



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What does the poet describe as the thing with feathers?

- A) life
- B) hope
- C) song
- D) soul

2. The poet uses the words “gale” and “storm” as metaphors. What might these words represent?

- A) times of bad weather
- B) hard or painful times
- C) pleasant times
- D) times of success and growth

3. Hope is important and helpful in times of pain, sorrow, or difficulty.

Which lines from the poem best supports this statement?

- A) Lines 1-2
- B) Lines 3-4
- C) Lines 5-8
- D) Lines 11-12

4. The poet says that hope “sings the tune without the words.” Why might the poet have written that the tune has no words?

- A) to emphasize that hope does not need to be put into words to be felt
- B) to point out that it is very difficult for people to express whether they feel hopeful or not
- C) to suggest that people are usually unable to understand the feeling of hope
- D) to indicate that people who are always hopeful are also often forgetful

5. What is the theme of this poem?

- A) People need to work hard in order to maintain hope at all times.
- B) Hope is able to keep people warm even in the coldest, stormiest lands.
- C) Hope can survive through even the toughest times.
- D) Without hope, people would be much more sensible and realistic.

6. Read these lines from the poem:

And sore must be the storm  
That could abash the little bird  
That kept so many warm.

What does the word “abash” most nearly mean, based on these lines?

- A) to confuse
- B) to support
- C) to praise
- D) to silence

7. Read these lines from the poem:

And sore must be the storm  
That could abash the little bird  
That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chilliest land,  
And on the strangest sea;  
Yet, never, in extremity,  
It asked a crumb of me.

What does “it” refer to in the last line?

- A) the little bird
- B) the storm
- C) the chilliest land
- D) the strangest sea

8. According to the poet, where does hope live?

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9. Read these lines from the poem:

And never stops at all,

And sweetest in the gale is heard;

And sore must be the storm

That could abash the little bird

That kept so many warm.

Based on these lines, what is an important characteristic of hope, or “the little bird”?

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10. Read these final four lines of the poem:

I've heard it in the chilliest land,

And on the strangest sea;

Yet, never, in extremity,

It asked a crumb of me.

Describe the speaker’s personal experience with hope. Use evidence from the poem to support your description.

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