

The Watcher

I beam at you and you smile at me
and I give you warmth and light.
I watch you through your skies and clouds;
but you turn and sleep at night.

Although 8 minutes is all it takes
for light to reach your home;
93 million miles away
in space is where I roam.

Four and a half billion years I've lived;
five billion yet to come,
110 times the size of Earth
I'm way too hot for some.

My solar winds and solar flares
light up the Northern Lights;
the polar pinks and greens and blues -
the world's most wondrous sights.

The ancient Romans called me Sol,
The Egyptians called me Ra,
The Greeks knew me as Helios,
you know me as your star.

One day I'll have no fuel to burn;
the hydrogen all done,
the light will go, your planet, too,
but for now, I'm still your sun.



1. Draw four lines to link these numbers to their fact.

8

how many times bigger the sun is compared to Earth

110

age of the sun

93 million

how many minutes it takes the sun's light to reach Earth

4 and a half billion

distance in miles between the Earth and sun



2. Why do you think 'The Watcher' was chosen for the poem's title?



3. 'but you turn and sleep at night.' Explain what the poem means by this:



4. Read the final verse. In your own words, sum up what the poem is saying here:
