

## THE SHARKS / THE PEACE OF WILD THINGS

**Selection Test A****Comprehension**

Read each of the following questions. Then choose the letter of the best answer.  
(6 points each)

1. In “The Sharks,” the image “dark fins appear” in line 2 creates a mood of
  - A. calm
  - B. danger
  - C. despair
  - D. mystery
2. What does the speaker in “The Sharks” wonder?
  - A. when the sharks first appeared
  - B. whether the sharks are everywhere
  - C. why the sharks have come
  - D. whether the sharks are dangerous
3. The speaker in “The Sharks” likes waves that
  - A. appear to fly through the air
  - B. sparkle in the sunlight
  - C. push a person back to shore
  - D. are high enough to cover sharks
4. What does the phrase “a sheen of copper” in line 13 of “The Sharks” mean?
  - A. reflections of the sunset on the waves
  - B. pennies people have left on the beach
  - C. the color of blood in the water
  - D. the moon’s reflection on the sea
5. What do the shark fins represent to the speaker in “The Sharks”?
  - A. calm waves
  - B. shining moonlight
  - C. deep water
  - D. possible danger
6. The speaker in “The Peace of Wild Things” is concerned about the
  - A. natural world
  - B. future
  - C. starlight
  - D. wood drake
7. Lying down outside helps the speaker in “The Peace of Wild Things” be free from
  - A. worry
  - B. grief
  - C. the past
  - D. civilization
8. In “The Peace of Wild Things,” the image of the duck in the water creates a mood of
  - A. boredom
  - B. laziness
  - C. calm
  - D. freedom

## SELECTION TEST A, CONTINUED

9. The speaker in “The Peace of Wild Things” thinks that animals are at peace because
- A. they are patient throughout their lives
  - B. they live amidst the beauty of nature
  - C. their surroundings are usually still
  - D. they do not worry about the future
10. In both poems, events take place
- A. outdoors
  - B. at the ocean
  - C. near a lake
  - D. during the night

**Written Response**

**Short Response** Answer the following questions based on your knowledge of the poems. Write one to two sentences on a separate sheet of paper. (10 points each)

11. How would you feel if you had the same experience that the speaker had in “The Sharks”? Explain why in a sentence or two.
12. Have you ever had an experience that made you feel peaceful, such as the experience that makes the speaker feel peaceful in “The Peace of Wild Things”? Describe the experience in a sentence or two.

**Extended Response** Answer the following question based on your knowledge of the poems. Write one or two paragraphs on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

13. Explain how images of the time of day help create mood in either “The Sharks” or “The Peace of Wild Things.” Include a detail from the poem in your response.