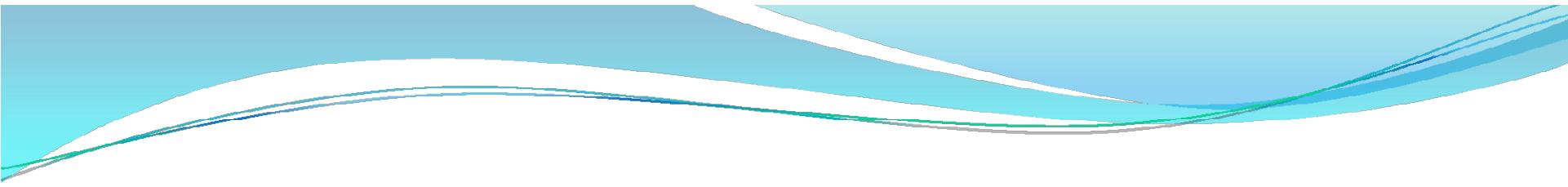


MODULE I

MONTH	- JUNE
CLASS	- VII
SUBJECT	- ENGLISH
MODULE	- 2/3
TOPICS/CHAPTERS	- THE REBEL
TEACHER	- MRS. SANTHI A, KAL-2



The Rebel

by

D.J. Enright

ABOUT THE POET



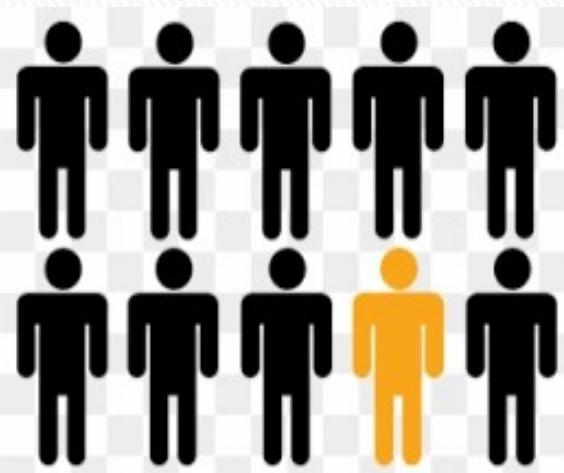
- ▶ D.J. Enright was for more than half a century a prominent Man of Letters, and in the fullest possible sense: a poet, novelist, anthologist, critic and lecturer; an editor, publisher, children's author, and international teacher of English Literature.
- ▶ His poetry collections include *The Laughing Hyena and Other Poems* (1953), *Addictions* (1962), *Sad Ires* (1975), and *Under the Circumstances: Poems and Prose* (1991). His *Collected Poems: 1948–98* was published in 1998. He was awarded the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry in 1981. Enright was born on 11 March 1920.

BEFORE WE READ

- ▶ *Do you know anyone who always disagrees with you or your friends, or likes to do the opposite of what everyone thinks they should do?*
- ▶ *Think of a word to describe such a person.*
- ▶ *Imagine some of the things such a person generally does.*
- ▶ If someone doesn't wear a uniform to school, what do you think the teacher will say?



What do you think of the odd one?



THEME- THE REBEL

The poet beautifully portrays the nature of rebel and his/ her attitude against conformity. The poet has portrayed the sensible and contradictory attitude of the rebel. Everyone can't be a rebellion.. He vividly explains the presence of rebel is needed as he/she has the courage to question. A rebellion thinks differently from others. They are harmless but they want to be different goes against the custom and tradition of the society.

It is good to have rebels because very few people have the power to oppose the decision of the majority. They think differently and fearlessly stand with their choices which can be beneficial. It is not good to rebel oneself because no one will like you. It keeps you apart from the people and they will be like enemy for you. The poet does not discuss the social rebel a contradictory attitude based on self-assertion.

It is a humorous poem devoid of malice or bitterness depicts eccentric attitude of rebels .

REBEL – a person who rises in opposition

Poem	Paraphrase
When everybody has short hair, The rebel lets his hair grow long.	in order to look different the rebel knowingly grows hair When every body keeps short and uniform hair.
When everybody has long hair, The rebel cuts his hair short.	When the rest of the society grows long hair, the rebel cuts his hair short as a non conformist.
When everybody talks during the lesson, The rebel doesn't say a word.	The rebel keeps silent as he wants to be prominent , when every member of the society talks during a lesson.
When nobody talks during the lesson, The rebel creates a disturbance.	The rebel constantly seeks attention by talking loudly to look distinct when no one talks.
When everybody wears a uniform, The rebel dresses in fantastic clothes	When every person of the society wears simple and uniform clothes, the rebel uses fantastic and attractive clothes. He wants to look distinguished from others.
When everybody wears fantastic clothes, The rebel dresses soberly.	when all other members of the society use attractive clothes, the rebel dresses himself very seriously and soberly.

Continued...

Poem	Paraphrase
In the company of dog lovers, The rebel expresses a preference for cats.	Amidst group of dogs as pet animals, the rebel prefers cats to dogs.
In the company of cat lovers, The rebel puts in a good word for dogs	If a rebel is in company of those people who love cats, he prefers dogs to cats. He wants to look different at all costs
When everybody is praising the sun, The rebel remarks on the need for rain.	if everyone praises the sun and its warmth, the rebel explains need for rain.
When everybody is greeting the rain, The rebel regrets the absence of sun.	When everybody welcomes and requires rain, the rebel feels sorry for the absence of the sun.

Continued ...

Poem	Paraphrase
When everybody goes to the meeting, The rebel stays at home and reads a book.	When every members of the society goes to some gathering , the rebel stays at home and engross reading a book.
When everybody stays at home and reads a book, The rebel goes to the meeting.	When everybody of the society stays at home and reads a book, the rebel tries to attend meeting.
When everybody says, Yes please, The rebel says, No thank you.	When every person asks for something, the rebel rejects the same with thanks because he is a person quite different from others.

Continued...

When everybody says, No thank you,
The rebel says, Yes please.

It is very good that we have rebels.
You may not find it very good to be one.

When everybody of the society does not like and does not receive anything and says thanks, for that, the rebel, on purpose, requires that thing and asks for it.

In these lines the poet concludes that it is very good that we have social rebels in the society. But naturally, it is not good to become a social rebel. The poet further suggests that if we already have the social rebels, we should tolerate them. Without them life will become monotonous and dull.

Message of the poem

- ▶ Someone who challenges something existing.
- ▶ The poem tells the nature of a rebel who does just opposite of what others do. The poet tells that it is dangerous but at the same time it is good because it is rebel who comes with the new ideas.
- ▶ But don't want the social rebel.



Comprehension Check

1. Find in the poem an antonym (a word opposite in meaning) for each of the following words.

- ▶ (i) long
- ▶ (ii) grow
- ▶ (iii) quietness
- ▶ (iv) sober
- ▶ (v) lost



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

- ▶ (i) The rebel refuses to cut his hair.
- ▶ (ii) He says cats are better.
- ▶ (iii) He recommends dogs.
- ▶ (iv) He is unhappy because there is no sun.
- ▶ (v) He is noisy on purpose.

3. Continue the poem with six more points to narrate the nature of the rebel.

Thank
you

