

**SUBJECT : ENGLISH**

**B.A.(HONS.) PART-II, PAPER-III**

**TOPIC- EDWARD II**

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## **EXPLANATIONS**

Q.3. "My heart is as anvil unto sorrow,

Which beats upon it like the Cyclops hammers

And with the noise turns up my giddy brain,

And makes me frantic for my Gaveston;

Ah, had some bloodless Fury rose from hell,

And with my kingly sceptre struck me dead,

When I was forced to leave my Gaveston.!"

ANS- These lines have been spoken by the king in Act I

Scene IV of Marlowe's "Edward II". Edward feels deeply

aggrieved when the Barons succeed in getting Gaveston exiled once again.

After some time the Barons grant Edward's request to recall Gaveston, they are waiting to acquaint the king with their decision. In the mean time, the king indulges in deep melancholic thoughts. His heart is greatly oppressed by sorrow. He considers his heart like an anvil upon which sorrow beats like the hammers of Cyclop's men. The noise confuses his brain and makes him impatient for his dear Gaveston. To relieve himself of this agony, he wishes that some invisible goddess of Fate had come out of hell and struck him dead with his kingly sceptre when he was actually compelled to leave his Gaveston.

According to the Classical mythology, the Cyclopes are Vulcan's assistants in his forges under Mount Etna. They prepare thunderbolts for Jove. The noise produced by sorrow in the heart of the king has been likened to the noise of the strokes of hammers on the anvil of Cyclopes.

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