

Task for *Selected Poetry and Prose*

Extracts from A. D. Hope's poem 'The End of a Journey'

Thought the night tedious, coughed and shook his head, An old man sleeping with this housekeeper.	Setting his jaw, he turned and clambered down A goat-track to the beach; the tide was full.	He stood and brooded on the breaking wave Revolving many memories in his skull
Grimly he watched his enemy the sea rage round the petty kingdom he called home;	Roped to a mast and through the breakers' roar Sweet voices mocked him on his reeling deck:	A castaway upon so cruel a shore.

Focus Questions:

- Do you notice any patterns that can be identified such as imagery, allusions, symbolism?
- Do you notice words that have specific connotations that might shape your expectations of the poem?
- Can you suggest some different interpretations for these phrases?