



Aurora

Above our heads the heavens are twinkling;
 Stars are seen both near and far.
 We watch and wait – no clouds are sprinkling
 Iceland's night sky; so clear and calm.

A legend tells of lights of neon –
 Nature's magic in the sky,
 And so we watch, above the tree line;
 We'll wait to see this wondrous sight.

Q1: What country is this poem set in?

Q2: Which of these statements are true?

Tick **two**.

- The poet is looking at the sky.
- The poet wants to see clouds.
- The poet does not like the stars.
- The poet is waiting for something to happen.



Q3: How do you think the poet feels about seeing the lights in the sky?

Give a reason to support your answer.





A flash so bright; the sky is glowing!
With streaks of yellow, orange, green.
Across the darkness colours flowing,
Over mountain tops and trees.

Smudged and smoky, dreamy patterns,
Blues and purples. Such excitement!
Am I dreaming? Did this happen?
The once black sky is bright and vibrant.

Q4: Which of these colours could the poet see in the sky?

Circle your answers.

red

orange

yellow

pink

blue

green



Q5: Complete this sentence using adjectives from the poem.

The sky used to be _____ but now it is
_____ and _____.



Q6: Why might the poet think that she is dreaming?



Yet just as quick as you appeared,
 Away you sneak; no trace you leave
 And, as I gaze, you disappear.
 The sky goes dark this winter's eve.

But still, you leave such marvellous memories,
 Of how the sky had danced and whirled,
 The legend's true! Oh, how I marvel.
 The darkness smudged with wondrous swirls.



Q7: Tick the correct answer.

The poet enjoyed seeing the lights in the sky.

True

False

How do you know?



Q8: Put the following events in the order that they happen in the poem.
 The first one has been done for you.

- 1 The stars above the poet's head are twinkling in the sky.
- The lights disappear.
- The poet wonders whether or not they are dreaming.
- Smudged and smoky patterns can be seen in the sky.
- The poet speaks about their memories of the lights.
- Colourful streaks are in the sky above the mountains.



Q9: Do you think the poet might try to see the lights again?
Explain your answer.





Aurora Answers

Q1: What country is this poem set in?
Accept the answer 'Iceland' only.

Q2: Which of these statements are true? Tick two.

- The poet is looking at the sky.**
- The poet wants to see clouds.
- The poet does not like the stars.
- The poet is waiting for something to happen.**

Q3: How do you think the poet feels about seeing the lights in the sky?
Give a reason to support your answer.

Accept any answer which states that the poet feels positive about the lights and provides a valid reason in support, e.g.

- **I think that the poet is happy about seeing the lights because she calls them 'wondrous'.**
- **The poet could be excited to see the lights because it says that they are waiting for them.**

Q4: Which of these colours could the poet see in the sky? **Circle** your answers.

red

orange

yellow

pink

blue

green

Q5: Complete this sentence using adjectives from the poem.

The sky used to be _____(1)
but now it is _____(2) and _____(3).

For the first gap, labelled (1), accept one of the answers:

- calm
- clear
- black

For the second and third gaps, labelled (2) and (3), accept any two of the following:

- glowing
- vibrant
- blue
- bright
- yellow
- purple
- smudged
- orange
- smoky
- green

Q6: Why might the poet think that she is dreaming?

Accept answers which relate to the unusual nature of colourful lights in the sky, such as:

- **The poet might think she is dreaming because it is not normal for the sky to be colourful at night.**
- **She might think she is dreaming because she has never seen a colourful sky before.**

Q7: Tick the correct answer.

The poet enjoyed seeing the lights in the sky.

- True**
- False**

How do you know?

Accept any reasonable answer with justification from the text, e.g.

- **I know this because the poet says they have ‘marvellous memories’ of the lights.**
- **The poet marvelled at the lights and you only do that if you like something.**
- **They use the words ‘such excitement!’ which means they were enjoying it.**

Q8: Put the following events in the order that they happen in the poem. The first one has been done for you.

- ① **The stars above the poet’s head are twinkling in the sky.**
- ⑤ **The lights disappear.**
- ④ **The poet wonders whether or not they are dreaming.**
- ③ **Smudged and smoky patterns can be seen in the sky.**
- ⑥ **The poet speaks about their memories of the lights.**
- ② **Colourful streaks are in the sky above the mountains.**

Q9: Do you think the poet might try to see the lights again?
Explain your answer.

Accept either yes or no provided that the answer is accompanied with a viable explanation, such as:

Yes because...

- **They clearly enjoyed watching them.**
- **The poet loved and marvelled at them and would enjoy seeing them again.**
- **The lights didn't last very long and the poet might want to watch them again.**

No because...

- **The poet has memories of the lights to think about instead.**
- **The poet has seen them now and is happy to have seen them once.**