

## The poem 'Mending Wall' by Robert Frost

Introduction: The poem 'Mending Wall' was published in the volume "North of Boston" in 1914 but it was composed in 1913. Its title 'mending wall' is appropriate and suggestive. The walls or fences between two farms are repaired annually as they have been damaged during the winter season. In this poem Frost throws light on two conflicting views for mending of walls. One view lays an emphasis on the requirement of the walls or barriers and the other view considers it to be unnecessary. The poet-narrator presents both the views with the same pace. In other words we can say that the poet is impartial in these two views. The poem has got an earnest appeal for the modern reader since it deals with a modern issue. The Modern age regards divisions or barriers as unnecessary and undesirable.

The Theme of the poem: It consists of the process of repairing walls between neighbours and their farms. The poet tells us that the title justifies its theme. The wall throws light on the tendency of human beings to live in isolation from one another or nations to be isolated from one another. Some people may have the belief that walls are not indispensable. The poet-narrator is of the same opinion but some others believe that they are essential, and that "Good fences make good neighbours." In this way we see that the poem deals with these two conflicting views objectively.

Substance of the poem: The two neighbours take up the work of repair by their mutual understanding. Each of them does it on his side. They reset the fallen stones from the walls in their original places by their fingers. The poet appears to point out the primitiveness of the traditional view possessed by the neighbour and also justifies the view of the narrator for walls being undesirable and unnecessary. The poet does not show any preference for either of both views. In this way the poet does not convey any moral directly.