



Name: _____

THE JEWEL OF THE AIR

A blur, a flash, a spark in motion,
Green lightning with a ruby throat,
No shadow on the sun.

It dances on nothing,
A winged dream,
A tiny, fierce sunbeam



Drinking from the orange trumpets.

What speed is this, that turns its wings to smoke?
What hunger, that drives it through the sky,
A jewel that can't be caught?
It sips the flower's sugar-soul
Then zips away, a green thought,
Gone before you see it go,
A living rainbow, too fast for eyes to know.



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1. What is the overall tone of this poem?

- a) Concerned and serious.
- b) Calm and quiet.
- c) Wondering and amazed.
- d) Furious and loud.

2. Which line from the poem is an example of imagery that appeals to the sense of sight?

- a) "It dances on nothing"
- b) "What speed is this"
- c) "Gone before you see it go"
- d) "Green lightning with a ruby throat"

3. What does the poet mean when they describe the hummingbird's wings as "smoke"?

- a) The hummingbird is a kind of insect.
- b) The wings are moving so fast they appear blurry.
- c) The wings are gray and dusty.
- d) The wings are on fire.

4. How would you describe the voice of the speaker in this poem?

- a) As a knowledgeable scientist.
- b) As an observant admirer who is fascinated by the bird.
- c) As a curious child.
- d) As a busy gardener who is annoyed by the bird.

5. How does the poet use figurative language to describe the hummingbird's colors?

- a) By comparing them only to rainbows and jewels.
- b) By comparing them directly to lightning and a sunbeam.
- c) By listing every single color they see.
- d) By asking the reader to guess the colors.