

Comprehension

1. **Recall** Why does the speaker in “Scaffolding” say that the scaffolds in his relationship could be allowed to fall?
2. **Recall** In “The World Is Not a Pleasant Place to Be,” what is the relationship between the ocean and the clouds?
3. **Clarify** What happened to Annabel Lee and the person who loved her?

Literary Analysis

4. **Identify Rhyme Scheme** Determine the rhyme scheme in “Scaffolding.” Why do you think Seamus Heaney might have chosen this rhyme scheme for a poem about a couple’s relationship?
5. **Analyze a Stanza** Reread the first stanza of “The World Is Not a Pleasant Place to Be.” How does the meaning of the first line change as you read the rest of the stanza? Find one other example of a line break that you think affects the meaning of the words in an important way.
6. **Draw Conclusions About Speakers** Review the chart you created as you read. Based on the details you recorded and your understanding of the poems, what conclusions can you draw about each speaker’s attitude about relationships? Give evidence from the poem to support your conclusions.
7. **Make Judgments** Go back and reread “Annabel Lee.” In a chart, note words and details that make the speaker seem romantic and those that make him seem grief stricken. Are his feelings and attitudes understandable? Support your opinion with examples from your chart.

<i>Romantic</i>	<i>Grief Stricken</i>
<i>“... we loved with a love that was more than love—”</i>	

Extension and Challenge

8. **Big Question Activity** With a partner, role-play an interview between a television reporter and the **speaker** of one of the poems, about what keeps **relationships** strong. Discuss specific details from the poem in your interview.
9. **Creative Project: Art** As you read the poems, which visual images seemed especially beautiful or powerful? Draw a sketch of one of these images, and explain how it helped draw you into the poem.

