The Proof of Worth

1. What does victory prove?

2. What does defeat prove?

3. What is the metaphor used in stanza 1 to indicate successful times?

4. According to stanza 2, what should we fear?

(Remember what in the Little Prince, a wise man judges himself rightly.)

5. What is needed to prove one’s faith?

6. What is the test of a man?

7. What does forlorn mean in the bottom of the 3rd stanza?

8. What does veneered mean in the final stanza?

9. What does unfaltering mean?

10. What word is repeated in every stanza except the first?

Life’s Slacker

1. Stanza 1 uses a metaphor with soil. What does it represent?

2. Compare the connotation of “sadness” in stanza 1 to the “shame” in stanza 2. In other words, describe how the author’s tone changes.

3. Give two examples of alliteration in Stanza 3.

4. (Second example)

5. Match the person in “Father” to one of these poems and explain why. (Hint: Make a statement and then “prove” it with an actual line from the poem as textual evidence.)

6. Match the person in “Only a Dad” to one of these poems and explain why.