

"A Poison Tree" NC Final Exam Practice

I was angry with my friend:
I told my wrath, my wrath did end.
I was angry with my foe:
I told it not, my wrath did grow.

And I watered it in fears
Night and morning with my tears,
And I sunned it with smiles
And with soft deceitful wiles.

And it grew both day and night,
Till it bore an apple bright,
And my foe beheld it shine,
And he knew that it was mine -

And into my garden stole
When the night had veiled the pole;
In the morning, glad, I see
My foe outstretched beneath the tree



- _____ 1. Based on the context of the poem, what does the word "foe" mean?
- a. friend b. acquaintance c. enemy d. relative
- _____ 2. Based on the context of the poem, what does the word "pole" mean?
- a. long, cylindrical object b. tree c. anger d. lamp post
- _____ 3. What literary term can apply to the apple?
- a. alliteration b. archetype c. allusion d. Theme
- _____ 4. What does it mean that the foe is "outstretched beneath the tree"?
- a. the foe is asleep
b. the foe is dead
c. the foe is crucified upon the tree
d. anger, when properly cultivated, can have positive results
e. the foe is warming up before exercising and is trespassing on the poor author's lawn!
- _____ 5. Does the foe know that the author is upset with him?
- a. yes b. no c. we are not given enough information to determine that
- _____ 6. Which line of the poem gives the most warning about anger's destructive consequences?
- a. Till it bore an apple bright
b. And he knew that it was mine -
c. In the morning, glad, I see
d. My foe outstretched beneath the tree