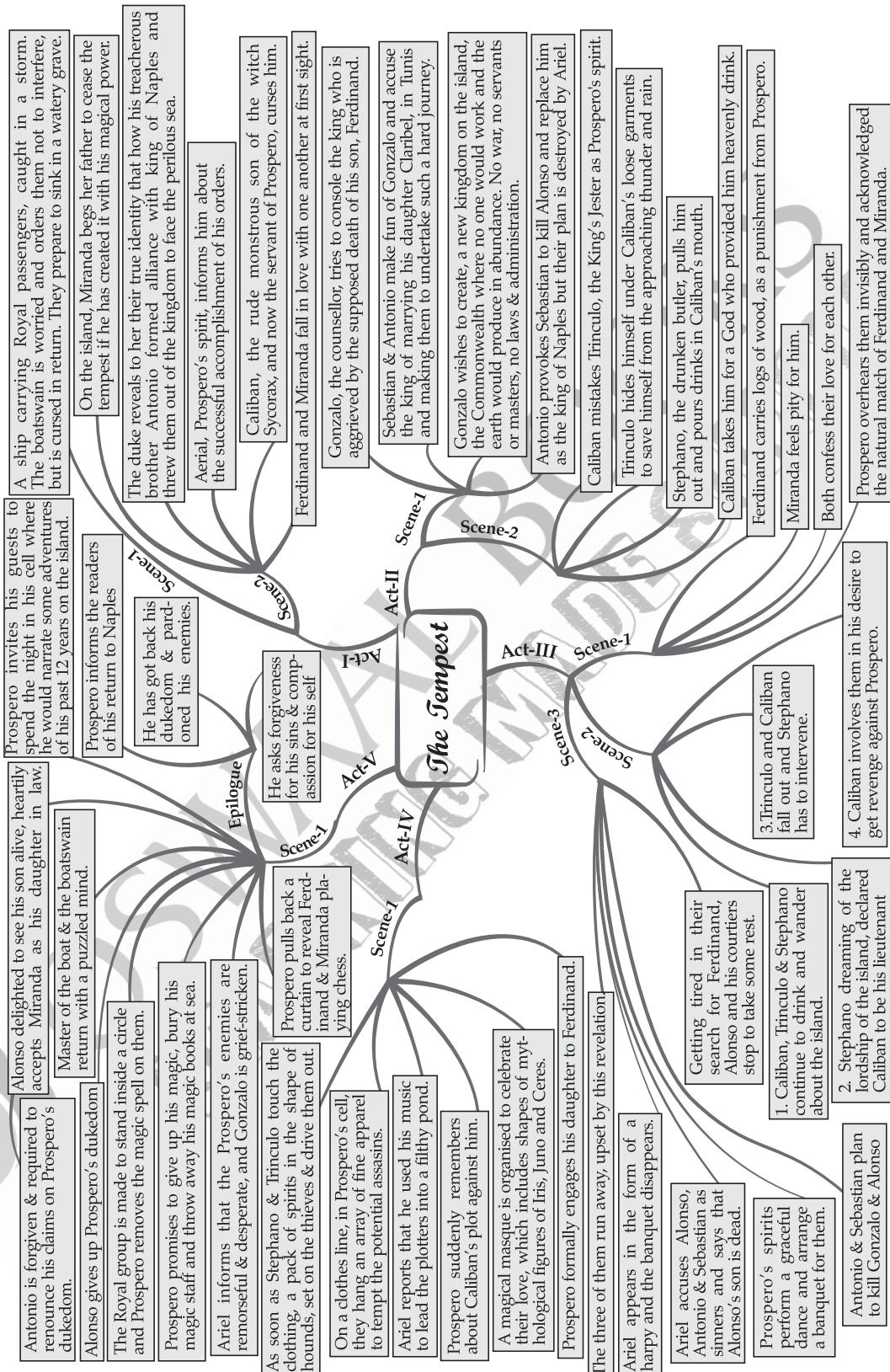
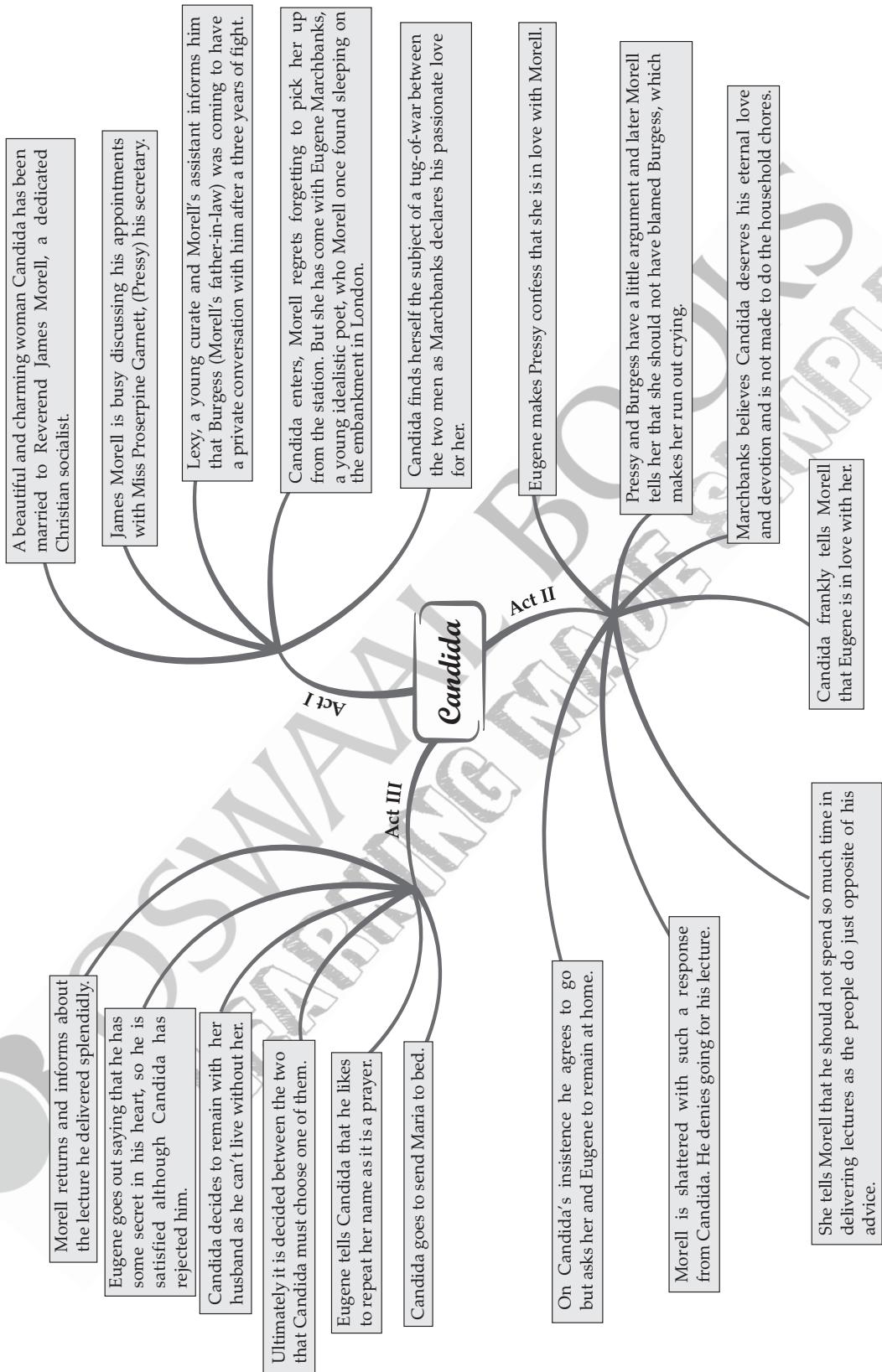


