

**NAME:**

**The SEA**

By James Reeves

The sea is a hungry dog,  
Giant and grey,  
He rolls on the beach all day,  
With his clashing teeth and shaggy jaws  
Hour upon hour he gnaws  
The rumbling, tumbling stones,  
And "Bones, bones, bones!"  
The giant sea-dog moans,  
Licking his greasy paws.

And when the night wind roars  
And the moon rocks in the stormy cloud,  
He bounds to his feet and snuffs and sniffs,  
Shaking his wet sides over the cliffs,  
And howls and hollows long and loud.  
But on quiet days in May and June,  
When even the grasses on the dune  
Play no more their reedy tune,  
With his head between his paws  
He lies on the sandy shores,  
So quiet, so quiet, he scarcely snores.

Instructions: answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. Who wrote "The Sea"?

2. Who would you say is the speaker of this poem?
3. How many stanzas are in the poem?
4. What kind of dog is the sea compared to?
5. Quote the words that the giant sea-dog moans.
6. What does the sea-dog do in May and June?
7. What is the beach like in the poem?
8. Give an example of alliteration from stanza three.

9. What is the rhyme scheme of the second stanza?
10. State the theme of this poem.
11. Identify and describe the setting of the poem.
13. "The sea is a hungry dog" (line 1).  
a. What figure of speech is used here?
- b. Explain what the speaker means by this.
14. Quote two phrases that show the sea as being 'hungry'.

15. Quote from stanza two examples of onomatopoeia.

16. Give an example of alliteration from stanza three.

17. What is the rhyme scheme of:

a. the second stanza (lines 10 – 14)

b. and the third stanza (lines 15 – 20)?

18. Identify TWO examples of repetition in the poem.