Kamikaze

1. Who is telling the story in this poem? To whom is it being told?
2. What's the two most important things the pilot takes with him in the first stanza? What do they symbolise?
3. At what point does the pilot change his mind?
4. Why might there be so much focus on the beauty of the different fish? Choose three quotations for comment.
5. What reference is there to the pilot's childhood? Why is this important?
6. Why do you think the last two stanzas have been italicised?
7. How does everyone treat him when he returns to Japan?
8. Reread lines 37-40. What's changed? What type of word is "never" and why has it been used? What mood does this create?
9. What should a father represent? Why is this significant?
10. What ideas is the poet exploring about power and conflict?

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