

**Thinking about the Poem (Page 62)****Question 1: How old do you think Amanda is? How do you know this?**

Answer: Amanda is a young child who is between the ages of 9 and 10. She is being reprimanded by her parents, who are giving her age-appropriate directions. She is quite naive and innocent, therefore her parents are attempting to instil manners and etiquette in her for her own benefit.

**Question 2: Who do you think is speaking to her?**

Answer: She is being addressed by one of her parents. Her mother is most likely the culprit. In general, a child's mother serves as their first instructor. She makes an effort to always lead and teach her child in the right direction. As a result, it is clear from the directions given to Amanda that her mother is speaking.

**Question 3: Why are Stanzas 2, 4 and 6 given in parenthesis?**

Answer: Stanzas 2, 4, and 6 are provided in brackets because they show Amanda's internal dialogue and responses to her mother's commands in stanzas 1, 3, and 5. Each line that Amanda's mother criticises is followed with a paraphrase of how she feels about it. Thus, the poet gives the poem a comic tone by using the parenthesis to demonstrate that Amanda doesn't express her internal protests.

**Question 4: Who is the speaker in Stanzas 2, 4 and 6? Do you think this speaker is listening to the speaker in Stanzas 1, 3, 5, and 7?**

Answer: The youngster, Amanda herself, is the stanzas 2, 4, and 6's speaker. No, because she is engrossed in her own fantasy world, she is not listening to or paying attention to her mother's comments in stanzas 1, 3, and 5. She can escape reality thanks to her imagination because she is absorbed in her own universe.

**Question 5: What could Amanda do if she were a mermaid?**

Answer: Amanda could lazily float away on a lazy emerald sea if she were a mermaid. She imagined herself as the only person living in the green sea, slowly moving across it. She yearns for a location where she can be by herself and not rely on anyone else to make her happy. Amanda wanted to be a mermaid because, in her opinion, mermaids represent freedom and wonder.

**Question 6: Is Amanda an orphan? Why does she say so?**

Answer: Amanda is not an orphan, though. She claims as much since she wants to live independently. She believes that her parents are continually nagging her to do what they say. She desires "golden" stillness and "sweet" independence because she is a young girl who wants to defy all the rules. She wants to wander the streets by herself, kicking up dust with her bare feet. She

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believes that if she were an orphan, she could complete all of these tasks on her own without anyone nagging or correcting her.

**Question 7: Do you know the story of Rapunzel? Why does she want to be Rapunzel?**

Answer: Her life in a tall tower serves as the central theme of Rapunzel's tale. A wicked witch imprisoned her in that tower. She eventually grew accustomed to residing there. She loved living in the tower and was extremely comfortable with it. The witch used her long blonde hair to scale the lofty tower because it was so long. One lovely day, a prince down the tower using her hair to reach her. The witch separated them both as punishment after learning about it. The pair was finally permanently united after several years. Similar like Rapunzel, Amanda aspires to live alone in a lofty tower, far from everyone. She yearns for liberty, tranquilly, and harmony. Amanda aspires to be like Rapunzel as a result. She does, however, add that she would never allow somebody to climb up to her because she doesn't want to be bothered. She wants to live a happy and fulfilling life without being bothered by other people.

**Question 8: What does the girl yearn for? What does this poem tell you about Amanda?**

Answer: A young girl named Amanda longs for independence and to be left alone. She becomes aware that she is unable to live up to her parents' expectations as a result of their repeated reprimands. Generally speaking, kids Amanda's age share comparable emotions, regardless of class, race, or nation. Everyone is aware that traditional societies always expect people to behave politely, and that parenting plays a critical role in shaping a child's personality. The majority of parents, however, have a tendency to disregard their children's degree of innocence and understanding, and the young minds of these youngsters experience great pressure from their elders that affects their capacity for imagination and cognition.

**Question 9: Read the last stanza. Do you think Amanda is sulking and is moody?**

Answer: No, Amanda isn't moping about or miserable. She merely wants to be free since she is tired of having to obey her parents' orders. She has a powerful imagination because she compares herself to Rapunzel's story and wishes to live a carefree life away from her parents' nagging and reprimands because they are constantly trying to teach her manners and instil good habits in her.