

Name _____



Mark The Meaning

Directions: Read the passage carefully, at least two times. As you read, use the text mark-up symbols below: **Circle** repeated words or phrases, **underline** any striking or powerful phrases, and **put a star (*)** next to unusual or surprising details. After you finish, answer the questions that follow, using the words and markings you noticed to support your responses.

Passage (Adapted, Original)

The lantern flickered in the heavy wind, throwing long shadows across the old stone bridge. The boy paused, hearing the river's restless rush below. "Restless," he whispered, repeating the word, as if the river's voice spoke to him. He thought of journeys: journeys he longed to take, yet feared to begin. The wind pressed against him, urging him forward, but the bridge seemed endless in the dark. Still, he stepped forward, one careful step after another, toward the unknown waiting on the far side.

1. What word is repeated in the passage, and why might the author have repeated it?

2. Which phrase did you underline as striking, and what makes it powerful?

3. What unusual or surprising detail did you notice, and how does it add to the mood of the passage?

4. Based on your mark-ups, what larger theme might this passage suggest?
