

## BEFORE THE RAIN



1) Look for rhyming patterns in the poem.

a) Write three pairs of words that rhyme.

mist / amethyst

flowers / showers

grain / rain

b) Write a description of the poem's rhyming pattern below.

In each stanza, the second and fourth lines rhyme.

2) Find and copy a word that means 'looking'.

morning morn

made smaller shrunk

3) What does the word 'dismal' mean?

Dismal means gloomy, it is telling the reader that the fens are very gloomy and miserable.

4) What do you think is meant by 'skeins of rain'?

Look up the word 'skein'.

A skein is a length of thread, yarn or wool, loosely coiled together, so a skein of rain is describing that the rain looks like long piece of thread but that the wind is making it look coiled or tangled.

5) What do you think the poet means by 'lowering its golden buckets down'?

The sun is coming and shining through the mist.

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6) Why has the poet used the word 'sprinkle'?

Sprinkle is describing how the rain is falling on the land. If it is a sprinkle, this shows that it is raining lightly and that water is being scattered everywhere.

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7) Do you think that the poet likes the rain? Circle one.

yes

no

8) Explain why you think this using evidence from the poem.

Answers may differ depending on whether they think the poet likes the rain or not but children must refer back to the poem to explain their ideas.

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## I WANDERED LONELY AS A CLOUD

1) 'I wandered'

What is the poet doing?

He is walking around, without anywhere in particular to go.

2) What two things does the poet say a cloud floats over?

vales (valley)

hills

3) What did the poet see a crowd of?

daffodils

4) What was beside the 'crowd'?

a lake

5) Do you think that the poet saw many daffodils?

yes

no

6) Which words or phrases tell you this?

The words 'never-ending-line' shows that there were many of them and the poet says that there are 'ten thousand' of them.

7) Find and copy a word from the poem that means *when you are on your own*.

solitude

8) Find a copy a word that means 'looking'.

gazed

9) Underline the words that rhyme in the poem, then describe the poem's rhyming pattern.

Stanza 1 - cloud / crowd      hills / daffodils      tress / breeze

Stanza 2 - shine / line      way / bay      glance / dance

Stanza 3 - they / gay      glee / company      thought / brought

Stanza 4 – lie / eye      mood / solitude      fills / daffodils

In each stanza, the 1st and 3rd lines rhyme, the 2nd and 4th lines rhyme and the 5th and 6th lines rhyme.

10) Do you think that the poet enjoys looking at the daffodils?

yes

no

11) Explain how you know.

Answers may vary. Children must explain their reasoning using words from the poem.

Possible answers might be:

YES

Because at the end of the poem he says that his heart is filled with pleasure and it is dancing with the daffodils.

YES

Because the poet describes the daffodils in a very positive way, ..comparing them to stars that twinkle and sparkling waves, and says that they are fluttering and dancing.