**The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost**

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,

And sorry I could not travel both

And be one traveler, long I stood

And looked down one as far as I could

To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,

And having perhaps the better claim,

Because it was grassy and wanted wear;

Though as for that the passing there

Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay

In leaves no step had trodden black.

Oh, I kept the first for another day!

Yet knowing how way leads on to way,

I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh

Somewhere ages and ages hence:

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—

I took the one less traveled by,

And that has made all the difference.

**Understanding the Poem**

1. Where and when is the poem set?
2. Name one way the roads are similar.
3. Name one way the roads are different.
4. What is the speaker’s dilemma?
5. Does the speaker feel he will ever come back to the other road? How do you know?
6. What does the road in the poem symbolise?
7. What is the tone of the poem? Explain.
8. Why does the speaker want to go down the road less travelled?
9. Why do you think the poem is called “The Road Not Taken”, even though the poem is about the road the speaker chose to take?
10. What symbolises the dilemma of which road to choose?
11. How is the setting important for our understanding of what the poem is really about?

**Analysis and Interpretation**

Problem Solving

1. What is the speaker’s dilemma in the poem and how does he solve it? Complete the chart. Use the thinking skill of Problem Solving.

**Problem / Dilemma**

**Option 2**

**Option 1**

**The road**

1. The title of the poem refers to a road not taken, however, it is also a metaphor. Explain.
2. The poet uses imagery in the poem as a literary device to convey an atmosphere. Explain.
3. What kind of person do you think the speaker is?

**Symbolism**

***Metaphor*** – is a type of comparison in which one thing is described as if it were something else. For example: “Life is a dream”

***Symbolism*** – is the use of a concrete image (symbol) to present an abstract idea. For example: sunshine may symbolise happiness.

1. List as many symbols as you can find in the poem. Explain why each symbol is so important for our understanding of the poem.

Yellow Woods, Grass – Opportunities, Road Diverge - Choices

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1. Fill in the table using the word bank.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A sudden decision | Future | Unconventional (less used) | Fall | Choice |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Metaphor** | **It symbolises…** |
| Two road diverged in the woods (line 1) | A sudden decision |
| Yellow wood (line 1) | Fall |
| To where it bent in the undergrowth (line 5) | Unconventional (less used) |
| Then took the other, as just as fair (line 6) | Choice |
| It was grassy | Future |