

SPRING – GERARD MANLEY HOPKINS
MEMO

1. It is an Italian/Petrarchan sonnet.✓
It comprises of 14 lines.✓
The first eight lines are referred to as the octave.✓
The last six lines are referred to as the sestet.✓
The rhyme scheme is abba abba cdcd cd.✓

NOTE: Accept any FOUR of the above.

Award ONE mark for the identification of octave and sestet. (4)

2. The speaker feels that Spring is the best/loveliest season.✓ (1)

3. Weeds are parasites and are generally not viewed in a positive light.✓ However, the poet describes weeds as 'lovely and lush' which are terms of admiration.✓ (2)

4. Thrush's eggs are blue in colour✓ and therefore resemble the colour of the sky which is associated with the heavens.✓ (2)

5.
(a) Simile✓ (1)

(b) Just as the striking of lightning is powerful,✓ similarly, the sound/singing of the thrush evokes a powerful feeling in the speaker. ✓ (2)

6.
(a) 'Eden garden'✓ (1)

(b) B/Spring Day✓ (1)

© The Virgin Mary's son, Jesus/Jesus/Christ/Jesus Christ/ Baby Jesus✓ (1)

7. Open-ended.

Accept a relevant response which shows an understanding of the following viewpoints, **among others**:

Yes. *The speaker's use of figures of speech and words like 'beautiful', 'lovely' and 'lush' convey the idea of the splendour of Spring.

*The descriptions of Spring, create a pleasant picture of nature, new life, bliss/happiness in the mind of the reader.

*Through his descriptions the speaker convinces the reader to feel the way that he does about Spring.

No. * The preference of readers as to their favourite season will differ.

* Other seasons also have a unique beauty, not just Spring.

* Not all readers will understand the language/diction/comparisons that the speaker uses.

NOTE: Do NOT award a mark for YES or NO. Credit responses where a combination is given.

For full marks, the response must be well-substantiated.

A candidate can score 1 or 2 marks for a response which is

not well-substantiated. The candidate's interpretation must be grounded in the text.

(3)