

Q1. How old do you think Amanda is? How do you know this?

Ans → Amanda here is a teenager of the age between 12 to 14. Because as a teenager she thinks that she is orphan because of strict behaviour of her parents towards her and she easily gets angry.

Q2. Who do you think is speaking to her?

Ans → One of her parents is speaking to her. Most probably it is her mother.

Q3. Why are stanzas 2, 4 and 6 given in parenthesis?

Ans → The speaker in stanzas 2, 4 and 6 is Amanda herself. This reflects her inner thoughts, are in Amanda's imagination and not, in reality, they are given in parenthesis.

- Q4. Who is the speaker in stanzas 2, 4 and 6? Do you think this speaker is listening to the speaker in stanzas 1, 3, 5 and 7?
- A → The speaker in stanzas 2, 4 and 6 is a little girl, Amanda and the speaker in stanzas 1, 3, 5 and 7 is her parents. ~~She~~ No, Amanda is not listening to her parents.
- Q5. What could Amanda do if she were a mermaid?
- A → If Amanda were a mermaid, then she would drift slowly on a languid emerald sea. She would be the sole inhabitant of the relaxed blue sea and would move slowly on it.
- Q6. Is Amanda an orphan? Why does she say so?
- A → No, Amanda is not an orphan. In fact, it is quite evident that she is being scolded by one of her parents, probably her mother.
- Q7. Do you think you know the story of Rapunzel? Why does she want to be a Rapunzel?
- A → She wants to be Rapunzel because she wants to live alone. Rapunzel lived alone in a tall tower and had long, beautiful hair. However, she also decided that she would never throw down her hair for anyone to come up as she wanted to live alone always.

Q8. What does the girl yearn for? What does this poem tell you about Amanda?

A → Amanda yearns for freedom and solitude. Her parents are always telling her how to behave and what to do, in order to groom her well. However, Amanda perceives their scolding as a restriction on her freedom. The poem tells us that Amanda is a young, restless girl with a vivid imagination.

Q9. Read the last stanza. Do you think Amanda is sulking or is moody?

A → After reading the last stanza, Amanda does not seem to be moody or sulking. She only longs for freedom because she has her own opinion and ways of discovering life which is different from the opinion of her parent who constantly wants Amanda to listen and follow her advice.