

1. Who is the poem about?

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.

3. Read this line from the poem.

The house he lived in was narrow and grey

How do the words narrow and grey also reflect his life?

4. The poet's teacher didn't like the British weather.

Find and **copy** one line from the poem that tells you this.

5. What did the poet think about his teacher's plans?

6. Look at these lines from the poem.

Then halfway through his final term

He took ill and never returned,

And he never got to go to that place on the map

Where the green leaves of the orange trees burned.

What do these lines tell you about the poet's teacher?

Write **two** things in your own words.

1. _____

2. _____

7. Draw lines to match each phrase with what it tells you about the poet's teacher.

phrase

the school's stranglehold

a lesson he never knew he taught is
with me to this day

in his mind's eye he could see sweet-
scented jasmine clinging to the walls

the poet's teacher

made a difference

had a vivid imagination

felt trapped in his job

8. Look at the verse beginning *I travel to where...*
Find and **copy one word** that suggests the sea is transparent.

9. Why did the poet's teacher want to leave and sail across the sea?

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

1. _____

2. _____

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.

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?

