**THE FOG**

**Understanding the Text**

1. **Rearrange these events in the order in which they occur in the poem.**
2. The thick fog descended on earth suddenly.
3. The fog was so thick that the speaker could not see very much.
4. The thick fog made it difficult for the speaker to breathe.
5. The speaker could not find his way home because the fog was thick.
6. A man offered to lead the speaker home.
7. The speaker realised he was following a blind man.
8. The speaker acknowledged that the blind man showed him the way.
9. **Answer these questions:**
10. **What happened to the speaker?**

**Ans**: The thick fog enveloped the speaker and he could not see anything. It burned his eyes and made him cough. Soon it became so black that the speaker could not even find his way home.

1. **How did the blind man find his way in the dark?**

**Ans**: The blind man rapped the stones in front of him and found his way quite easily. He was used to finding his way around without the help of vision. He did not need to ‘see’ to find his way home. He could feel it with his stick.

1. **Identify the figure of speech used in these lines:  
   Except two heavy eyes  
   Like balls of burning lead**

**Ans**: The figure of speech is simile as the word ‘like’ has been used to compare two unlike objects.

1. **Pick out an instance of personification from the poem.**

**Ans**: The fog has been personified in the line ‘it clutched my throat’.

1. **Answer these questions with reference to the context:**
2. ***It made tall men of boys***  
   **a. What made tall men of boys?  
   b. Why did ‘it’ do so?  
   c. What did ‘it’ do to tall men?**

**Ans**:

a. The fog distorted the figures of men and made them look larger.  
b. The fog enveloped everything and blurred their outlines, thereby distorting all figures.  
c. It made the tall men look like giants.

1. ***I lost all judgment then,  
   Of distance and of space.***  
   **a. Who is the speaker here?  
   b. How did the speaker lose judgment of distance and space?**

**Ans**:

a. The poet is the speaker.  
b. The speaker lost judgment of distance and space because the fog enveloped everything around him and he could not see clearly.

1. ***Or be the heavenly stars***  
   **a. What could be heavenly stars?  
   b. Where else could they be?  
   c. What made them look so?**

**Ans**:

a. The street lamps and the lights that shone from the cars that had stopped by the roadside could be heavenly stars.  
b. They could be on earth too.  
c. The fog made them look so.

1. ***I followed like a child—***  
   **a. Who followed whom?  
   b. Why did he do so?  
   c. Why did it surprise him?**

**Ans**:

a. The speaker followed the blind man.  
b. He did so because the blind man could make his way through the fog while he could not.  
c. It surprised him because normally he could see and lead the blind man, but now their roles were reversed.