

**Dylan Thomas**  
**Do not go gentle into that good night**  
**More challenging questions!**

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1. Is there any reason why the poet speaks only of men and not of women? (2)
2. Though wise men at their end know dark is right,  
Because their words had forked no lightning they  
Do not go gentle into that good night.
  - Wise men appear to have wisdom enough to know that death is inevitable. Why then should they still resist dying? (4)
  - Comment on the imagery of "their words had forked no lightning". (4)
3. Good men, the last wave by, crying how bright  
Their frail deeds might have danced in a green bay,  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.
  - Explain the transferred epithet in the words, "Good men, the last wave by". (2)
  - Why should the poet connect "good men" with "frail deeds"? (4)
  - Explain what is meant by the good men "crying how bright their frail deeds might have danced in a green bay". (4)
4. Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight,  
And learn, too late, they grieved it on its way,  
Do not go gentle into that good night.
  - What does the poet mean when he says, "Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight, and learn, too late, they grieved it on its way"? (4)
5. Grave men, near death, who see with blinding sight  
Blind eyes could blaze like meteors and be gay,  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.
  - Dylan Thomas is renowned for his marvellous playing with words. Examine how he particularly achieves this in the above stanza. (4)
6. And you, my father, there on the sad height,  
Curse, bless, me now with your fierce tears, I pray.  
Do not go gentle into that good night.  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.
  - The entire poem is a reflection of the poet's concern for his father, and of his father's attitude towards death. Explain how this is so. (4)
  - Would you like to comment on the rather interesting rhyming scheme found in this poem? (4)

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