

Directions: Read the poem. Then answer the questions on the next page to demonstrate that you understand the poem.

Waking at Night

Dragons bloom
they sketch themselves
from the quilted lines of my bedcover.
They weave icy scales and orange fire
into the air I breathe.

Where do they come from
these visitors
who wake me from my dreams
with their chilling roars
and then evaporate
when I open my eyes?

Are they the shadows of trees
outside my window
making patterns of streetlight
on my bedroom wall?

Are they the remnants of dreams
not content to sink
back into my subconscious?
Or the whisper of something
bothering me
that I can't get off my mind?



Name _____

1. Why does the speaker in the poem wake up?

2. The speaker suggests three explanations for the dragons. What are they?

3. What is the tone of the poem?

