

“O Captain, My Captain!” Comprehension Questions (blank)

1. Read the first sentence (stanza one). A) What does *exulting* mean? B) Who is exulting, and where are they?
2. A) Who is the narrator of this poem? B) What is (his) mood in the first stanza? C) What evidence from the text supports your analysis and thinking?
3. In the second stanza, one phrase is repeated 5 times. A) What the repeating phrase? B) Why do you think Whitman chose to repeat this phrase? C) What effect does it create?
4. A) Does “the swaying mass” ever learn what the narrator has known since the first stanza? B) How do you know?
5. A) If you had to describe this poem’s mood(s) with **two** adjectives, what would they be? B) Explain your choices. C) If you had to go down to just a one word description of the overall mood, what **one** word would you pick? D) Why?
6. Rewrite the last four lines in your own words.
7. What is a theme of this poem?