Worksheet: An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum (Stephen Spender)

IGCSE · Class 12 · English · 3 questions · 12 marks

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 12

Q1. What does Spender mean by 'hereditary slums'? How does this phrase capture the poem's view of poverty? *[2 marks]*

Q2. Why does the poem suggest that the Shakespeare picture, the world map, and the Tyrolese valley on the classroom walls are a mockery rather than an inspiration for the slum children? *[4 marks]*

Q3. What does Spender demand from the 'governor, inspector, visitor' in the final stanza? What must real education look like, according to the poem? *[6 marks]*