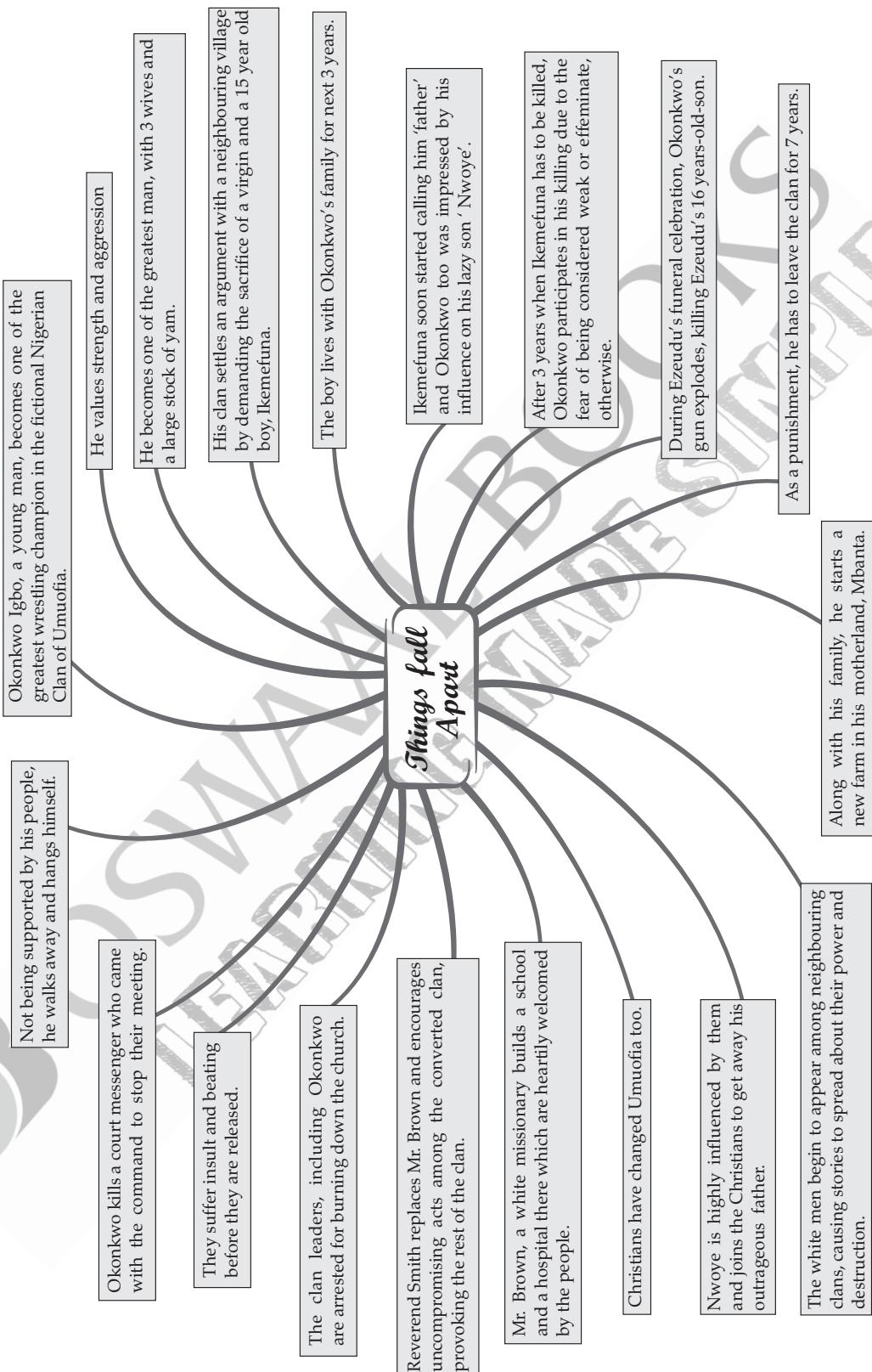
# I- PLAY – I. THE TEMPEST



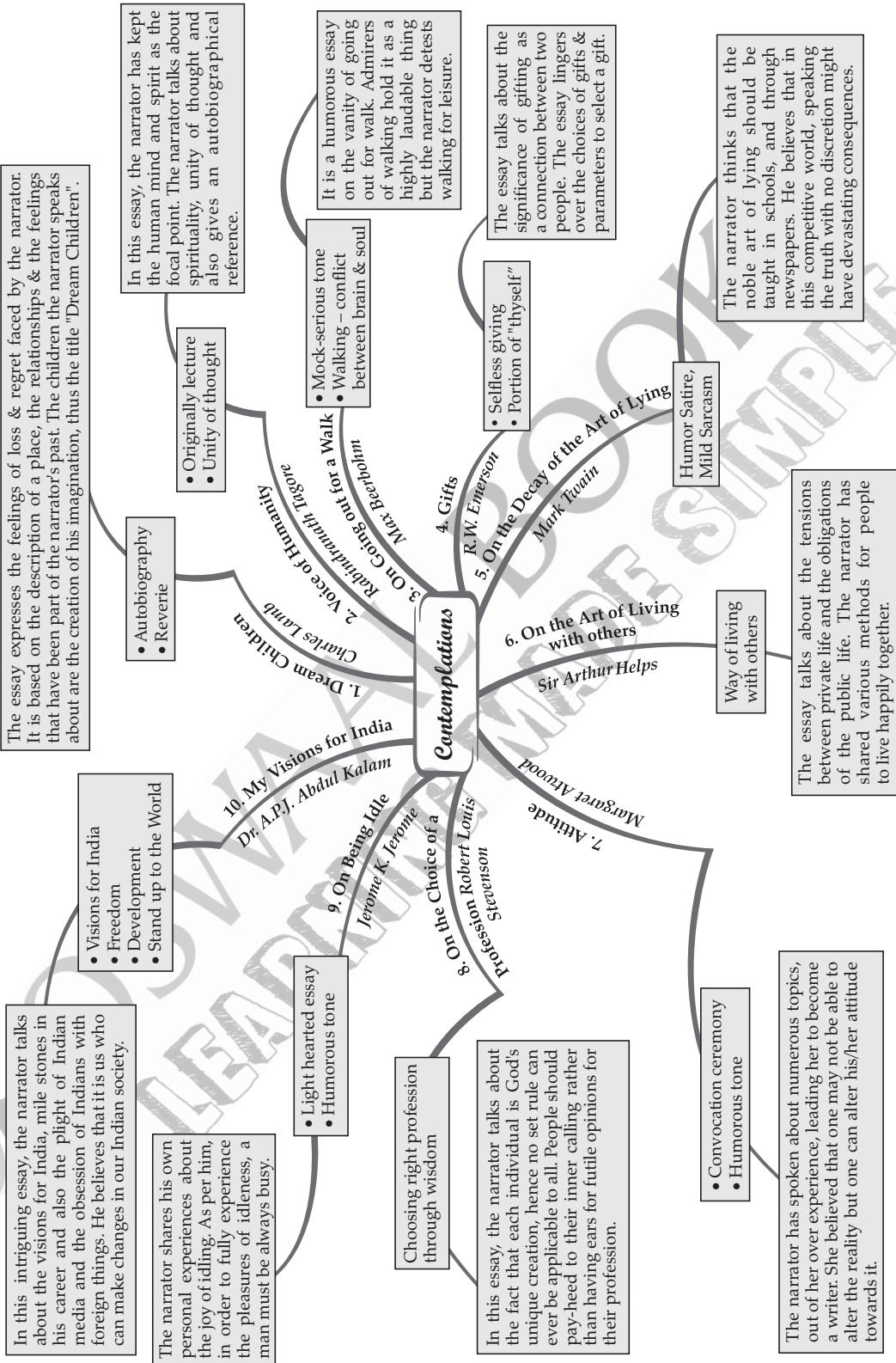
## 2. CANDIDA



## II- NOVEL – THINGS FALL APART



## III—CONTEMPLATIONS—A COLLECTION OF ESSAYS



# V- REVERIE – A COLLECTION OF POEMS

The poem presents two contradictory views.

One view is that fine arts are useless, they provide some sort of pleasure but make us unrealistic and escapist. The second view states though artists are cut off from the real world, they are dreamers of dreams, they create harmony and sweetmess.

- Artists have a great role to play in the world, their dreams & fantasies are not meaningless.
- Art is eternal.

It is a fable told through conversation between the spider and the fly. The spider wants to eat the fly and the fly knows the dangers of entering the spider's web. The wicked men use sweet words and tricks to snare the innocent for their evil design. No wonder, the innocent get trapped, like the fly.

