

### Passage 1

Read the following passage. Then answer the questions that follow. Use the Tip below each question to help you choose the correct answer. When you finish, read the answer explanations at the end of this chapter.

## Departure (Excerpt from *Winesburg, Ohio*)

by Sherwood Anderson

1 Young George Willard got out of bed at four in the morning. It was April and the young tree leaves were just coming out of their buds. The trees along the residence streets in Winesburg are maple and the seeds are winged. When the wind blows they whirl crazily about, filling the air and making a carpet underfoot.

2 George came downstairs into the hotel office carrying a brown leather bag. His trunk was packed for departure. Since two o'clock he had been awake thinking of the journey he was about to take and wondering what he would find at the end of his journey. The boy who slept in the hotel office lay on a cot by the door. His mouth was open and he snored lustily. George crept past the cot and went out into the silent deserted main street. The east was pink with the dawn and long streaks of light climbed into the sky where a few stars still shone.

3 Beyond the last house on Trunion Pike in Winesburg there is a great stretch of open fields. The fields are owned by farmers who live in town and drive homeward at evening along Trunion Pike in light creaking wagons. In the fields are planted berries and small fruits. In the late afternoon in the hot summers when the road and the fields are covered with dust, a smoky haze lies over the great flat basin of land. To look across it is like looking out across the sea. In the spring when the land is green the effect is somewhat different. The land becomes a wide green billiard table on which tiny human insects toil up and down.

4 All through his boyhood and young manhood George Willard had been in the habit of walking on Trunion Pike. He had been in the midst of the great open place on winter nights when it was covered with snow and only the moon looked down at him; he had been there in the fall when bleak winds blew and on summer evenings when the air vibrated with the song of insects. On the April morning he wanted to go there again, to walk again in the silence. He did walk to where the road dipped down by a little stream two miles from town and then turned and walked silently back again. When he got to Main Street clerks were sweeping the sidewalks before the stores. "Hey you, George. How does it feel to be going away?" they asked.

5 The westbound train leaves Winesburg at seven forty-five in the morning. Tom Little is conductor. His train runs from Cleveland to where it connects with a great trunk line railroad with terminals in Chicago and New York. Tom has what in railroad circles is called an "easy run." Every evening he returns to his family. In the fall and spring he spends his Sundays fishing in Lake Erie. He has a round red face and small blue eyes. He knows the people in the towns along his railroad better than a city man knows the people who live in his apartment building.

- 6 George came down the little incline from the New Willard House at seven o'clock. Tom Willard carried his bag. The son had become taller than the father.
- 7 On the station platform everyone shook the young man's hand. More than a dozen people waited about. Then they talked of their own affairs. Even Will Henderson, who was lazy and often slept until nine, had got out of bed. George was embarrassed. Gertrude Wilmot, a tall thin woman of fifty who worked in the Winesburg post office, came along the station platform. She had never before paid any attention to George. Now she stopped and put out her hand. In two words she voiced what everyone felt. "Good luck," she said sharply and then turning went on her way.
- 8 When the train came into the station George felt relieved. He scampered hurriedly aboard. Helen White came running along Main Street hoping to have a parting word with him, but he had found a seat and did not see her. When the train started Tom Little punched his ticket, grinned and, although he knew George well and knew on what adventure he was just setting out, made no comment. Tom had seen a thousand George Willards go out of their towns to the city. It was a commonplace enough incident with him. In the smoking car there was a man who had just invited Tom to go on a fishing trip to Sandusky Bay. He wanted to accept the invitation and talk over details.
- 9 George glanced up and down the car to be sure no one was looking, then took out his pocket-book and counted his money. His mind was occupied with a desire not to appear green. Almost the last words his father had said to him concerned the matter of his behavior when he got to the city. "Be a sharp one," Tom Willard had said. "Keep your eyes on your money. Be awake. That's the ticket. Don't let anyone think you're a greenhorn."
- 10 After George counted his money he looked out of the window and was surprised to see that the train was still in Winesburg.
- 11 The young man, going out of his town to meet the adventure of life, began to think but he did not think of anything very big or dramatic. Things like his mother's death, his departure from Winesburg, the uncertainty of his future life in the city, the serious and larger aspects of his life did not come into his mind.
- 12 He thought of little things—Turk Smollet wheeling boards through the main street of his town in the morning, a tall woman, beautifully gowned, who had once stayed overnight at his father's hotel, Butch Wheeler the lamp lighter of Winesburg hurrying through the streets on a summer evening and holding a torch in his hand, Helen White standing by a window in the Winesburg post office and putting a stamp on an envelope.
- 13 The young man's mind was carried away by his growing passion for dreams. One looking at him would not have thought him particularly sharp. With the recollection of little things occupying his mind he closed his eyes and leaned back in the car seat. He stayed that way for a long time and when he aroused himself and again looked out of the car window the town of Winesburg had disappeared and his life there had become but a background on which to paint the dreams of his manhood.

