1. Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow:

The two executioners stalk along over the knolls,
Bearing two axes with heavy heads shining and wide,
And a long limp two-handled saw toothed for cutting great boles,
And so they approach the proud tree that bears the death-mark on its side.
Jackets doffed they swing axes and chop away just above ground,
And the chips fly about and lie white on the moss and fallen leaves;
Till a broad deep gash in the bark is hewn all the way round,
And one of them tries to hook upward a rope, which at last he achieves.
The saw then begins, till the top of the tall giant shivers:
The shivers are seen to grow greater with each cut than before:
They edge out the saw, tug the rope; but the tree only quivers,
And kneeling and sawing again, they step back to try pulling once more.
Then, lastly, the living mast sways, further sways: with a shout
Job and Ike rush aside. Readied the end of its long staying powers
The tree crashes downward: it shakes all its neighbours throughout,
And two hundred years' steady growth has been ended in less than two hours.

i) Pick out the words and phrases that describe the men cutting down the tree. What is the image that is evoked?

Ans: i). Deep gash, hewn, sawing, crashes downward are the words and phrases that describe the men cutting down the tree. This words arise a feeling of cruelty on the tree, how people and the society does this cruel job for his own benefit. How the tree who stand proudly with birds nest and the beautiful surrounding is crashes downward, which shows the cruelty with deep heart breaking ending.

ii) What is the tone of the poem? Is the activity described in a matter-of-fact manner or does the poet imbue the lines with a certain emotion? If so, what is that emotion?

Ans: ii). The tone of the poem is vital. It is really heartbreaking for an individual from the trees point of view. Yes, the activity described in a matter-of-fact manner or does the poet imbue the lines with a certain emotion and that emotion is vital, heat touching. This poem creates a feeling and makes possible to visualise the whole scéenario making a miserable feeling. Hence on conclusion we can say that it is a feeling of pain.

iii) Write a short poem on the death of the tree from the tree's point of view.

Ans: iii).
"It takes much time to kill a tree
Not a simple jab of the knife"
So hack and chop
But this alone won’t do it
Not so much pain will do it
The bleeding bark will heal
Then the matter
Of scorching and choking
In sun and air
Browning, hardening
Twisting, withering,
And then it is done.
I look upon it with a frown
and then look at the sun.
For the sun that nurtured every limb
and every leafy branch
has one less tree to care for
that never had a chance
to say to man
"Don’t cut me down.
Don’t let me die."