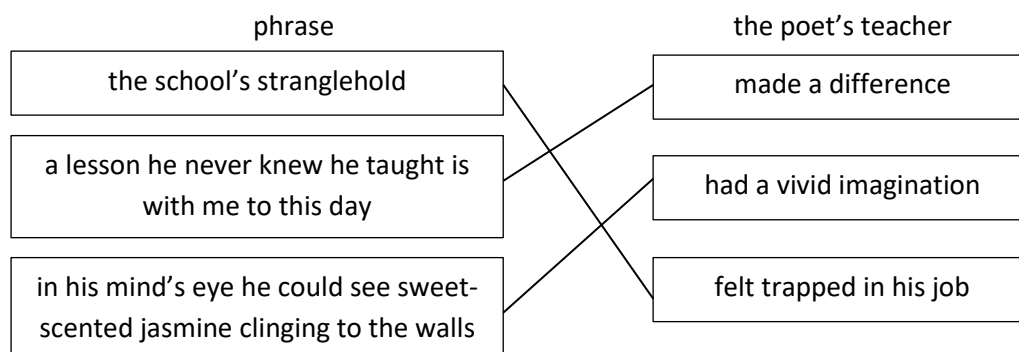


1. Who is the poem about?  
The poet's teacher
  
2. **Find and copy one** word from the first verse that shows that the poet's teacher wanted to leave the school and travel the world.  
longed
  
3. How do the words narrow and grey also reflect his life?  
narrow = his life was small and limited (to a narrow range of experiences)  
grey = dull and unexciting
  
4. The poet's teacher didn't like the British weather.  
**Find and copy** one line from the poem that tells you this.  
where it was never drab or grey
  
5. What did the poet think about his teacher's plans?  
he couldn't understand why he never left/why he was still there/why he didn't just do it
  
6. What do these lines tell you about the poet's teacher?  
Write **two** things in your own words.
  1. he was about to retire
  2. he fell ill (and potentially died)
  3. he died, or became very ill, shortly before he was about to retire
  4. he never got to visit the places he wanted
  5. he died before he could go travelling
  
7. Draw lines to match each phrase with what it tells you about the poet's teacher.



8. Look at the verse beginning *I travel to where...*  
**Find and copy one word** that suggests the sea is transparent.  
glass-clear
  
9. Why did the poet's teacher want to leave and sail across the sea?  
to visit places he wanted to see all his life  
to be free  
to leave his dull boring life for something more exciting

to not be trapped by his job/life anymore

10. What impressions do you get of the place the poet visits in the last verse?

Give two impressions.

1. it's hot/warm/sunny (green leaves burn)
2. it's beautiful (clear, blue ocean)

11. The poem is about a lesson the poet learned. What lesson did he learn?

Tick the **best** answer.

That there are places where the ocean is glass-clear and blue.

That travelling is fun and educational.

That some people die before they retire.

**That you should not put off doing the things you love.**

12. What's the main message within this poem? Justify your answer with evidence.

- You should not put off doing things you love = his teacher always wanted to travel and explore the world, but he never got the chance: he died before he could.
- If you don't do the things you love/really want to do, you will regret it/your life won't be as good/it could be too late = the poet's teacher's life was dull and boring and he felt trapped in his job. He dreamed of a better life with more colour and warmth, where he travelled across the seas to exciting lands; however, he never got the chance to actually do what he wanted because he died before he retired.

13. The experience in the last line could best be described as...

Tick one.

amusing

**distressing**

puzzling

comforting

14. Why is 'Geography Lesson' a good title for this poem?

- it's about a lesson the poet was taught by a teacher who was interested in geography
- the poet learns something valuable from his teacher about travelling and seeing the world