

The Listeners

Walter De La Mere

I will read the poem. You will time me and listen to my intonation and tone. Then you will have three goes of reading it to your partner and trying to match my speed and tone. Closest will win.

Vocabulary Check

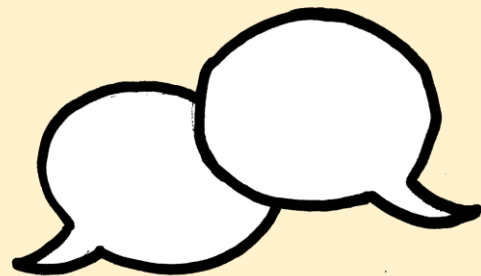
- he champed the grass
- the forest's ferny floor
- turret
- he smote upon the door
- a host of phantom listeners
- stood thronging the faint moonbeams
- every word he spake

Now read the poem again

Quick Start

- What time is it (approximately)?
- Where is the house?
- Who goes to the house?
- How does he get there?
- Who answers the door?
- Who is inside the house?
- What does the traveller say before he leaves?

Partnered Talk



What do you think this poem is about?

Individual Thinking



Do you think the poem is set in the modern day?

Find evidence to support your claim.

Individual Thinking



Find and copy three words that make the setting sound creepy.

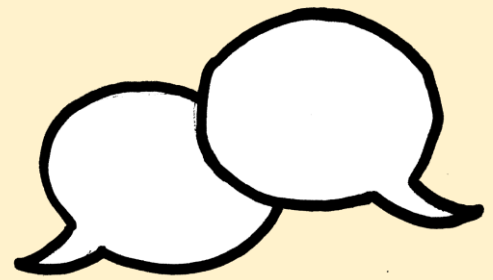
Individual Thinking



Look at the first 8 lines.

Find three pieces of evidence that show that the poem is not set in an industrial area.

Partnered Talk



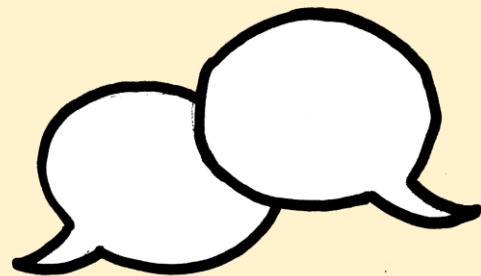
How does the author show you that the traveller really wants to gain entrance/for someone to open the door?

Individual Thinking



Find and copy a phrase that shows that the traveller is not completely confident that there is somebody in the house.

Partnered Talk



Who are the listeners?

Do you think they are real?

Solo Work



'Tell them I came, and no one answered,

That I kept my word,' he said.

What are the pros and cons of including this line in the poem?

Do you like its inclusion?