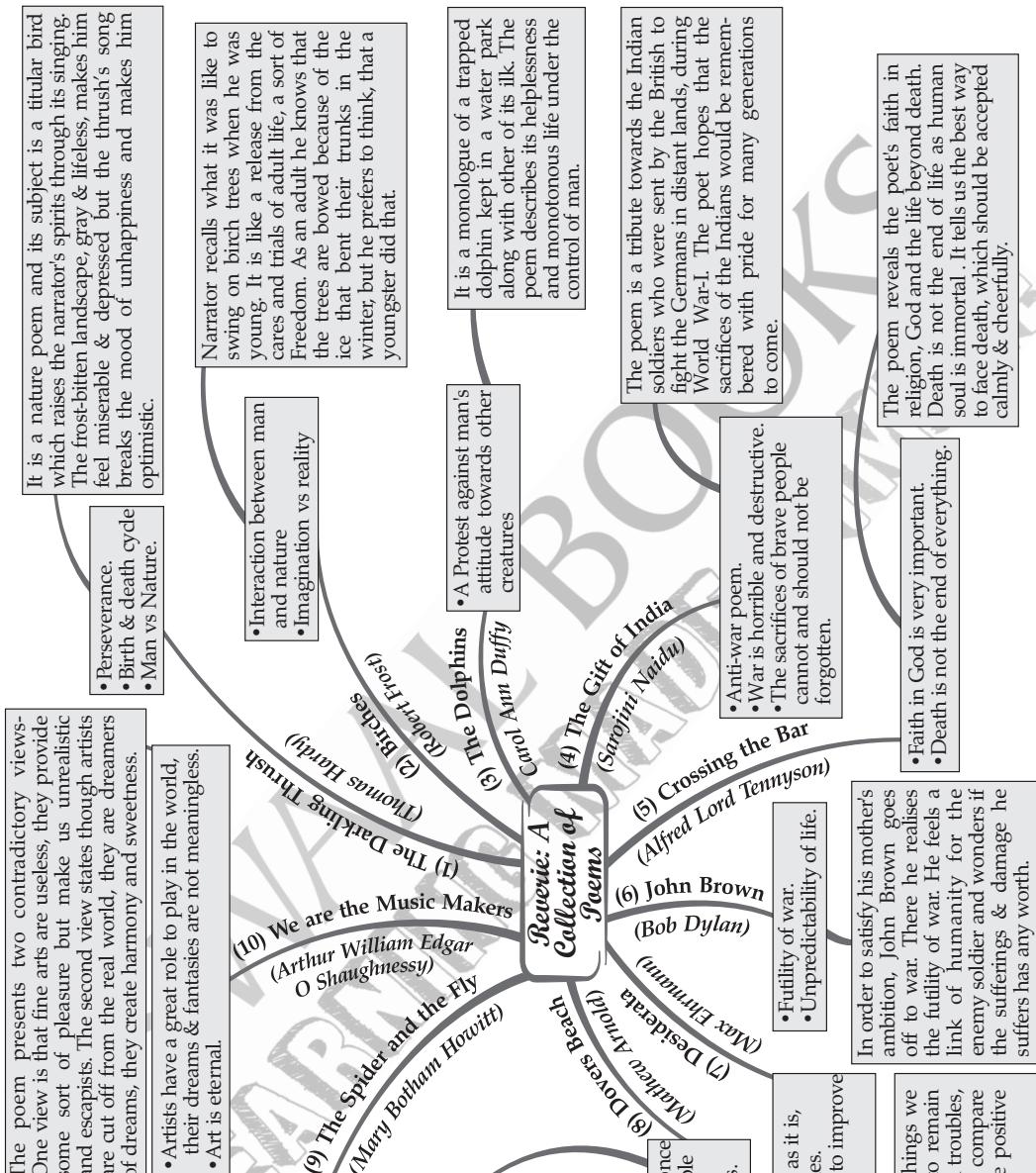
The speaker urges the little children not to fall prey to the flattering, useless, foolish words of a wicked counsellor.

The poet looks through the window of a house on the shingled beach at Dover (England) in moonlight and describes the scene vividly to his beloved. The sea becomes the symbol of eternal human misery, the faith, in religion and in God which is fast receding. He asks her to be loyal to each other in the seemingly beautiful world which has neither joy, nor love, nor light of knowledge.

