The Race

by Liana Mahoney

I'm running a race!
It's a game I play –
A game for sun-lit
Summer days.

My heart is pumping.
Will I win this race?
My legs are flying
In a high-speed chase.

I'm tiring out,
My running slows.

He slows down, too.
I think he knows…

I just can't catch him.
I admit defeat.
My shadow's so fast,
He can't be beat!

Name: _____

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1. Who is the boy in the poem racing against?

_____

_____

2. Which of these statements is probably true about the race in the poem?
    a. The boy is a slow runner.   **b.** It is impossible for the boy to win the race.
    c. The

3. Why doe

_____

_____

4. Do you think the boy really expected to win the race? Why or why not?

_____

_____

5. List four pairs of rhyming words the poet uses in this poem.

_____ and _____,   _____ and _____

_____ and _____,   _____ and _____

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1. Who is the boy in the poem racing against?

The boy is racing against his shadow.

2. Which of these statements is probably true about the race in the poem?   **b**
   a. The boy is a slow runner.   **b.** **It is impossible for the boy to win the race.**
   c. The boy gets tired quickly.   **d.** The boy will probably win next time.

3. Why doe

The po _____ **re no shado**

4. Do you think the boy really expected to win the race? Why or why not?

(Answers will vary.) Possible answer: The boy probably knew he could not win a race against his shadow because he has played this game before. He is probably running just for fun.

5. List four pairs of rhyming words the poet uses in this poem.

race and **chase**,   **ahead** and **instead**,
slows and **knows**,   **defeat** and **beat**
Note: You may also want to accept play and day(s)