

**NCERT Solutions**  
**Class 9 English Beehive**  
**Poem - No Men are Foreign**

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**Thinking about the Poem**

**1. (i) “Beneath all uniforms...” What uniforms do you think the poet is speaking about?**

**(ii) How does the poet suggest that all people on earth are the same?**

**Answer:**

(i) The poet is probably speaking about the various dresses that people of different countries wear. Beneath these dresses human body is the same.

(ii) The poet suggests that all people on earth are the same as all of us breathe and live in the same way. When we will die, we will be buried under the same earth. All share the air, water and warmth of sun equally to survive. Each one of us prospers at the time of peace and suffers when there is war. We all are same the way we wake, sleep, hate, love and labour.

**2. In stanza 1, find five ways in which we all are alike. Pick out the words.**

**Answer:**

Words which suggest the five ways in which we all are like are:

- No men are strange
- No countries foreign
- A single body breathes
- The land our brothers walked upon
- Earth like this, in which we all shall lie

**3. How many common features can you find in stanza 2? Pick out the words.**

**Answer:**

There are five common features in stanza 2. These are: the sun, the air, the water, peaceful harvest, hands and the labour.

**4. “...whenever we are told to hate our brothers...” When do you think this happens? Why? Who ‘tells’ us? Should we do as we are told at such times? What does the poet say?**

**Answer:**

Whenever there is war or any kind of differences between two countries, we are told to hate the citizens of the other country.

Some political leaders tell us to do so for their personal gains.

No, we should not do as we are told at such times. Instead, we should understand that war is futile and analyses the situation before jumping to any conclusion. We should not forget the humanity.

The poet says that by hating our brothers (people of another country), we dispossess, betray and condemn ourselves.