

Brief Question in Robert Frost's Poems

Writer: Robert Frost | Generated: Jan 26, 2026

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- **How many times was Frost awarded the Pulitzer Prize?**

Ans:

Four times—1924, 1931, 1937, and 1943.

- **Where did Frost serve as Professor of English?**

Ans:

At Amherst College, 1917–1921 and 1923–1938.

- **What kind of poem is “Mowing”?**

Ans:

A sonnet that reads like a lyric.

- **What is the meaning of “The fact is the sweetest dream that labour knows”?**

Ans:

Honest work gives the deepest joy.

- **What kind of poem is “Mending Wall”?**

Ans:

A dramatic lyric or monologue.

- **Who is the speaker of “Mending Wall”?**

Ans:

A young, liberal man, likely the poet.

- **What is the issue of quarrel in “Mending Wall”?**

Ans:

Repairing their boundary wall each spring.

- **What natural reasons make the wall fall?**

Ans:

Frost heave and heat make stones tumble.

- **What does “Spring is the mischief in me” mean?**

Ans:

Spring makes him playful and teasing.

- **What does Frost call an outdoor game?**

Ans:

Balancing stones on the wall.

- **What kind of poem is “The Death of the Hired Man”?**

Ans:

A dramatic lyric.

- **Where is the dramatic action in that poem?**

Ans:

In the husband’s changing attitude to Silas.

- **How did Silas offend Warren?**

Ans:

He left during busiest days, repeatedly.

- **What is the central theme of that poem?**

Ans:

The wife softens the husband’s prejudice.

- **Who is Harold Wilson?**

Ans:

A schoolboy who helped at haying-time.

- **How does Mary define a home?**

Ans:

A loving refuge needing no justification.

- **What kind of poem is “Home Burial”?**

Ans:

A dramatic dialogue between husband and wife.

- **What arrangement does the husband propose?**

Ans:

He will not meddle in her affairs.

- **Why is the husband shocked at his wife?**

Ans:

She misses how deeply he grieved.

- **What is the dying person’s feeling there?**

Ans:

He feels utterly alone.

- **How do husband and wife differ in grief?**

Ans:

She is consumed; he suppresses through work.

- **What is the harvest of the apple-picker?**

Ans:

A bumper crop that exhausts him.

- **What apples were sent for cider?**

Ans:

Fallen apples discarded for pressing.

- **What is the theme of “The Road Not Taken”?**

Ans:

Choosing between life's uncertain paths.

- **What is the theme of "The Oven Bird"?**

Ans:

Mortality and gradual decline toward death.

- **What message does the oven bird sing?**

Ans:

Life diminishes, then ends in death.

- **What is the theme of "Birches"?**

Ans:

The pull between reality and imagination.

- **To what is life compared in "Birches"?**

Ans:

A pathless wood.

- **What do "pathless wood" and "cobwebs" symbolize?**

Ans:

Confusion and human bewilderment.

- **What kind of poem is "Out, Out—"?**

Ans:

A dramatic narrative.

- **What is its theme?**

Ans:

Life's uncertainty shown by sudden death.

- **What causes the fatal accident?**

Ans:

A brief distraction; the saw severs.

- **How do co-workers react to his death?**

Ans:

They seem calm, yet continue in shock.

- **What is the theme of “Fire and Ice”?**

Ans:

Desire and hatred are destructive forces.

- **Why is the sash lowered at night?**

Ans:

To keep out the wind.

- **What does “outer weather” signify?**

Ans:

Storms, winds, rain, and harsh sun.

- **What does “inner weather” symbolize?**

Ans:

Anguish, doubts, and inner conflict.

- **What is the theme of “West Running Brook”?**

Ans:

Life’s contraries and paradoxes.

- **What is special about the brook there?**

Ans:

It runs west, unlike other brooks.

- **What is the theme of “Desert Places”?**

Ans:

Human loneliness mirrored by emptiness.

- **What kind of poem is “Come In”?**

Ans:

A personal lyric.

- **What is its theme?**

Ans:

Love for clear, everyday reality.

- **How did the poet read the thrush’s song?**

Ans:

A call to lament darkness and sunset.

- **What do the “woods” symbolize?**

Ans:

Darkness, the unconscious, evil, temptation, death.

- **What kind of poem is “The Gift Outright”?**

Ans:

A patriotic lyric.

- **What is its theme?**

Ans:

American identity formed by devoted surrender.

- **How did it gain popularity?**

Ans:

Frost recited it at JFK’s inauguration.

- **What enabled Americans’ great achievements?**

Ans:

Patriotism inspired courage and noble deeds.

- **What do Americans feel now about duty?**

Ans:

Fight for freedom, equality, and country.

- **What is the wife's name in "Home Burial"?**

Ans:

Amy.

- **What request does the boy make in "Out, Out—"?**

Ans:

"Do not let the doctor amputate."

- **What is the central theme of "Mowing"?**

Ans:

A vision of New England.

- **What does the wall stand for in "Mending Wall"?**

Ans:

Barriers between people.

- **How does Warren define a home?**

Ans:

A place of inescapable obligations.

- **Why does the wife hate her husband?**

Ans:

He dug the baby's grave and intruded.

- **What does the poet assert in "Fire and Ice"?**

Ans:

Passion and hatred can destroy worlds.

- **What is the moral of "Mowing"?**

Ans:

Hard work gives truer joy than dreams.

- **Who is the speaker in “Mending Wall”?**

Ans:

A young, liberal neighbor; likely Frost.

- **What does “inner weather” symbolize?**

Ans:

Spiritual anguish, doubts, and conflicts.

- **Who is Harold Wilson?**

Ans:

A schoolboy helper Silas remembered.

- **To what is life compared in “Birches”?**

Ans:

A pathless wood.

- **What life-view appears in “After Apple-Picking”?**

Ans: Rest follows labor, yet work continues.