

Poverty: the disabilities of all disabilities

The distance between success and aspiration is education,
but aspirations are expensive imaginations,
and education is a luxury,
especially for children with disabilities.
But certainly poverty
stands as the disability
of all disabilities.

It's the prison of inadequate,
a poetry of inconveniences,
where a child is tortured with the reality
of a future he cannot dare.

It's a place to fear,
a place where you can see your dreams
and pockets too crippled to take you there.
It's to aspire and retire
cause your goals makes you perspire,
each time you watch them expire,
before you.

It's true,
that even disabled
are capable
of so much when enable
help that are sustainable

But dreams are only feasible
when affordable
And aspirations are only attainable
when reachable

And even though education breads hope
for African children Brethren,
special children require special teachers,
and special teachers require special training.
And I'm not even complaining,
I'm explaining
that if inclusive education

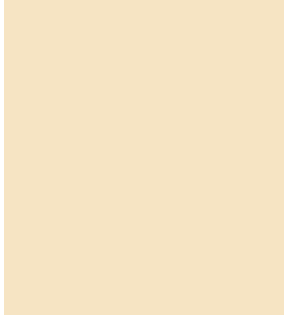
is too high price to pay today
then ignorance is a debt
to have to pay another day.

I'd say we are today.
I'd say we build this future today.
I'd say we become the bringer
of hope for African children.

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WORD BANK

1. **Affordable:** financially manageable, not too expensive.
2. **Aspiration:** ambitions, goals.
3. **Attainable:** reachable, achievable.
4. **Brethren:** fellow members, especially in a group (old-fashioned or formal).
5. **Crippled:** limited, weakened.
6. **Debt:** something owed, often related to money.
7. **Enable:** allow, make possible.
8. **Expire:** come to an end, run out.
9. **Feasible:** possible, achievable.
10. **Ignorance:** lack of knowledge or awareness.
11. **Inclusive:** including all, especially people from different backgrounds or abilities.
12. **Inadequate:** insufficient, not enough.
13. **Inconveniences:** difficulties, troubles.
14. **Retire:** withdraw, give up (used in a less common sense here).
15. **Sustainable:** able to be maintained or continued over time.



Questions:

1. **What does the poem describe as “the disability of all disabilities”?**
 - a) Ignorance
 - b) Education
 - c) Dreams
 - d) Poverty
2. **What is described as the "distance between success and aspiration"?**
 - a) Education
 - b) Money
 - c) Hard work
 - d) Hope
3. **Why are aspirations described as “expensive imaginations”?**
 - a) They are impossible to achieve
 - b) They require significant resources
 - c) They depend entirely on dreams
 - d) They are unnecessary
4. **What does the poem say about education for children with disabilities?**
 - a) It is a luxury
 - b) It is easily accessible
 - c) It is unimportant
 - d) It solves all problems
5. **What is poverty compared to in the poem?**
 - a) A mountain
 - b) A prison
 - c) A school
 - d) A storm
6. **What phrase describes the reality of a child in poverty?**
 - a) "A dream of hope"
 - b) "A poetry of inconveniences"
 - c) "A world of possibilities"
 - d) "A ladder to success"

7. **What does the poet say about dreams in poverty?**
 - a) They are easily achieved
 - b) They are unnecessary
 - c) They are a sign of wealth
 - d) They are visible but unattainable
8. **What phrase is used to describe aspirations in poverty?**
 - a) "They thrive in hardship"
 - b) "They are easy to reach"
 - c) "They give you hope"
 - d) "They make you perspire"
9. **What is said to be needed for special children to succeed?**
 - a) Regular education
 - b) Lower expectations
 - c) Special teachers with special training
 - d) More discipline
10. **What does the poem suggest about inclusive education?**
 - a) It is unnecessary
 - b) It solves all problems
 - c) It is widely available
 - d) It is too expensive for society
11. **What does the poet describe ignorance as?**
 - a) A strength
 - b) A debt to be paid later
 - c) A gift
 - d) A pathway to poverty
12. **What does the poet emphasize about building the future?**
 - a) It should be postponed
 - b) It depends on others
 - c) It begins today
 - d) It is impossible
13. **What does the poet imply about hope for African children?**
 - a) It is unnecessary
 - b) It depends entirely on dreams
 - c) It requires collective effort
 - d) It is impossible to achieve
14. **What makes dreams and aspirations feasible, according to the poem?**
 - a) Affordability
 - b) Hard work
 - c) Education
 - d) Luck

15. What is the ultimate message of the poem?

- a) Poverty is inevitable
- b) Society has no responsibility
- c) Dreams are irrelevant in poverty
- d) Education and support can combat poverty and empower individuals

ANSWER KEY: 1. d, 2. a, 3. b, 4. a, 5. b, 6. b, 7. d, 8. d, 9. c, 10. d, 11. b, 12. c, 13. c, 14. a, 15. d