

British Literature III Ode On the Death of a Favorite Cat by Thomas Gray

dolphin - believed to rescue drowning sailors, after a myth about Dionysus.

Glisters - like glistens, but sometimes means with a false shine

Provide evidence to support your answers to the following questions:

1. What is going on at the beginning of this poem? Describe the setting. From this setting, is it likely to be a Romantic or Augustan poem?

2. Describe Selima. From what you know of poetry of the eighteenth century, what might she symbolize?

3. What happens in the poem? To what does the poem ascribe this occurrence?

4. What morale or morales does the poem produce?

5. Is this poem more in line with pre-Romantic or Augustan poetry? Why?