

SELECTED POETRY BY EMILY DICKINSON

Selection Test A**Comprehension**

Read each of the following questions. Then choose the letter of the best answer. (6 points each)

1. The description in lines 5–8 of “Because I could not stop for Death—” suggests a view of death as
 - A. tiring
 - B. exciting
 - C. tragic
 - D. peaceful
2. The imagery in lines 5–8 of “Success is counted sweetest” helps convey the poem’s meaning by describing what it is like to
 - A. know a definition
 - B. hold a flag
 - C. lose a war
 - D. host a party
3. The dashes in lines 6–7 of “Much Madness is divinest Sense—” draw attention to
 - A. important words
 - B. irregular capitalization
 - C. slant rhyme
 - D. figurative language
4. The poet most likely capitalized *Majority* and *All* in “Much Madness is divinest Sense—” to emphasize the
 - A. total power of the majority
 - B. gap between sanity and madness
 - C. size of a city’s population
 - D. foolishness of the minority
5. According to “Much Madness is divinest Sense—” people would be “handled with a Chain” for
 - A. seeing things clearly
 - B. being part of a majority
 - C. thinking for themselves
 - D. being a danger to themselves
6. The speaker in “My life closed twice before its close—” has most likely
 - A. been very ill recently
 - B. lost two loved ones
 - C. had visions of the afterlife
 - D. been in two accidents
7. Who shuts the door in “The Soul selects her own Society—”?
 - A. the chariots
 - B. a majority
 - C. an emperor
 - D. the soul
8. The description “Like Stone—” in line 12 of “The Soul selects her own Society—” creates a feeling of
 - A. attentiveness
 - B. celebration
 - C. permanence
 - D. fullness

SELECTION TEST A, CONTINUED

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| <p>9. One similarity between “Because I could not stop for Death—” and “I heard a Fly buzz—when I died—” is that the speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. are both deadB. have lost their sightC. think death is violentD. are surrounded by family | <p>10. What is being identified in line 3 of “My Life had stood—a Loaded Gun—”?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. a dayB. the ownerC. the speakerD. a corner |
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Written Response

Short Response On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following questions based on your knowledge of the poems. (10 points each)

- 11. According to the speaker in “Much Madness is divinest Sense—” why is it dangerous to oppose the “Majority”?
- 12. Why is the appearance of the fly in “I heard a Fly buzz—when I died—” an unexpected event?

Extended Response Answer the following question based on your knowledge of the poems. Write one or two paragraphs on a separate sheet of paper. (20 points)

- 13. Explain how “Because I could not stop for Death—” and “I heard a Fly buzz—when I died—” describe different versions of death. Support your answer with two examples from each poem.