

9th Standard English

No Men are Foreign Summary

About the Poet

James Flaconer Kirkup (23 April, 1918—10 May, 2009) was a prolific English poet, translator and writer. He wrote more than 30 books, including autobiography, novels and plays.

Kirkup was bom and brought up in South Shields. He educated at South Shields Secondary School and Durham University. He wrote his first book of poetry, 'The Drowned Sailor at the Downs' which was published in 1947. He was the first resident university poet in the United Kingdom.

Central Idea of the Poem

In the poem 'No Men are Foreign', the poet tells us not to distinguish people on the basis of their appearance, religion, region, etc. People of the whole world are brothers. All people are bom, wear clothes, eat food and at last die and buried in the same earth. All of us have same kinds of body parts. But it is we who defile the earth by hating and fighting with each other.

Theme of the Poem

The Poem 'No Men are Foreign' is about all human beings. The poet tells us that all human beings on earth are brothers and are the same. He tells us that all of us need sun, air, water and clothes to cover the same kind of body. All walk on the same kind of land. All are fed by the harvest and after death, all

are buried in the same land. We do the same work. All of us on earth sleep and wake up, love and want to be loved. It is the human beings who hate others. We defile the earth and we all live on by hating and fighting with one another. It is we who pollute the air that we all breathe to serve our purpose and without taking into consideration its bad impact on other people.

