



**On His Blindness**  
**By**  
**John Milton**  
**(1608-1674)**



Programme:  
**B.A.**

Class:  
**BA Part-I**

Subject:  
**English**

Paper – 'A'  
**Poem - Illrd**



## About the Poet

- Educated at Christ's College Cambridge.
- Popular for his world famous epic Paradise Lost.
- Born with poor eye-sight.
- Became total blind in the middle of his age.
- Poetic style is grand and majestic.

## About the Poem

### Stanza Ist

- The poet is sad about the loss of his eye-sight.
- Gifted with one talent i.e. talent of writing poetry.
- Talent is lying useless because of his poor eye-sight.
- Afraid of God for not using the gift of writing poetry.

### Stanza IInd

- The poet grumbles and foolishly asks whether God expects active service even from those who are denied the gift of sight.
- The poet's patience calms down his murmur and assures him that God neither need man's work nor does he want back His own gifts.
- Those who sincerely bear the duties assigned by God are His true servants.

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### **Stanza IIIrd**

- Countless angles rush over land and ocean to carry out his orders.
- Some angles only stand and wait for his commands. They are also his true servants.
- Sincere devotion to God is the best service to him.

### **Style of the Poem**

- Written in the style of Petrarchan sonnet with fourteen lines.
- First stanza consists of eight-line (Octave) and Second stanza of six-lines (Sestet).
- Rhyme scheme-ABBA,ABBA,CDE and CDE.

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