

Name _____

My heart took off on a high speed chase
And left the rest of me behind
For school and chores and other bores—
I can't think what he hopes to find.

But every day he ventures forth,
Through landscapes of poetry and books;
Encyclopedias of foreign lands;
Painted pictures and second looks. . .

I keep doing my everyday things
And his search is still a mystery
But if he ever finds what he desires,
I trust he'll come back for me.

1. How does the speaker of the poem feel like he has been split into two parts?
2. What are the actual parts the speaker references?
3. What do you think is the central problem in the life of the speaker? Do you think he or she is happy? Why or why not?

ANSWERS

1. His heart has gone off looking for something, and left the rest of him behind.
2. His heart, which pursues things that might interest him, and the rest of him which takes care of his responsibilities.
3. He is looking for something that will make his life interesting. He doesn't seem particularly happy; he is waiting for something in his life that he can put his heart into.