POEMS

1. THE RIVER



River, river, little river!
Bright you sparkle on your way;
O'er the yellow pebbles dancing,
Through the flowers and foliage glancing,
Like a child at play.
River, river! swelling river!
On you rush through rough and smooth;
Louder, faster, brawling, leaping,
Over rocks, by rose-banks, sweeping
Like impetuous youth.

River, river! brimming river!
Broad and deep, and still as time;
Seeming still, yet still in motion,
Tending onward to the ocean,
Just like mortal prime.
River, river! headlong river!
Down you dash into the sea, _
Sea that line hath never sounded,
Sea that sail hath never rounded,
Like eternity.

Glossary

sparkle shining with a bright reflected light **pebbles** small stones **foliage** plant leaves **brawling** fighting or struggling **leaping** jumping **impetuous** with force **brimming** completely full **tending** be inclined to

Comprehension

C. 1 Give opposites.

(1) louder :_____ (2) faster :_____ (3) broad :_____

(4) deep :_____ (5) wider :_____

C. 2 Add a rhyming word.

1. dancing, glancing, _____ 2. leaping, sweeping, _____
3. motion, ocean_____ 4. arrow, narrow, _____
5. time, prime, _____

C. 3 Answer the questions.

1. What is the destination of the river?
2. Why does the poet compare the river with a child in the first stanza?
3. Describe the movement of the river.
4. Why does the poet compare the sea with eternity?
5. What does the word 'still' mean in 'Seeming still – yet still in motion'?