

PROMASI (ENGLISH)

SONNET 18

Answer the questions below.

1. *Sonnet 18* draws comparison between the poet's beloved and summer's day. According to the first two lines, how is the beloved different from a summer's day?
2. Lines 3 to 8 lists a number of negative characteristics of summer. What are they?
3. Lines 9 to 14 contrasts the poet's beloved with nature. How is the beloved better than a summer's day?

The Drover's Wife

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

All days are much the same to her; but on Sunday afternoons, she dresses herself, tidies the children, smartens-up baby and goes for a lonely walk along the bush track, pushing an old perambulator in front of her. *She does this every Sunday*. She takes as much care to make herself and the children look smart as she would if she were going to 'do the block' in the city. There is nothing to see, however, and not a soul to meet. You might walk for twenty miles along this track without being able *to fix a point in your mind*, unless you are a bushman.

1. Who does *she* refer to?
2. *She does this every Sunday*. Explain briefly what she does.
3. What does the writer mean by the phrase *to fix a point in your mind*?

It must be near daylight now. The room is very close and hot because of the fire. Alligator still watches the wall from time to time. Suddenly, he becomes greatly interested; he draws himself a few inches nearer the partition, and a thrill runs through his body. The hair on the back of his neck begins to bristle, and the battle-light is in his yellow eyes. She knows what this means, and lays her hand on the stick. The lower end of one of the partition slabs has a large crack on both sides. An evil pair of small, bright, bead-like eyes glistens at one of these holes.

1. What is Alligator?
2. What do you think Alligator saw that made him greatly interested?
3. Why does the drover's wife reach for the stick?

Thud,thud-the snake's back is broken in several places. Thud,thud-its head is crushed and Alligator's nose skinned again. She lifts the mangled reptile on the point of her stick, carries it to the fire and throws it in; then piles on the wood and watches the snake burn. The boy and the dog watch too. She lays her hand on the dog's head and all the *fierce, angry light dies out of his yellow eyes*. The younger children are quieted and presently go to sleep. The boy stands for a moment in his shirt, watching the fire.

1. What happened before she killed the snake?
2. Explain the phrase *the fierce angry light dies out of his yellow eyes*.
3. What did Tommy promise his mother at the end of the story?
4. How would you describe the drover's wife?