



Year 9 Poetry 6: The Mirror's Edge

Read the following poem and answer the questions below:

The Mirror's Edge

In the quiet of dawn's first light,
A mirror hangs, untouched, unstirred,
Reflecting not the room's dark corners,
But a world beyond, blurred.

The glass, a thin divide,
Between reality and dreams,
Where shadows take their flight,
And nothing is as it seems.

Faces pass, some familiar,
Others lost in the haze,
They vanish with a fleeting glance,
Lost in the mirror's maze.

Yet deep within its depths,
Lies a truth untold, unseen,
A secret held by silver glass,
In the space between.

The mirror's edge is sharp,
A line of cold, hard steel,
Where reflections end and life begins,
And dreams start to feel real.



Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the main focus of the poem?

- A) A window
- B) A mirror
- C) A door
- D) A painting

2. What does the mirror symbolize in the poem?

- A) A passage to another world
- B) A reflection of reality
- C) The boundary between dreams and reality
- D) A simple household object

3. How are the faces in the mirror described?

- A) As clear and distinct
- B) As blurry and indistinct
- C) As vibrant and lively
- D) As dark and menacing

4. What literary device is used in "A mirror hangs, untouched, unstirred"?

- A) Simile
- B) Alliteration
- C) Personification
- D) Hyperbole



5. What does the phrase “a truth untold, unseen” suggest?
- A) The mirror hides nothing
 - B) The mirror reveals everything
 - C) The mirror holds a hidden truth
 - D) The mirror reflects only lies
6. How does the poet convey a sense of mystery in the poem?
- A) Through vivid descriptions of the room
 - B) Through the use of dark and shadowy imagery
 - C) Through the mirror's clear reflection
 - D) Through the dialogue of the faces
7. What does the “space between” in the poem refer to?
- A) The gap between dreams and reality
 - B) The physical space in the room
 - C) The distance between the mirror and the wall
 - D) The time of day
8. What mood is evoked by the line “Faces pass, some familiar”?
- A) Joyful
 - B) Nostalgic
 - C) Fearful
 - D) Confused



9. What does the poet mean by “The mirror’s edge is sharp”?

- A) The mirror is broken
- B) The mirror has a dangerous side
- C) The boundary between reality and dreams is clear and harsh
- D) The mirror reflects reality accurately

10. Which technique is used in “Where reflections end and life begins”?

- A) Simile
- B) Alliteration
- C) Metaphor
- D) Onomatopoeia



Short Answer Questions

1. What is the significance of the mirror in the poem?

2. How does the poet use imagery to create a sense of ambiguity?

3. What role do the faces in the mirror play in the poem's theme?

4. Explain the metaphorical meaning of "The glass, a thin divide."



5. How does the poet create a sense of tension in the poem?

6. Discuss the symbolism of the “mirror’s maze” in the poem.

7. What does the poet mean by “the space between” in the poem?

8. How does the poem explore the relationship between reality and dreams?



9. Describe the mood created by the phrase "In the quiet of dawn's first light."

10. How does the ending of the poem reinforce its theme of duality?



Answer Key

Multiple Choice:

1. B) A mirror
2. C) The boundary between dreams and reality
3. B) As blurry and indistinct
4. C) Personification
5. C) The mirror holds a hidden truth
6. B) Through the use of dark and shadowy imagery
7. A) The gap between dreams and reality
8. B) Nostalgic
9. C) The boundary between reality and dreams is clear and harsh
10. C) Metaphor

Short Answer:

1. The mirror symbolizes the boundary between reality and dreams, where the truth is hidden and only partially revealed.
2. The poet uses imagery like “blurred” and “shadows take their flight” to create a sense of ambiguity and mystery in the reflection.
3. The faces represent fleeting memories or thoughts that are difficult to grasp, emphasizing the transient nature of the images in the mirror.
4. “The glass, a thin divide” metaphorically suggests that the mirror separates two worlds: the tangible reality and the intangible world of dreams.
5. Tension is created through the juxtaposition of the familiar and the unknown, as well as the sharp contrast between the mirror’s reflection and what lies beyond.
6. The “mirror’s maze” symbolizes the confusion and complexity of navigating between reality and illusion, where the truth is difficult to discern.
7. “The space between” refers to the delicate boundary where the mirror’s reflection blurs the lines between what is real and what is imagined.
8. The poem explores the relationship between reality and dreams by depicting the mirror as a portal that reflects and distorts both, suggesting a blurred line between the two.
9. The phrase “In the quiet of dawn’s first light” creates a mood of calmness and stillness, setting the tone for the mysterious and introspective nature of the poem.
10. The ending reinforces the theme of duality by highlighting the sharp division between reflection and reality, suggesting that the boundary between the two is both thin and impenetrable.



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