

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

# The Wind

*by Robert Louis Stevenson*

- 1      I saw you toss the kites on high  
         And blow the birds about the sky;  
         And all around I heard you pass,  
         Like ladies' skirts across the grass--  
             Oh wind, a-blowing all day long,  
             Oh wind, that sings so loud a song!
- 2      I saw the different things you did,  
         But always you yourself you hid.  
         I felt you push, I heard you call,  
         I could not see yourself at all--  
             Oh wind, a-blowing all day long,  
             Oh wind, that sings so loud a song!
- 3      Oh you that are so strong and cold,  
         Oh blower, are you young or old?  
         Are you a beast of field and tree,  
         Or just a stronger child than me?  
             Oh wind, a-blowing all day long,  
             Oh wind, that sings so loud a song!

**1. Read this sentence from the poem.**

Oh wind, a-blowing all day long,

**What does the word a-blowing mean as used in the text? *RL.2.4***

- ☐ It is a windy day.
- ☐ It is not a very windy day.
- ☐ The wind only blows during the day.
- ☐ The wind helps kites fly in the sky.

**2. Read this sentence from the poem.**

I saw you toss the kites on high  
And blow the birds about the sky;

**What does the phrase about the sky mean as used in the text? *RL.2.4***

- ☐ in the sky
- ☐ around the clouds
- ☐ into outer space
- ☐ the color blue

**3. Read this sentence from the poem.**

I saw you toss the kites on high

**What does the phrase on high mean as used in the text? *RL.2.4***

- ☐ The speaker saw the wind blowing kites high in the sky.
- ☐ The speaker saw the wind pushing kites to the ground.
- ☐ The speaker saw the kites before anyone started playing with them.
- ☐ The speaker saw the kites on top of a mountain.

**4. What is the main idea of the first stanza of the poem? *RL.2.5***

- ☐ The speaker hears the wind blow.
- ☐ The speaker looks at a woman's skirt.
- ☐ The speaker plays on a hill.
- ☐ The speaker notices what the wind is doing.

**5. How does the second stanza of the poem build on the first stanza? *RL.2.5***

- ☐ The first stanza describes how the wind looks; the second stanza talks about how loud the wind is
- ☐ The first stanza describes things that the speaker wants to do; the second stanza tells how the speaker is going to do those things
- ☐ The first stanza describes what the wind does; the second stanza describes how the wind can't be seen
- ☐ The first stanza lists questions that the speaker has for the wind; the second stanza answers the questions

**6. What text structure does the author use in the third stanza of the poem? *RL.2.5***

- ☐ Compare and contrast
- ☐ Question and answer
- ☐ Cause and effect
- ☐ Sequence order

**7. What is the narrator's point of view toward the wind? *RL.2.6***

- ☐ The narrator wishes that the wind would stop blowing.
- ☐ The narrator wants to go inside and play instead.
- ☐ The narrator believes the wind is scary.
- ☐ The narrator enjoys watching the wind blow things around.

**8. Write a sentence that compares or contrasts your point of view toward the wind with the author's point of view toward the wind? *RL.2.6***

---

---

---

---

**9. Read this phrase from the poem.**

Oh wind, that sings so loud a song!

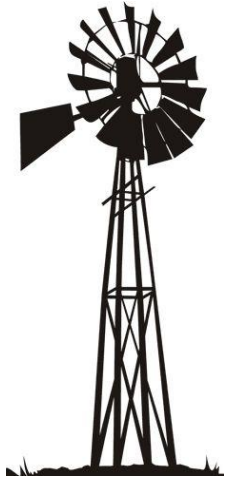
**Which of the following most closely matches the meaning of this phrase?**

- ☐ The wind is singing loudly.
- ☐ The sound of the wind is like a song.
- ☐ The wind has a mouth.
- ☐ The wind is very strong and powerful.

## History of Wind Power

### **Windmills**

A windmill is a machine that runs on the power of the wind. Long ago, farmers used windmills to pump water and make flour. Each windmill had blades at the top of a tower. When the wind blew, its power made the blades spin. The spinning blades turned a pole inside the tower. The pole then ran a water pump or moved a stone that ground, or mashed, grain into little pieces.



### **Wind Turbines**

Today, people have learned how to get much more power from the wind. We are leaps and bounds ahead of the old windmills. Now, we have wind turbines. Wind turbines have large blades at the top of a high pole. The blades spin quickly when the wind



blows. When the blades spin, they power a generator, which is a machine that makes electricity. Electricity brings light and power to homes and businesses.

