

Robert Frost Poetry Questions

“Road Not Taken” WS

1a. How does the speaker describe the two roads? b. What is the difference between the roads?

2a. Which road the speaker take? b. What does the speaker say happens after he has made his choice which will not allow him to come back to take the other?

3a. What is suggested by line 16? b. How does the speaker feel about his choice? c. Was it the “right” choice for him? Explain.

“Stopping By the Woods on a Snowy Evening” WS

4. Why do you think the speaker is attracted to the woods?

5a. Why does the speaker seem concerned if he is seen stopping? b. What is the significance of “ownership” at the opening of the poem?

6a. What does the speaker suggest of about the horse? b. How does the animal's reaction to this differ from that of the speaker? c. What is suggested by this comparison?

7a. What do the last three lines suggest about everyone's life? b. Why do you think Frost ends the poem with the repetition of the final line? c. What is the effect of the repetition?

“Mending Wall” p. 824

8a. What makes the speaker say that “something” doesn't like a wall? b. What are these things that don't “love a wall”?

9. Characterize the speaker in the poem. b. How does he feel about the wall?

10a. To what might “whom” in line 34 refer? b. Might it have more than one possible meaning? Explain.

11. What is the purpose of the repetition of the first line in line 35?

12a. What is the difference in the attitudes of the speaker and the neighbor about the wall? b. What does the speaker mean when he says that the neighbor “moves in darkness” (line 41)? c. What is the significance of the fact that the neighbor's favorite saying, “Good fences make good neighbors,” was spoken by his father?

“The Road Not Taken

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth; 5

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim
Because it was grassy and wanted wear,
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same, 10

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way
I doubted if I should ever come back. 15

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference. 20

“Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening”

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village, though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer 5
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake 10
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark, and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep, 15
And miles to go before I sleep.