YEAR 7 · READING AND POETRY

# Poetry Cloze Comprehension Worksheet

Name: _____ Date: _____

Fill each numbered gap with a word from the word bank. Then read the completed poem aloud and answer the questions.

**WORD BANK**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| course | low | slips | beads | song |
| glides | end | speed | statue | carries |

## The River's Song

At dawn the river wakes in silver light,
It [1] _____ past stones beneath the sky;
The sleepy reeds lean close to hear
A secret whispered [2] _____ and clear.
The water carries clouds along,
And hums a soft, unhurried [3] _____.

A heron stands, still as a [4] _____,
While ripples write their rings below.
By noon, the current gathers [5] _____,
And tumbles laughing round the bend;
It [6] _____ beneath the bridge, then races on,
As though the day will never [7] _____.

At dusk, the banks grow dark and deep,
The river holds the stars like [8] _____.
It keeps the hills within its flow,
And [9] _____ them where the wild winds go.

Though every season shifts its [10] _____,
The river sings, and travels on.

### Think about the language, rhythm and meaning

1. Choose two words or phrases that make the river seem alive. What impression do they create?

2. What picture does "the river holds the stars like beads" help you imagine?

3. Read the noon stanza aloud. Mark / at two natural pauses in the poem. How do the pauses affect the rhythm?

4. How does the river's movement change from dawn to noon? Use a word from your completed poem as evidence.