

Section 1: "Chinese Poet among Barbarians"

Questions 4 through 10 of your exam refer to the poem below.

**Chinese Poet Among Barbarians**

By: John Gould Fletcher

The rain drives, drives endlessly,  
Heavy threads of rain;  
The wind beats at the shutters,  
The surf drums on the shore;  
5 Drunken telephone poles lean sideways;  
Dank summer cottages gloom hopelessly;  
Bleak factory-chimneys are etched on the filmy  
distance,  
Tepid<sup>2</sup> with rain.  
10 It seems I have lived for a hundred years  
Among these things;  
And it is useless for me now to make complaint  
against them.  
For I know I shall never escape from this  
15 Dull **barbarian** country,  
Where there is none now left to lift a cool jade  
winecup,  
Or share with me a single human thought.

SECTION 2: "On the Grasshopper and the Cricket" by John Keats

Questions 11 through 16 on your exam refer to this poem.

## *On the Grasshopper and Cricket*

**John Keats, 1795 - 1821**

The poetry of earth is never dead:

When all the birds are faint with the hot sun,

And hide in cooling trees, a voice will run

From hedge to hedge about the new-mown mead;

5 That is the Grasshopper's—he takes the lead

In summer luxury,—he has never done

With his delights; for when tired out with fun

He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed.

The poetry of earth is ceasing never:

10 On a lone winter evening, when the frost

Has wrought a silence, from the stove there shrills

The Cricket's song, in warmth increasing ever,

And seems to one in drowsiness half lost,

The Grasshopper's among some grassy hills.

Section 3: "Po Boy Blues" by Langston Hughes

Questions 17 through 21 on your exam refer to the poem below.

Po' Boy Blues

Langston Hughes, 1902 – 1967

When I was home de  
Sunshine seemed like gold.  
When I was home de  
Sunshine seemed like gold.  
5 Since I come up North de  
Whole damn world's turned cold.

I was a good boy,  
Never done no wrong.  
Yes, I was a good boy,  
10 Never done no wrong,  
But this world is weary  
An' de road is hard an' long.

I fell in love with  
A gal I thought was kind.  
15 Fell in love with  
A gal I thought was kind.  
She made me lose ma money  
An' almost lose ma mind.

Weary, weary,  
20 Weary early in de morn.  
Weary, weary,  
Early, early in de morn.  
I's so weary  
I wish I'd never been born.

Section 4: "Acquainted with the Night" by Robert Frost

Questions 22 through 28 on your exam refer to the poem below.

Acquainted with the Night  
Robert Frost, 1874 – 1963

I have been one acquainted with the night.  
I have walked out in rain—and back in rain.  
I have outwalked the furthest city light.

5 I have looked down the saddest city lane.  
I have passed by the watchman on his beat  
And dropped my eyes, unwilling to explain.

I have stood still and stopped the sound of feet  
When far away an interrupted cry  
Came over houses from another street,

10 But not to call me back or say good-bye;  
And further still at an unearthly height,  
One luminary clock against the sky

Proclaimed the time was neither wrong nor right  
I have been one acquainted with the night.