



Year 10 Poetry 8: Silent Waves, Silent Wounds

Read the following poem and answer the questions below:

Silent Waves, Silent Wounds

The sea, it whispers in the night,
A song of times long lost to man,
Of ships that sailed beyond our sight,
To lands where no one ever ran.

Its waves, they carry tales untold,
Of sailors brave and lands of gold,
Of storms that roared and winds that blew,
And hearts that only the sea knew.

The moon casts shadows on the deep,
Where secrets lie and dreams are kept,
In waters dark, where shadows creep,
And ancient promises are swept.

The sea, it knows what we forget,
The dreams we've lost, the hopes unmet,
It holds them all in silent sleep,
Beneath the waves, so dark and deep.

The wind, it sings a haunting tune,
Of love that's lost beneath the moon,
Of hearts that broke upon the tide,
And tears that the ocean tried to hide.

And though the sea is vast and wide,
Its every ripple holds a tear,
For all the souls who've lived and died,
And found their solace far from here.

Yet in the night, when all is still,
If you listen, you may hear,
The echoes of the sea's own will,
A whisper close, then disappear.

So stand upon the shore so grand,
And feel the ocean's cold embrace,



For in its depths lie grains of sand,
That once were dreams in time and space.



Multiple Choice Questions

1. What does the sea symbolize in the poem?
 - A) The mystery of life
 - B) The power of nature
 - C) The inevitability of change
 - D) The passage of time

2. The phrase "The sea, it whispers in the night" is an example of:
 - A) Simile
 - B) Alliteration
 - C) Personification
 - D) Hyperbole

3. What is the mood of the poem?
 - A) Joyful
 - B) Reflective
 - C) Anxious
 - D) Triumphant

4. The line "In waters dark, where shadows creep" suggests:
 - A) The clarity of the sea
 - B) The fear of the unknown
 - C) The shallowness of the ocean
 - D) The beauty of the night



5. Which language technique is used in "The wind, it sings a haunting tune"?
- A) Hyperbole
 - B) Simile
 - C) Personification
 - D) Metaphor
6. The poet's use of "The sea, it knows what we forget" implies:
- A) The sea has a memory of its own
 - B) The sea is indifferent to human experiences
 - C) The sea erases all memories
 - D) The sea is unknowable
7. How does the poet convey the theme of loss in the poem?
- A) By focusing on the vastness of the ocean
 - B) Through the portrayal of forgotten dreams and unmet hopes
 - C) By describing the power of the sea
 - D) Through the use of bright, vivid imagery
8. What theme is explored in the poem?
- A) The joy of exploration
 - B) The enduring power of nature
 - C) The melancholy of forgotten dreams
 - D) The destruction of the environment



9. How does the poet create a sense of reverence for the sea?

- A) By using elevated language
- B) Through the personification of the sea
- C) By describing historical events in detail
- D) Through the use of vivid, colorful imagery

10. What is the effect of the final stanza?

- A) It suggests that the sea is a place of endless possibilities.
- B) It reinforces the idea that the sea holds the remnants of forgotten dreams.
- C) It highlights the transient nature of human experiences.
- D) It implies that the sea is indifferent to human life.



Short Answer Questions

1. How does the poet use imagery to convey the theme of mystery in the poem?

2. Discuss the significance of the sea as a symbol in the poem.

3. Analyze the impact of the phrase "The sea, it whispers in the night."

4. What does the poet suggest about the relationship between the sea and memory in the poem?



5. Explain the meaning of the line "In its depths lie grains of sand that once were dreams in time and space."

6. How does the poem's structure contribute to its overall meaning?

7. What role does personification play in developing the poem's theme?

8. How does the poet create a sense of melancholy in the poem?



9. In what ways does the poem explore the theme of loss?

10. How does the ending of the poem reinforce the idea of the sea as a keeper of forgotten dreams?



Answer Key

Multiple Choice Answers:

1. D) The passage of time
2. C) Personification
3. B) Reflective
4. B) The fear of the unknown
5. C) Personification
6. A) The sea has a memory of its own
7. B) Through the portrayal of forgotten dreams and unmet hopes
8. C) The melancholy of forgotten dreams
9. B) Through the personification of the sea
10. B) It reinforces the idea that the sea holds the remnants of forgotten dreams.

Short Answer Key:

1. The poet uses imagery such as "whispers in the night" and "shadows creep" to evoke a sense of mystery, suggesting that the sea holds secrets and unknown depths that are beyond human understanding.
2. The sea symbolizes the passage of time and the accumulation of forgotten memories. It represents a vast, timeless entity that holds the remnants of lost dreams and unfulfilled hopes, serving as a metaphor for the inevitability of change and the transience of human life.
3. The phrase "The sea, it whispers in the night" creates an atmosphere of quiet reflection, suggesting that the sea communicates in a subtle, almost imperceptible way, carrying with it the weight of history and forgotten dreams.
4. The poet suggests that the sea is a keeper of memories, holding onto the dreams and hopes that humans have forgotten. The sea is portrayed as an entity that remembers what we cannot, preserving the past in its depths.
5. The line "In its depths lie grains of sand that once were dreams in time and space" implies that the sea holds the remnants of dreams that have been lost or forgotten over time. These grains of sand represent the passage of time and the transformation of dreams into memories.
6. The regular structure of the poem, with its rhymed quatrains, mirrors the steady rhythm of the sea, suggesting a sense of continuity and timelessness that reinforces the theme of the sea as a keeper of forgotten memories.
7. Personification in the poem, such as describing the sea as whispering and knowing, gives the sea human-like qualities, emphasizing its role as an active participant in the preservation of memories and the passage of time.
8. The poet creates a sense of melancholy by focusing on the sea as a repository of forgotten dreams and unmet hopes. The use of phrases like "lost to man" and "hearts that broke upon the tide" evokes a feeling of sadness and reflection.



9. The poem explores the theme of loss by portraying the sea as a place where forgotten dreams and unmet hopes are kept. The sea holds onto these remnants of the past, serving as a reminder of what has been lost over time.
10. The ending of the poem reinforces the idea of the sea as a keeper of forgotten dreams by suggesting that the sea holds onto the remnants of human experiences, preserving them in its depths even as time moves on.



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