

The Wind

By Robert Louis Stevenson

I saw you toss the kites on high
And blow the birds about the sky;
And all around I heard you pass,
Like ladies' skirts across the grass—

O wind, a-blowing all day long! 5

O wind, that sings so loud a song!

I saw the different things you did,
But always you yourself you hid.
I felt you push, I heard you call,
I could not see yourself at all—

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O wind, a-blowing all day long,

O wind, that sings so loud a song!

O you that are so strong and cold,
O blower, are you young or old?
Are you a beast of field and tree,
Or just a stronger child than me?

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O wind, a-blowing all day long,

O wind, that sings so loud a song!

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What is a-blowing all day long?

- A) the wind
- B) birds in the sky
- C) ladies' skirts

2. What are two lines in the poem that rhyme?

- A) lines 3 and 4
- B) lines 3 and 5
- C) lines 4 and 5

3. Read lines 13-16 from the poem:

O you that are so strong and cold,
O blower, are you young or old?
Are you a beast of field and tree,
Or just a stronger child than me?

What can you conclude from these lines about the speaker of the poem?

- A) The speaker of the poem is a tree.
- B) The speaker of the poem is a child.
- C) The speaker of the poem is old.

4. What does the wind sound like?

- A) The wind sounds like it is singing.
- B) The wind sounds like a child playing.
- C) The wind sounds like a bird chirping.

5. What is the main idea of this poem?

- A) The wind is strong and mysterious.
- B) The wind is kind and gentle.
- C) The wind is dangerous and destructive.

6. Read lines 7-12 from the poem:

I saw the different things you did,
But always you yourself you hid.
I felt you push, I heard you call,
I could not see yourself at all—

O wind, a-blowing all day long,
O wind, that sings so loud a song!

Why might the poet have used the words “push” and “call” in these lines?

- A) to help readers imagine how the wind feels and sounds
- B) to repeat an idea so that readers are more likely to remember it
- C) to explain to readers why the wind could not be seen

7. Read lines 7-12 from the poem:

I saw the different things you did,
But always you yourself you hid.
I felt you push, I heard you call,
I could not see yourself at all—

O wind, a-blowing all day long,
O wind, that sings so loud a song!

Who or what does the word “you” refer to in these lines?

- A) the speaker of the poem
- B) the wind
- C) a song

8. What is a question that the speaker of the poem asks the wind?

9. Name two details from the poem that describe the wind.

10. The speaker of the poem wants to know what the wind is. Write a sentence that explains what the wind is, using only information in the poem.
