

Review and Assess

Thinking About the Selection

1. **Respond:** Do you agree that “Fate is stronger . . . than any man’s mind”? Why or why not?
2. (a) **Recall:** Identify three images related to weather in the first stanza. (b) **Interpret:** What does each convey about the speaker’s experiences at sea?
3. (a) **Recall:** What causes the speaker’s heart to “begin to beat”? (b) **Generalize:** How can someone dislike something as much as the seafarer dislikes life at sea and yet be drawn to it?
4. (a) **Recall:** What is the seafarer’s response to “harps,” “rewards,” “passion,” and the other pleasures of life on the land (lines 44–47)? (b) **Interpret:** Judging from his response to these things, explain whether he is more attached to life on land than he is to life at sea.
5. (a) **Interpret:** What does the speaker mean when he says in lines 58–61 “And yet my heart wanders away, / My soul roams with the sea, . . . / . . . returning ravenous with desire, . . .”? (b) **Draw Conclusions:** Is the speaker fully at home on land, on the sea, or in neither place? Explain.
6. (a) **Interpret:** According to the last section of the poem, where is our home? (b) **Synthesize:** Explain the connection between the poem’s concluding message and its depiction of the seafarer’s wandering existence.
7. **Evaluate:** Can people find a way of life in which they are fully happy, or, like the seafarer, will they always have longings for “another place”? Explain.