## ? Questions

- 1 “His trunk was packed for departure.” (paragraph 2)

In this excerpt from the passage, the word departure means

- A. the time being.
- B. the act of vacationing.
- C. the last time.
- D. the act of leaving.

**TIP**

If you are not sure of the meaning of the word, reread the sentences that surround it. Look for clues that might help you figure out the meaning.

- 2 In paragraph 9, the speaker explains that George’s “mind was occupied with a desire not to appear green.”

Which definition represents the intended meaning of the word green?

- A. jealous
- B. sick
- C. inexperienced
- D. wealthy

**TIP**

Reread the sentence and the sentences that surround it. Try to figure out why the speaker would describe George’s feelings in this way.

- 3 “‘Be a sharp one,’ Tom Willard had said.”

In this excerpt from paragraph 9, the word sharp means

- A. distinct.
- B. able to cut.
- C. harsh.
- D. intelligent.

**TIP**

Carefully read all of the answer choices before deciding which one best reflects how the author uses the word in the passage.

*Passage 2*

Read the following poem. Then answer the questions that follow. Use the Tip below each question to help you choose the correct answer. When you finish, read the answer explanations at the end of this chapter.

**Annabel Lee**  
*by Edgar Allan Poe*

- 1 It was many and many a year ago,  
In a kingdom by the sea,  
That a maiden there lived whom you may know  
By the name of Annabel Lee;  
And this maiden she lived with no other thought  
Than to love and be loved by me.
- 2 *She* was a child and *I* was a child,  
In this kingdom by the sea:  
But we loved with a love that was more than love—  
I and my Annabel Lee;  
With a love that the wingéd seraphs of Heaven  
Coveted her and me.
- 3 And this was the reason that, long ago,  
In this kingdom by the sea,  
A wind blew out of a cloud by night  
Chilling my Annabel Lee;  
So that her highborn kinsmen came  
And bore her away from me,  
To shut her up in a sepulchre  
In this kingdom by the sea.
- 4 The angels, not half so happy in Heaven,  
Went envying her and me:—

Yes! that was the reason (as all men know,  
In this kingdom by the sea)  
That the wind came out of the cloud, chilling  
And killing my Annabel Lee.

- 5 But our love it was stronger by far than the love  
Of those who were older than we—  
Of many far wiser than we—  
And neither the angels in heaven above,  
Nor the demons down under the sea,  
Can ever dissever my soul from the soul  
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee:—
- 6 For the moon never beams without bringing me dreams  
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;  
And the stars never rise but I see the bright eyes  
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;  
And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side  
Of my darling, my darling, my life and my bride,  
In her sepulchre there by the sea—  
In her tomb by the side of the sea.



## ? Questions

- 4 As used in stanza 2, coveted means something or someone that is
- A. noticed.
  - B. adopted.
  - C. desired.
  - D. injured.

**TIP**

Try inserting each definition to see which fits best, and look for clues from the poem to help you to better understand the word's meaning.

- 5 As used in stanza 3, bore means the same as which phrase?
- A. equipped with
  - B. took possession of
  - C. carried away with difficulty
  - D. exerted influence over

**TIP**

Reread the stanza and think about what Annabel Lee's kinsmen did to her. Then choose the answer that fits best.

- 6 "And neither the angels in heaven above,  
Nor the demons down under the sea,  
Can ever dissever my soul from the soul  
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee." (stanza 5)

In this excerpt from the poem, dissever means

- A. sentence.
- B. respect.
- C. separate.
- D. remarry.

**TIP**

Think about the author's message in this poem. Look at the prefix and root word. Then read the answer choices. Which is correct?