



Subject: English  
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POEM 2  
Topic : A REBEL

### Summary of the Poem 'The Rebel' by – D.J Enright

The poem 'The Rebel' is written by a famous poet 'D.J Enright'. The poem, 'The Rebel' describes the character of a rebel, a person who does not conform to the norms of the society. The rebel is described as a person who would contradict others in order to be different. The character of the rebel in the poem is not based on a political activist, but seems to be character sketch of a young adolescent, trying to be different. All the instances in the poem are repetitive affirmations of this fact.

If a rebel sees a group of people with short hair, he would let his hair grow long. On seeing others with long hair, the rebel would cut short his hair. Seeing everybody talk during the lesson, the rebel would become absolutely mute. On realizing that everybody is silent the rebel would create a disturbance.

Similarly, on various such issues, the rebel would be seen contradicting others and doing things that no one would be doing. He would refuse to wear the uniform when the others would be wearing it, praise the dogs when in the company of cat lovers, appreciate the sun on rainy days and rains on the sunny days. He would do just anything but not what others are doing.

### Answer the following questions –

1. If someone doesn't wear a uniform to school, what do you think the teacher will say?

Ans: If someone doesn't wear a uniform to school, I think the teacher would scold the student who would not be dressed in the school uniform while coming to school.

2. When everyone wants a clear sky, what does the rebel want most?

Ans: When everyone wants a clear sky, the rebel wants the sun.

3. If the rebel has a dog for a pet, what is everyone else likely to have?

Ans: If a rebel has a dog for a pet, the others are most likely to be cat lovers.

4. Why is it good to have rebels?

Ans: It is good to have rebels because they are different and they teach us to be able to accept and tolerate differences.

5. Why is it not good to be a rebel oneself?

Ans: It is not good to be a rebel oneself because the society never accepts a rebel and always criticizes his behaviour.

6. Would you like to be a rebel? If yes, why? If not, why not?

Ans: Personal Response (students will write the answer on what they think they would be like)

**Q. Find in the poem an antonym (opposites) for each of the following words.**

1. Long x Short

2. Grow x Cut

3. Quietness x Disturbance

4. Sober x Fantastic

5. Lost x Find

**Q. Find in the poem lines that match the following. Read both one after the other.**

1. The rebel refuses to cut his hair. – The rebel lets his hair grow long.

2. He says the cats are better. – He puts in good words for dogs.

3. He recommends dogs. – He has a preference for cats.

4. He is unhappy because there is no sun. – When everybody is greeting the rain. 5. He is noisy on purpose. – When nobody talks during the lesson.