

Packing for the Future: Instructions

by Lorna Crozier

1 Take the thickest socks.
Wherever you're going
you'll have to walk.

There may be water.

5 There may be stones.
There may be high places
you cannot go without
the hope socks bring you,
the way they hold you
10 to the earth.

At least one pair must be new,
must be blue as a wish
hand-knit by your mother
in her sleep.

*

15 Take a leather satchel,
a velvet bag and an old tin box—
a salamander painted on the lid.

This is to carry that small thing
you cannot leave. Perhaps the key
20 you've kept though it doesn't fit
any lock you know,
the photograph that keeps you sane,
a ball of string to lead you out
though you can't walk back
25 into that light.

In your bag leave room for sadness,
leave room for another language.

There may be doors nailed shut.
30 There may be painted windows.
There may be signs that warn you
to be gone. Take the dream
you've been having since
you were a child, the one
35 with open fields and the wind
sounding.

*

Mistrust no one who offers you
water from a well, a songbird's feather,
something that's been mended twice.
40 Always travel lighter
than the heart.

from *What the Living Won't Let Go* by Lorna Crozier.
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PART B: POETRY

Total Value: 20 marks

Suggested Time: 25 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the poem “Packing for the Future: Instructions” on pages 2 and 3 in the **Readings Booklet**. Select the **best** answer for each question and record your choice on the Response Form provided.

11. Lines 2 and 3, “Wherever you’re going / you’ll have to walk,” suggest the traveller
- A. will be lonely.
 - B. will have to be independent.
 - C. won’t be able to afford a car.
 - D. won’t know where he or she is going.
12. Lines 4 to 6 contain an example of
- A. hyperbole.
 - B. personification.
 - C. parallel structure.
 - D. sentence fragments.
13. Lines 7 and 8, “you cannot go without / the hope socks bring you,” imply the future will require
- A. optimism.
 - B. pessimism.
 - C. persistence.
 - D. exhilaration.
14. Lines 19 to 21, “...Perhaps the key / you’ve kept though it doesn’t fit / any lock you know,” contain an example of
- A. irony.
 - B. humour.
 - C. oxymoron.
 - D. metonymy.

15. In stanza 5, “the photograph that keeps you sane,” symbolizes a
- A. link to the past.
 - B. holiday memory.
 - C. forgotten relative.
 - D. dream for the future.
16. “[W]ater from a well” (line 38) is an example of
- A. assonance.
 - B. alliteration.
 - C. consonance.
 - D. onomatopoeia.
17. The speaker of this poem can best be described as
- A. wise.
 - B. bitter.
 - C. cheerful.
 - D. arrogant.
18. This poem is an example of a
- A. lyric.
 - B. satire.
 - C. parody.
 - D. narrative.

