Windows of Dreams

Name: _____

Date: _____

In Lovecraft's *The Window*, when the masons break through the stones blocking the window, the narrator sees "all the wild worlds of which [his] dreams had told".

1. Research Lovecraft and write 3 different character descriptions for him. Then write 3 for yourself, 3 for a family member or friend, and 3 for your favourite author or artist.

2. Fill each box with pictures and words that represent the wild world of dreams each person would see through the window.

Character descriptions

Lovecraft	Me	My family member or friend	My favourite author or artist
a.	a.	a.	a.
b.	b.	b.	b.
c.	c.	c.	c.

World of dreams

Lovecraft

Me

My family member or friend

My favourite author or artist

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Matching exercise

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Match each phrase from the story with an image. Draw a line to join them.

1 *The house was old, with tangled wings outthrown, of which no one could ever half keep track.*

2 *There, in a dream-plagued childhood, quite alone, I used to go, where night reigned vague and black.*

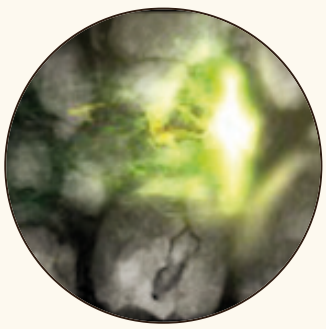
3 *But as they pierced the stone, a rush of air burst from the alien voids that yawned beyond.*

4 *They fled – but I peered through and found unrolled all the wild worlds of which my dreams had told.*

A 

B 

C 

D 

Glossary

Name: _____

Date: _____

Wings: (n) part of a large building

Outthrown: (adj) stretched or thrown outwards

Masons: (n) people who build with stone

Forbears: (n) ancestors

Shun: (v) avoid, ignore, or reject

Pierce: (v) make a hole through something

Alien: (adj) strange, from somewhere else

Voids: (n) completely empty spaces

BEFORE YOU READ

Imagine a window in your home that has been sealed for many years. What would you expect to see if it were opened?

Do you remember a dream so vivid that it felt like another world? Describe it in a few words or a quick sketch.

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Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

Please choose the best option for each of the following questions.

1. Where is the window sealed with ancient stone?

(a) At the top of a rickety staircase

(b) In a dingy cellar filled with unknown secrets

(c) In the narrator's bedroom

(d) In a small room quite near the back of the house

2. What do the masons do when the rush of air bursts from the alien voids beyond?

(a) Ask for their money

(b) Block the window back up

(c) Flee

(d) Start crying

3. What does the narrator see through the window?

(a) The skeleton of his grandmother

(b) A demonic being

(c) A beautiful view of the lake

(d) All the wild worlds from his dreams

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Answer these extra questions about what you discover as you read:

1. What happens when you tap the picture of the boy's face?

2. What colour is the light that comes from the gap in the stone created by the masons' hammer?

Think like a detective

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer in full sentences. Support your ideas with evidence from the text.

1. The window has been sealed with ancient stone. Who might have sealed it, and why? Use the words “forbears” and “shun” from the glossary in your answer.

2. The masons flee when the air bursts through, but the narrator looks. What does this tell you about him compared with the workmen?

3. The narrator finds “all the wild worlds” of his dreams beyond the window. What do you think Lovecraft suggests about the link between dreams and the unknown? Support your answer with a line from the poem.

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Writing

Name: _____

Date: _____

Look through the window and imagine the wild worlds of your own dreams. Write about them in two steps:

a. Extension: using the ideas from your boxes, write a full description of the worlds of your dreams, explaining how your world is similar to or different from Lovecraft's.

b. Comparative essay: use your descriptions and the windows you have drawn for Lovecraft, yourself, a family member or friend, and your favourite author or artist. Describe and compare the worlds each would see through the window, and explain why each would see those things.



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