- The Faith-the religious belief in God that once sustained mankind has waned in the whole world.
- People are now afflicted with uncertainties.

- We should accept the world as it is, with both its joys and troubles.
- Focus on ourselves in order to improve ourselves.

The poem by its name focuses on the things we should desire or aim at. It exhorts us to remain calm in the world that is full of noise and troubles, be on good terms with everyone, don't compare with other, take pride in your career, be positive and be at peace with god.



# IV- ECHOES – A COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES

It is the story of a failed poet B. Wordsworth and his friend, a little boy. The poet tells the boy about his own love story indirectly and a great poem he is working at while dying, however, he denies the truth of the both, perhaps in fear that the boy might follow him and suffer.

Poetry does not hold much respect in the eyes of common man. The good old values such as love, devotion, sincerely have vanished in the new world.

Klausner, a strange amateur scientist has contrived a machine with which he wants to prove using sound vibrations that the plants feel pain when they are cut. He demonstrates the experiment in the park to his friend, but as the axe is struck on the tree, a huge branch falls and destroys Klausner's machine.

Ideas rule the world. A scientist may be considered eccentric but his ideas form the basis of path-breaking theories, inventions and discoveries.

(9) The Sound Machine  
(Roald Dahl)

(5) The Story of an hour  
(Kate Chopin)

(6) The Chinese Statue  
(Jeffrey Archer)

(7) A Gorilla in the Guest Room  
(Gerald Durrell)

The protagonist Salvatore is a fisherman's son madly in love with a pretty girl. They are affianced but can't marry till he has done his military service. He leaves the island to become a sailor in the navy of King Victor Emmanuel. He feels terribly homesick & misses his fiance & family. He is diagnosed with rheumatism that renders him unfit for further service and the girl of his heart refuses to marry him. Though sorrowful, he starts a new life without complain. He faces lots of trouble but by the end, he has a good family and property.

The quality of 'goodness' the most unique and the most precious that anyone can have.

It is a mysterious story struggle for existence of the two shoemakers who never compromised with the quality of leather for the boots they made for their customers.

One should not give up easily even in the face of death. But one should not be over-confident of one's powers and abilities.

The protagonist Favant visits Bundi with his friend Shankar. He is reminded of his last visit here 31 years ago. His mind is hinged on the ruined doll, when he suddenly wakes up on the bed, he feels that Fritz the doll of an old man has walked on the cover of the quilt above his chest. This is logically unacceptable, but when the ground in which the doll was buried is dug out, we are horrified to see that a human skeleton, the size of the doll, is discovered underground.

Mr. Gessler along with his brother pursues the profession of boot making, taking utmost care in providing full value to the customers for the boots he makes for them on order. He is a skilled maker of boots. His elder brother dies in poverty, so does he starve to death, on account of his simple ways and his shop is soon taken over by an enterprising business man of resources.

A solitary hiker and his dog depart from the main Yukon trail to be reunited with his travelling companions at the Henderson Camp. It is extremely cold and snowy. He knows the danger of snow bites but does not care much. Once he is able to build a fire to warm himself & the dog but falls into a concealed spring and gets himself stuck to the ground. He begins to run to escape death by freezing. But finally decides to sleep to a peaceful death.

Mrs. Mallard, a heart patient, receives the heart-breaking news of her husband's death in a railway accident. She cries her heart out and resigns to her room to be alone by herself. She feels an unexpected sense of freedom trying to overpower her. Mrs. Mallard, now newly resolved, is about to come downstairs when the very 'not-dead' Mr-Mallard appears and she dies of tremendous shock.

The author had great love for the wildlife. He gets a baby gorilla from an animal dealer and keeps him in his own guest room until he is sent to the zoo. He treats him very affectionately and takes care to provide him with a female mate.

The ivory statue of Emperor King which Alexander Heathcote got from an old craftsman of village Ha Li Chuan remained in his family as a heirloom representing the Ming dynasty art. It was considered to be centuries old. However, the experts found it to be only 200-250 years old. But the base attached to it turns out to be a genuine work of art worth 2200 guineas.

The zoos should not be mere show-place of animals but must contribute essentially towards conservation of wild life.

To know about more useful books for class-12 [click here](#)