If it's easier, you can think of a wind turbine as the opposite of a fan. A fan uses electricity to make wind. Wind turbines do the opposite: they use the wind to make electricity! As the wind turns the blades of a wind turbine, the blades cause a shaft to spin. The spinning shaft connects to a generator that creates electricity.

## Wind Farms

Wind farms, or groups of wind turbines, are often built in large, flat areas where there is a lot of wind. Wind farms produce a large amount of electricity, which is then sent out to power homes and businesses around the city. The turbines in a wind farm can stretch over hundreds of miles, but the land in between the turbines can be used for something else, like farming or ranching.

### Windy Texas

Texas has the most wind farms of any state. With all its wind turbines, Texas produces 36 million megawatthours of electricity every year. That's enough to power almost 12 billion houses for an hour!

## The Future of Wind Power

If you're wondering why scientists looked to the wind as an energy source, there are plenty of good reasons. Wind energy is free and renewable and, unlike regular power plants, wind farms don't create pollution.

Over time, scientists that believe new technologies, such as using batteries to store wind power for later, will make wind power even more popular. Wind power already accounts for about 3% of the United States' electricity. Experts believe wind power will account for 20% of the nation's electricity by 2030. Wind power is a great source of energy, but we will still have to rely on other sources, too.

**10. Read this sentence from the passage.**

Today, people have learned how to get much more power from the wind. We are leaps and bounds ahead of the old windmills.

**What does leaps and bounds mean as used in the passage?** *RI.2.4*

- ☐ Windmills are much more advanced than wind turbines.
- ☐ People haven't made many good inventions since windmills.
- ☐ Wind turbines are much better than windmills.
- ☐ People just learned how to get power from the wind.

**11. Why did the author include the two graphic sources, or pictures?** *RI.2.5*

- ☐ To show how windmills and wind turbines work
- ☐ To show where you could find windmills and wind turbines
- ☐ To show what windmills and wind turbines look like
- ☐ To show the size of a wind farm

**12. Part A: What were windmills used for?** *RI.1.1*

- ☐ Windmills were used to produce energy.
- ☐ Windmills were used to power generators.
- ☐ Windmills were used to help power homes and businesses.
- ☐ Windmills were used to make flour for farmers.

**13. Part B: Under which heading would you find information to support your answer to part A? *RI.2.5***

- ☐ Windmills
- ☐ Wind Turbines
- ☐ Wind Farms
- ☐ The Future of Wind Power

**14. Part A: How is wind power different from other forms of energy?**

- ☐ Wind power is more expensive and produces more pollution.
- ☐ Wind power can be used to power homes and businesses.
- ☐ Wind power is used to produce electricity.
- ☐ Wind power is free and renewable.

**15. Part B: Under which heading would you find information to support your answer to part A? *RI.2.5***

- ☐ Windmills
- ☐ Wind Turbines
- ☐ Wind Farms
- ☐ The Future of Wind Power

**16. Part A: How do wind turbines produce electricity? *RI.1.1***

- ☐ The wind turbine spins a generator.
- ☐ The wind turbine is placed in a windy area.
- ☐ The wind turbine crushes grains and wheat.
- ☐ The wind turbine can power houses or businesses.

**17. Part B: Under which heading would you find information to support your answer to part A? *RI.2.5***

- ☐ Windmills
- ☐ Wind Turbines
- ☐ Wind Farms
- ☐ The Future of Wind Power

**18. Part A: What can the land between wind turbines in a wind farm be used for? *RI.1.1***

- ☐ More windmills for making grain and flour
- ☐ Farming and ranching
- ☐ Homes and businesses
- ☐ Electricity and generators



**19. Part B: Under which heading would you find information to support your answer to part A?** *RI.2.5*

- ☐ Windmills
- ☐ Wind Turbines
- ☐ Wind Farms
- ☐ The Future of Wind Power

**20. What information can you learn by reading the caption “Windy Texas”?** *RI.2.5*

- ☐ How much energy wind farms in Texas produce
- ☐ How big Texas is
- ☐ The amount of windy weather that Texas experiences each year
- ☐ How Texas started using wind power

**21. Part A: What is the author’s point of view toward wind power?** *RI.2.6*

- ☐ The author thinks that wind power is a bad idea.
- ☐ The author thinks that everyone should switch to wind power.
- ☐ The author thinks that wind power is a good source of energy.
- ☐ The author believes that windmills are better than wind turbines.

**22. Part B: Write a sentence that compares or contrasts your point of view toward wind power with the author’s point of view toward wind power in the article.** *RI.2.6*

---

---

---

---