Lost Dog
*by Frances Rodman*

He lifts his hopeful eyes at each new tread,
Dark wells of brown with half his heart in each:
He will not bark, because he is well-bred,
Only one voice can heal the sorry breach.

He scans the faces that he does not know,
One paw uplifted, ear cocked for a sound
Outside his sight. Only he must not go
Away from here; by honor he is bound.
Now he has heard a whistle down the street;

He trembles in a sort of ecstasy,
Dances upon his eager, padding feet,
Straining himself to hear, to feel, to see,
And rushes at a call to meet the one
Who of his tiny universe is sun.


1. Which phrase **best** describes the mood of the poem?  
   A. hopeful at the beginning but sad at the end  
   B. angry at the beginning but relieved at the end  
   C. sad at the beginning but happy at the end  
   D. careful at the beginning but carefree at the end

2. Which trait **best** describes the dog?  
   A. aggressive  
   B. disobedient  
   C. loyal  
   D. stubborn
3. Line 2 says, “Dark wells of brown with half his heart in each.” What does this mean?
   A  He is sitting in a dark well and looking up.
   B  His heart is beating as fast as two hearts.
   C  There are dark circles under his eyes.
   D  His eyes show how sad he feels.

4. Why does the dog not bark?
   A  He is afraid of strangers.
   B  His owner trained him not to bark.
   C  He wants to be able to hear the whistle.
   D  He does not want to be noticed.

5. Which of the dog’s senses allows him to first know that his master is near?
   A  hearing
   B  sight
   C  smell
   D  touch

6. What is the effect of using personification in line 11?
   A  It describes the dog’s uncertainty.
   B  It emphasizes the dog’s excitement.
   C  It describes the dog’s training.
   D  It emphasizes the dog’s talents.
7. In the poem’s last line, what does the phrase "tiny universe" describe?
   A  where the dog is standing
   B  where the dog has wandered
   C  the world as the dog knows it
   D  the house of the dog’s master

8. Which experience *most likely* helped the author write this poem?
   A  writing a novel
   B  reading animal stories
   C  living in a city
   D  having a dog for a pet

End of Set

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## EOG Grade 5 Reading Sample Items

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