

The World Below the Brine – by Walt Whitman

The world below the brine,
Forests at the bottom of the sea, the branches and leaves,
Sea lettuce, vast lichens, strange flowers and seeds, the thick tangle, openings, and pink turf,
Different colours, pale grey and green, purple, white, and gold, the play of light through the water,
Dumb swimmers there among the rocks, coral, gluten, grass, rushes, and the aliment of swimmers,
Sluggish existences grazing there suspended, or slowly crawling close to the bottom,
The sperm whale at the surface blowing air and spray, or disporting with his flukes,
The leaden-eyed shark, the walrus, the turtle, the hairy sea-leopard, and the stingray,
Passions there, wars, pursuits, tribes, sight in those ocean depths, breathing that thick-breathing air,
as so many do,
The change thence to the sight here, and to the subtle air breathed by beings like us who walk this sphere,
The change onward from ours to that of beings who walk other spheres.

Underline the right answers.

1. The poem is about (the world beyond the brink, the world below the sea, tropical forests, outer space).
2. 'Brine' is (a bridge, fresh water, a kind of fish, salt water).
3. Which animal is 'hairy'? (The walrus, the shark, the sea-leopard, the turtle)

Which two words describe creatures which hang motionless or move slowly?

4. Sluggish

5. Suspended

6. At which level in the sea does the sperm whale play?

Top

7. Describe, in your own words, the eyes of the shark.

Heavy / dull / dark / without mercy

* Disporting → Frolicking.

An extract from 'Sea' – by Brenda Kelly

I am patient, repetitive, multi voiced,
Yet few hear me
And fewer still trouble to understand

Why, for example, I caress
And hammer the land
I do not brag of my depths

Or my currents, I do not
Boast of my moods or my colours
Or my breath in your thought.

In time I surrender or I drowned,
My appetite speaks for itself,
I could swallow all you have found

And open for more,
My green tongues licking the shores
Of the world

Like starved beasts reaching for men
Who will not understand
When I rage and roar ...

8. Who or what is narrating the poem? *The sea*

9. What is meant by line 10, "In time I surrender or I drowned"?

things swallowed by the sea may one day surface

10. Describe how the sea is feeling. Which line illustrates this?

Misunderstood 'fewer still trouble to understand'

11. What is the main difference between these two poems?

① Under the sea ② The sea is a whole entity

From the verbs listed write a noun ending in *ion*.

12. Produce *Production*

13. Dictate *Dictation*

14. Create *Creation*

15. Resolve *Resolution*

16. Lubricate *Lubrication*

Add a clause to each of the following to make a longer sentence. Use a different connective each time.

17. Tom slipped, breaking his arm *and bruising his leg.*
18. Tom slipped, breaking his arm *and his leg.*
19. Tom slipped, breaking his arm *and ripping his sleeve.*

In each space write a suitable adverb.

20. The whole class listenedto their teacher. *attentively*
21. A good worker does a job *thoroughly*
22. To repeat malicious gossip is to talk *spitefully*
23. The children looked ~~at~~ the presents under the tree. *longingly*
24. After the crash the rescuers worked *tirelessly.*

Write two sentences, one using a semicolon and the other using a colon.

25. *Don't forget the following : bread, eggs and ham.*
26. *Call me tomorrow ; we can arrange to meet then.*

Write a definition for each of these words.

27. Viewpoint *opinion*
28. Opinion *Judgement*
29. Conclusion *end*
30. Argument *differing viewpoints.*