

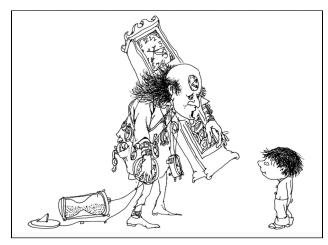
Name:	Class:

The Clock Man

By Shel Silverstein 2011

Sheldon Allan "Shel" Silverstein (1930-1999) was an American poet, cartoonist, screenwriter, and author of children's books. In the following a poem, a child has a conversation with the clock man. As you read, take notes on how the person in the poem reacts to and feels about time.

- [1] "How much will you pay for an extra day?"
 The clock man asked the child.
 "Not one penny," the answer came,
 "For my days are as many as smiles."
- [5] "How much will you pay for an extra day?" He asked when the child was grown."Maybe a dollar or maybe less, For I've plenty of days of my own."
- "How much will you pay for an extra day?"
 [10] He asked when the time came to die.
 "All of the pearls in all of the seas,
 And all of the stars in the sky."



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Text-Dependent Questions

Directions: For the following questions, choose the best answer or respond in complete sentences.

1.	PART A: W	/hich of the following best describes the theme of the poem?	[RL.2]
	A.	People care about time more as they get older.	
	В.	Children often feel like they will never get old.	
	C.	There's nothing more important to people than staying young.	
	D.	People are afraid of death their entire lives.	
2.	PART B: W	hich detail from the text best supports the answer to Part A?	[RL.1]
	A.	"For my days are as many as smiles." (Line 4)	
	В.	"How much will you pay for an extra day?" (Line 5)	
	C.	"He asked when the time came to die." (Line 10)	
	D.	"All of the pearls in all of the seas" (Line 11)	
3.	What does	s the clock man represent in the poem?	[RL.3]
	A.	death	
	В.	living forever	
	C.	time	
	D.	money	
4.	How do th	ne person's feelings about time change throughout the poem?	[RL.3]
	A.	He values time more than he did as a child.	
	В.	He grows more negative about time as he ages.	
	C.	He is satisfied with the time he has left.	
	D.	He feels angry that he cannot buy any more time.	
5.		the quote "'Not one penny,' the answer came, / 'For my days are as many" (Lines 3-4) contribute to the overall theme of the poem?	[RL.5]



Discussion Questions

Directions: Brainstorm your answers to the following questions in the space provided. Be prepared to share your original ideas in a class discussion.

1. The person in this poem grows up and changes his feelings about the time he has left in his life. In your opinion, how much time would you pay for extra time to play? An extra day in the weekend? Cite evidence from this text, your own experience, and other literature, art, or history in your answer.

2. What does getting older mean to the individual? What does getting older mean to you? Cite evidence from this text, your own experience, and other literature, art, or history in your answer.