

Quiz A: RL.7.4

Read the poem. Then answer the questions.

“A Dream within a Dream”

Edgar Allan Poe

Take this kiss upon the brow!
And, in parting from you now,
Thus much let me avow—
You are not wrong, who deem
5 That my days have been a dream;
Yet if hope has flown away
In a night, or in a day,
In a vision, or in none,
Is it therefore the less *gone*?
10 *All* that we see or seem
Is but a dream within a dream.

I stand amid the roar
Of a surf-tormented shore,
And I hold within my hand
15 Grains of the golden sand—
How few! yet how they creep
Through my fingers to the deep,
While I weep—while I weep!
O God! Can I not grasp
20 Them with a tighter clasp?
O God! Can I not save
One from the pitiless wave?
Is *all* that we see or seem
But a dream within a dream?

1. What does the imagery in the following lines from the poem suggest about the sand?

15 Grains of the golden sand—
How few! yet how they creep
Through my fingers to the deep,
While I weep—while I weep!

- A. It is wet with the speaker’s tears.
- B. It represents something precious to the speaker.
- C. It shows the speaker trying to cover up the past.
- D. It represents the speaker being buried in his pain.

