

Names: _____ Period: _____

The Tide Rises, The Tide Falls

Analyze the title

1. What does the title of the poem symbolize? Think about the connection that the rising and falling of the tide might have with human life. Explain your answer.

1 point

First Stanza

2. What can the reader tell about the traveler in the first stanza? Explain how you have come to this conclusion.

1 point

3. What is the tone of the first stanza? What words and figurative language create the tone and why?

1 point

Second Stanza

4. What words are repeated in first two lines? What effect does this have on the poem's mood?

1 point

5. "Footsteps on the sands of time" is a common expression referring to the passage of time. In the 2nd stanza a similar image appears. What does the image in the 2nd stanza suggest happened to the traveler? Explain your answer.

2 pnts

6. What words does Longfellow use to personify the sea and waves in the 2nd stanza? What effect does the personification have on the poem's tone? Explain your answers.

2 pnts

Third Stanza

7. What words in the 3rd stanza hint at the traveler's fate? Explain your answer.

1 point

8. How does the image of the morning and the lively horses contrast with what might have happened to the traveler? Explain your answers.

1 point

The Poem

9. At the end of the poem, the tide continues to rise and fall, although the human traveler never returns. What does this contrast reveal about the relationship humans have with nature? Explain your answer.

2 pnts

10. What is the overall tone of the poem? Use evidence from the poem to support your point.

2 pnts

11. The Transcendentalists think that human beings can learn about themselves and about life by observing Nature. What does Longfellow's observations about nature tell the reader about life? Explain your answer.

2 pnts

A Psalm of Life

12. What attitude or idea does the speaker challenge in the first two stanzas of *A Psalm of Life*? Is Longfellow's attitude positive or negative? Use a textual example to support your point.

2 pnts

13. With only one exception, every stanza in *A Psalm of Life* develops a separate idea and can stand alone. Which stanza is dependent on the one before its meaning?

1 point

14. Summarize the speaker's view of life in *A Psalm of Life*.

2 pnts

15. What is the message that Longfellow conveys in *A Psalm of Life*?

2 pnts

16. In what ways, if any, does Longfellow's attitude toward life change between *A Psalm of Life* and *The Tide Rises, The Tide Falls*?

2 pnts