

Questions on Dover Beach by Matthew Arnold:

1. What does the speaker mean in the final lines? What sentiments are expressed by the dark images at the conclusion of the poem?
2. What is the setting of "Dover Beach"? What is the situation? Who is the speaker speaking to? Pay particular attention to the ways the speaker addresses his love.
3. What is the tone of the speaker's words, particularly at the end of the poem? Is the exhortation "let us be true / to one another" (29-30) said with despair? Resolve? Triumph?
4. What is the speaker's attitude toward faith? What role did he think the "Sea of Faith" (21) performed for the world? For human imagination?