**DOVER BEACH--MCQs**

1. Sophocles long ago

Heard it on the Ægean, and it brought

Into his mind the turbid ebb and flow

of human misery;

Who was Sophocles? (stz. 2)

A. A Roman poet and scholar who was Matthew Arnold's contemporary

B. A Greek dramatist of the 5th century B.C.

C. A Turkish poet of ancient times.

D. A Greek philosopher who was Plato's contemporary.

2. What is the theme of the poem Dover Beach'?

a. Declining faith in God and declining faith in humanity.

b. True love.

c. Sailing in stormy seas.

d. Our turbulent world.

3 …………………..on the French coast the light

Gleams and is gone;..... (Lines 3-4)

What is the light that gleams and disappears symbolic of?

a. It foretells that the present peace and calm are unsteady.

b. It foretells a great tragedy that is going to befall the world soon.

c. It is symbolic of the hopelessness that is characteristic of the nineteenth century.

d. It is symbolic of the French Revolution.

4. What does the ‘calm sea' (stanza l of the poem Dover Beach) represent?

a. It is a metaphor for faith.

b. It represents peace among mankind.

c. It stands for love between a husband and his wife.

d. lt represents unrest and turmoil.

5. In the second stanza of Dover Beach Matthew Arnold alludes to the ancient Sophocles. What does this allusion indicate?

a. That the misery of mankind is fleeting.

b. That the misery of mankind existed in England and in Greece.

c. That the misery of mankind is something that is perpetual.

d. That the misery of mankind need not worry us since it has been in existence for ages.

6. Sophocles long ago

Heard on the Ægean...... (Stz. 2)

What did Sophocles hear?

a. The noise made by the turbulent waters of the Ægean Sea.

b. The noise made by the sailors when the Ægean sea was noisy and turbulent.

c. A noise similar to the harsh, rasping sound made by the pebbles which Matthew Arnold heard.

d. Some confusing noises made probably by the animals living in the Ægean Sea.

7. The Sea of Faith

Was once, too, at the full, and round earth's shore

Lay like the folds of a bright girdle furled. (Stz. 3)

What poetic devices have been employed by the poet in the lines that are underlined?

a. Metaphor- metaphor

b. Metaphor - simile

c. Simile-metaphor

d. Simile - simile

8. In the first stanza of ‘Dover Beach', Matthew Arnold talks about the calm sea and the grating noise made by pebbles. What are these two symbolic of?

a. Vastness-sounds of disharmony we often hear around us.

b. Permanence - transience (= temporary nature)

c. Faith-disharmony that is characteristic of a world without faith

d. Optimism – frustration

**ANSWERS-MCQs**

1. b

2. a

3. a

4. b

5. a

6.c

7. c

8. c

**MCQs (contd.)**

1. “Listen! You hear the grating roar” is an example of what?

A. Personification

B. Metaphor

C. Pathos

D. Onomatopoeia

2. “Sophocles long ago/ Heard it on the Aegean, and it brought” is an example of what?

A. Allusion

B. Illusion

C. Invocation

D. Personification

3. Which is an example of assonance?

A. “Its melancholy, long, withdrawing roar.”

B. "the sound a thought, / Hearing it by this distant northern sea.”

C. “ a bright girdle furled.”

D. “…confused alarms of struggle and flight.”

4. What does “The Sea of Faith symbolize”?

A. World without hope

B. Aegean Sea

C. Unwavering belief

D. Religion

5. “Lay like the folds of a bright girdle furled” is an example of what?

A. Consonance

B. Metaphor

C. Simile

D. Personification

6. “And naked shingles of the world” is an example of what?

A. Simile

B. Personification

C. Alliteration

D. Anaphora

7. “The tide is full, the moon lies fair” is an example of what?

A. Consonance

B. Metaphor

C. Imagery

D. Allusion

8. What is the rhyme scheme of the last stanza?

A. Abbacddcc

B. Ababcdcdd

C. Varied rhyme scheme

D. Free verse

9. What is the best tone of “Dover Beach”?

A. Enthusiastic

B. Hopeful

C. Pessimistic

D. Tranquil

10. “Nor certitude, nor peace, nor help for pain” is an example of what?

A. Anaphora

B. Allusion

C. Analogy

D. Anecdote

**DOVER BEACH—Reasoning Questions**

1. In the poem Dover Beach, Matthew Arnold refers to the ancient Greek tragedian Sophocles because ……………………………
2. At the end of the first stanza of the poem Dover Beach, Matthew Arnold talks about the ‘eternal note of sadness’ because …………………..
3. In the third stanza of Dover Beach, Arnold mentions Faith because ……………….
4. In the final stanza of the poem Dover Beach, Arnold tells his love that they should be true to one another because ……………
5. The poem Dover beach is both a celebration and a lament because ………………

**ANSWERS—Reasoning Questions**

1. In one of his plays, Sophocles referred to a sound he had heard near the Aegean Sea, similar to the sound heard by Arnold on Dover Beach.
2. Arnold himself is in a pessimistic and gloomy state of mind and he finds an echo of it in the noise he hears near the sea.
3. Of the sea of faith that surrounded the world before, until it was disturbed by doubt and scepticism in Victorian England.
4. The world in which he lives is actually devoid of love and companionship and true love and companionship are the only hope for humanity.
5. It is a celebration of the beauty that exists in nature and a lament of the loss of human faith in God.