STORY OF THE POEM

1) Tell the story of Enoch's and Annie's marriage, mentioning: their childhood, the rivalry between Enoch and Philip, Enoch’s successful wooing, Enoch's and Annie's married life.
2) Give an account of Enoch's departure to sea.
3) Describe the state Annie was in, after her husband's departure.
4) Describe Enoch's return and the events that followed after it.

CHARACTERS

Compare the characters of Enoch and Philip, considering: their physical constitution, the difference in their temper (Enoch resolute — Philip soft, tender), the conditions of their life (Enoch — a poor orphan, Philip — the only son of a rich man).
Show the difference of their temper in their love.
Characterize Annie, taking into account: her devotion to her husband and children, her failure at shop-keeping, her consent to the second marriage after a long hesitation.

What appeals to us in the conduct of the heroes?
To answer this question consider: their self-sacrifice, kind consideration for the feelings of others, constancy in love, unselfishness, self-control.

SCENERY

Read carefully the first nine lines and observe how the author describes a landscape. Find other passages, in which the author describes landscapes and comment upon the accuracy and vividness of the picture or its grand beauty.

VERSIFICATION

The poem is written in blank (unrhymed) verse. Occasionally we find alliteration, i.e. repetition of the same initial letter or syllable at the beginning of two or more words as: “Long lines of cliff breaking have left a chasm”.

SUBJECTS FOR COMPOSITION

Write an essay on heroism in humble life.
Write a character sketch of Enoch.
Imagine that Annie is telling the story of her life: write the story as she might tell it.
Describe the circumstances which led to Annie's second marriage.

Alfred Tennyson - Enoch Arden

Long lines of cliff breaking have left a chasm;
And in the chasm are foam and yellow sands;
Beyond, red roofs about a narrow wharf
In cluster; then a moulder'd church; and higher
A long street climbs to one tall-tower'd mill;
And high in heaven behind it a gray down
With Danish barrows; and a hazelwood,
By autumn nutters haunted, flourishes
Green in a cuplike hollow of the down.
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