

Fireflies in the Garden

By Robert Lee Frost

Here come real stars to fill the upper skies,
And here on earth come emulating flies,
That though they never equal stars in size,
(And they were never really stars at heart)
Achieve at times a very star-like start.
Only, of course, they can't sustain the part.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What kind of insect is this poem about?

- A) dragonflies
- B) fireflies
- C) grasshoppers
- D) ants

2. What does the poet compare and contrast fireflies with in this poem?

- A) stars
- B) planets
- C) comets
- D) planes

3. Read these lines from the poem:

And here on earth come emulating flies,
That though they never equal stars in size,
(And they were never really stars at heart)
Achieve at times a very star-like start.
Only, of course, they can't sustain the part.

What can you conclude from these lines?

- A) The fireflies cannot act like they are stars for very long.
- B) The fireflies do not want to be like stars.
- C) The fireflies are able to shine brightly like stars without ever stopping.
- D) The fireflies can grow to be the same size as stars.

4. Read these lines from the poem:

That though they never equal stars in size,
(And they were never really stars at heart)
Achieve at times a very star-like start.
Only, of course, they can't sustain the part.

Why might the poet have included the phrase "of course" in the last line?

- A) to show that the poet does not really know much about fireflies
- B) to show that the poet thought the fireflies would be able to sustain the part
- C) to show that the poet wishes that fireflies could sustain the part
- D) to show that the poet is not surprised that fireflies cannot sustain the part

5. What is the main idea of this poem?

- A) Although stars are larger in size, fireflies are more beautiful than stars.
- B) Fireflies live in the garden, while stars appear in the sky.
- C) Fireflies can seem very star-like, but only for a short time.
- D) Fireflies and stars are both interesting things to study.

6. Read these lines from the poem:

And here on earth come emulating flies,
That though they never equal stars in size,
(And they were never really stars at heart)
Achieve at times a very star-like start.

Why might the poet have chosen to use the word "achieve" in the last of these lines?

- A) to make it seem like fireflies do not want to look like stars
- B) to make it seem like fireflies sometimes look like stars by accident
- C) to make it seem like fireflies are very intelligent insects
- D) to make it seem like fireflies are trying and succeeding at looking like stars

7. What does the word "they" refer to throughout the poem?

- A) skies
- B) flies
- C) stars
- D) parts

8. What are two ways that the poet contrasts flies and stars in this poem?

9. In what way are flies similar to stars, based on the poem?

10. "Emulating" means imitating, or trying to be like something else. Why might the poet have called fireflies "emulating flies" in this poem? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Harbor of Rio de Janeiro



Harbor of Rio de Janeiro

On January 1, 1502, an explorer from Portugal named Goncalo Coelho and his crew sailed into a huge bay by what is now Brazil. A bay is a body of water that is partly surrounded by land. The explorers thought they had found the mouth of a large river. So they named the place "Rio de Janeiro," or "River of January." The bay they found is known today as the Harbor of Rio de Janeiro.

The Harbor of Rio de Janeiro is the world's largest natural bay, containing more water than any other bay in the world! Because of its size, the Harbor of Rio de Janeiro is considered one of the world's seven natural wonders.

The bay is surrounded by mountains made from granite. The mountains are huge and steep, with odd shapes. One of these mountains was named after a sugar loaf, because it looks like a type of bread made on an island near Portugal. Another one was named Corcovado, or "The Hunchback," because of its mound-like shape. Together, the water and mountains create a beautiful harbor.

The beauty of the harbor attracts people to this day. Tourists from all over the world come to see the gorgeous harbor and the city of Rio de Janeiro. People have even built cable cars and trains to accommodate tourists and show them around the area.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. The Harbor of Rio de Janeiro is the largest natural bay in the world. According to the text, what is a bay?

- A. a body of water that is completely surrounded by land
- B. an area of land that is surrounded by water
- C. a body of water that is partly surrounded by land
- D. an area of land that is partly surrounded by water

2. What does the text describe?

- A. Goncalo Coelho's trip to Brazil
- B. how bays form
- C. the difference between rivers and bays
- D. the Harbor of Rio de Janeiro

3. Read these sentences from the text.

The Harbor of Rio de Janeiro is the world's largest natural bay, containing more water than any other bay in the world!

[. . .]

The bay is surrounded by mountains made from granite. The mountains are huge and steep, with odd shapes. . . . Together, the water and mountains create a beautiful harbor.

What conclusion does this information support?

- A. The Harbor of Rio de Janeiro is a very cold place.
- B. The Harbor of Rio de Janeiro is a very impressive place.
- C. The Harbor of Rio de Janeiro doesn't have a lot of plant and animal life.
- D. The Harbor of Rio de Janeiro is a very poor place.

4. Based on the text, what can be concluded about the world's seven natural wonders?

- A. The world's seven natural wonders are natural places that have a lot of rocks.
- B. The world's seven natural wonders are places with a lot of buried treasure.
- C. The world's seven natural wonders are strange places people have built.
- D. The world's seven natural wonders are very impressive natural places.

5. What is the main idea of this text?

- A. The Harbor of Rio de Janeiro is the world's largest bay and a beautiful place with water and mountains.
- B. Concalo Coelho was a Portuguese explorer who sailed to Brazil in the 1500s.
- C. The mountains of the Harbor of Rio de Janeiro are huge and have odd shapes.
- D. Tourists from all over the world go to see the gorgeous harbor and the city of Rio de Janeiro.

6. Read these sentences from the text.

"The bay is surrounded by mountains made from granite. The mountains are huge and steep, with odd shapes. One of these mountains was named after a sugar loaf, because it looks like a type of bread made on an island near Portugal. Another one was named Corcovado, or 'The Hunchback,' because of its mound-like shape. Together, the water and mountains create a beautiful harbor."

Why does the author discuss the mountain named after a sugar loaf and the mountain called "The Hunchback"?

- A. to contrast the way the mountains by the Harbor of Rio de Janeiro were described earlier in the text
- B. to give the reader examples of mountains with odd shapes by the Harbor of Rio de Janeiro
- C. to give the reader examples of different mountains around the world
- D. to show that people sometimes give funny names to mountains

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence.

The Harbor of Rio de Janeiro is considered one of the world's seven natural wonders _____ it is very large.

- A. however
- B. on the other hand
- C. although
- D. because

8. Describe the mountains that surround the Harbor of Rio de Janeiro.

Support your answer with evidence from the text.

9. Why do people from all over the world visit the Harbor of Rio de Janeiro?

Support your answer with evidence from the text.

10. Imagine you wanted to convince a friend to join you on a trip to the Harbor of Rio de Janeiro. Explain the argument you might make to your friend to persuade him or her to join you.

Support your answer with evidence from the text.
