

# 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; 5

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, 10

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. 15

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. 20

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. According to the speaker, what "has made all the difference" (line 20)?
  - A. He or she took the first of the two roads.
  - B. He or she took the road less traveled by.
  - C. He or she took the road that bent in the undergrowth.
  - D. He or she chose a road after looking as far down it as possible
  
2. What is the setting of this poem?
  - A. a quiet street on the edge of a town
  - B. a forest in the middle of winter
  - C. the back yard of a house in the country
  - D. a wood with two roads in it
  
3. The speaker of the poem wishes that he or she did not have to make a choice between the roads.

What lines from the poem support this statement?

- A. And sorry I could not travel both/And be one traveler, long I stood
  - B. Though as for that, the passing there/Had worn them really about the same
  - C. And both that morning equally lay/In leaves no step had trodden black
  - D. Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,/I took the one less traveled by
4. Based on the information in the poem, why might the second road have "wanted wear" and been "grassy?"
    - A. because the second road was close to a stream that ran through the woods
    - B. because the second road got a lot of sunlight
    - C. because many people had taken the second road
    - D. because few people had taken the second road

5. What is the theme of this poem?

- A. giving up hope
- B. making a choice
- C. enjoying the present moment
- D. having the courage to fight for something you believe in

6. Read these lines from the poem.

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;

Based on these lines, what does the word "diverged" probably mean?

- A. went in different directions
- B. led to the same place
- C. continued forward in a straight line
- D. turned around and went backward

7. What does "this" (line 16) refer to?

- A. the explanation of why the speaker chose the second road
- B. the place the speaker will be ages and ages from now
- C. the description of the first road bending in the undergrowth
- D. the leaves that lay on both of the paths in the yellow wood

8. What has worn the roads "about the same" (line 10)?

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**9.** Compare the two roads with each other. Include at least three pieces of information from the poem.

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**10.** The speaker claims that he or she has taken the road less traveled by. Is the speaker telling the truth? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

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