

RAP Paraphrasing Strategy

□ **R = Read** the text (by chunking each paragraph).

Now as I watch you, strong of arm and endurance, battling and struggling
With the waves that rush against you, ever with invincible strength returning
Into my heart, grown each day more tranquil and peaceful, comes a fierce longing
Of mind and soul that will not be appeased until, like you, I breast yon deep and boundless
expanse of blue.

□ **A = Ask** yourself questions to locate the main idea and the key details of a paragraph.

What is the main idea?

What are the key details?

The author sees a strong swimmer that perseveres in spite of challenging waters and is impressed by the swimmer's fortitude while the author's desire cannot be satisfied unless he confronts it in a manner that goes beyond what the swimmer does on the water.

Key details include the words associated with water (waves and blue), strength (strong, endurance, invincible, and strength), body parts (arm, heart, and breast), unending (endurance, boundless, and expanse), challenges (battling, struggling, rush, against, and longing) and peacefulness (tranquil, peace, and appeased). The swimmer is associated with the words pertaining to strength, challenges, and unending. The writer is associated with the words of peacefulness or longing to be.

□ **P = Put** (paraphrase) main idea and key details in your own words.

The author sees a strong swimmer that perseveres in spite of challenging waters and is impressed by the swimmer's fortitude while the author's desire (whatever that may be) cannot be satisfied unless he confronts it in a manner that goes beyond what the swimmer does on the water. The juxtaposition or placing of words with common themes to describe the writer (peacefulness or longing to be) and the swimmer (strength, challenges, and unending) contrast the actions of both.