

## VII.

## OZYMANDIAS.

I met a traveller from an antique land  
 Who said : Two vast and trunkless legs of stone  
 Stand in the desert. Near them on the sand,  
 Half sunk, a shatter'd visage lies, whose frown  
 And wrinkled lip and sneer of cold command 5  
 Tell that its sculptor well those passions read  
 Which yet survive, (stamp'd on these lifeless things),  
 The hand that mock'd them and the heart that fed ;  
 And on the pedestal these words appear :  
 " My name is Ozymandias, king of kings : 10  
 Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair ! "  
 Nothing beside remains. Round the decay  
 Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare,  
 The lone and level sands stretch far away.

—Shelley.

(a) Describe fully and clearly, in your own words, the scene presented in this poem.

(b) What are " these lifeless things " (l. 7) ?

(c) Whose hand is it " that mock'd them " (l. 8) ?

(d) Whose is " the heart that fed " (l. 8) ?

(e) State in a single phrase the main idea expressed in the poem.

(f) What do the final two and a half lines contribute to this main idea ?

## VIII.

*Even in a palace, life may be lived well !*  
 So spake the imperial sage, purest of men,  
 Marcus Aurelius. But the stifling den  
 Of common life, where crowded up pell-mell,  
 Our freedom for a little bread we sell, 5  
 And drudge under some foolish master's ken  
 Who rates us if we peer outside our pen—  
 Match'd with a palace, is not this a hell ?  
*Even in a palace !* On his truth sincere,  
 Who spake these words, no shadow ever came ; 10  
 And when my ill-school'd spirit is aflame  
 Some nobler, ampler stage of life to win,  
 I'll stop and say : " There were no succor here " !  
 The aids to noble life he all within.