

Name: _____

Poetry Worksheet

Read the poem below then answer the questions.

SEE THE KITTEN ON THE WALL

See the kitten on the wall, sporting with the leaves that fall,
Withered leaves – one – two – and three, from the lofty elder tree!
Through the calm and frosty air, of this morning bright and fair...
– But the kitten, how she starts; Crouches, stretches, paws and darts!

First at one, and then its fellow, just as light and just as yellow;
There are many now-now one-now they stop and there are none;
What intenseness of desire, in her upward eye of fire!

With a tiger – leap half way, now she meets the coming prey,
Lets it go as fast, and then, has it in her power again:
Now she works with three or four, like an Indian Conjuror;
Quick as he in feats of art, Gracefully she plays her part;
Yet were gazing thousands there; What would little Tabby care?

William Wordsworth 1770- 1850

Questions

1. What does the word “withered” suggest?
2. What does this line suggest: “...But the kitten, how she starts; Crouches, stretches, paws and darts!”
3. What colour were the leaves in the poem?
4. What is the word “prey” describing?
5. How does the kitten move?
6. What does “Indian Conjuror” suggest?
7. Did the cat have an audience?