

### Station 1:

"If I Can Stop One Heart from Breaking" (red literature book, page 33)

-- Read the poem silently. Then, read it aloud.

-- Answer the questions...

1. What does the word vain mean? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What would it mean to "live in vain"? \_\_\_\_\_

3. How many stanzas are there? \_\_\_\_\_

4. How does the second stanza support the ideas presented in the first stanza?

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5. Write the last word of each line, and label the rhyme scheme.

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6. What is the theme of the poem? Use evidence from the poem to support your answer.

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### Station 2:

"I'm Nobody" (yellow literature book, page 549)

-- Read the poem silently. Then, read it aloud.

-- What does it mean to be a "Somebody"? \_\_\_\_\_

-- What does it mean to be a "Nobody"? \_\_\_\_\_

-- In the space below, illustrate the meaning of her poem. You may use drawings, pictures cut from magazines, etc.

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



1. What does the poet describe as the thing with feathers?

- A) life
- B) hope
- C) song
- D) soul

2. The poet uses the words "gale" and "storm" as metaphors. What might these words represent?

- A) times of bad weather
- B) hard or painful times
- C) pleasant times
- D) times of success and growth

3. Hope is important and helpful in times of pain, sorrow, or difficulty.

Which lines from the poem best supports this statement?

- A) Lines 1-2
- B) Lines 3-4
- C) Lines 5-8
- D) Lines 11-12

4. The poet says that hope "sings the tune without the words." Why might the poet have written that the tune has no words?

- A) to emphasize that hope does not need to be put into words to be felt
- B) to point out that it is very difficult for people to express whether they feel hopeful or not
- C) to suggest that people are usually unable to understand the feeling of hope
- D) to indicate that people who are always hopeful are also often forgetful

5. What is the theme of this poem?

- A) People need to work hard in order to maintain hope at all times.
- B) Hope is able to keep people warm even in the coldest, stormiest lands.
- C) Hope can survive through even the toughest times.
- D) Without hope, people would be much more sensible and realistic.

**Station 4:****"Success is Counted Sweetest"**

-- Read the poem silently. Then, read it aloud.

-- Annotate by doing the following:

1. Circle three words that are unfamiliar and/or that use a different meaning than you are used to.
2. Define them at the bottom.
3. Underline the last word in each line. Label the rhyme scheme.
4. Interpret each stanza out to the side.

**SUCCESS IS COUNTED SWEETEST**

Emily Dickinson

Success is counted sweetest  
By those who ne'er succeed.  
To comprehend a nectar  
Requires sorest need.

Not one of all the purple host  
Who took the flag to-day  
Can tell the definition,  
So clear, of victory!

As he, defeated, dying,  
On whose forbidden ear  
The distant strains of triumph  
Burst agonized and clear!

5. Even though "Success is Counted Sweetest" was written over 150 years ago, its meaning is still relevant today. Think of a modern day example when it would be relevant, and explain your thinking.

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