

## **After Reading Comprehension**

- 1. Recall** How does the speaker in “The Seafarer” feel about life at sea?
- 2. Clarify** In “The Wife’s Lament,” what does the wife wish for her husband?

## **Text Analysis**

- 3. Compare Texts** Compare these two poems, noting similarities you see in each of the following elements: • subject • mood • imagery • theme
- 4. Synthesize Ideas** What ideas about Anglo-Saxon life and religious attitudes do you get from the poems?
- 5. Evaluate Imagery** How does the imagery in these poems reflect the passage of time? Support your answer with details from the poems.
- 6. Apply Themes** What advice might the speakers of “The Seafarer” give the speaker of “The Wife’s Lament”? In what circumstances could modern people benefit from this advice?

## **Text Criticism**

- 7. Critical Interpretations** There has been much debate over the number of speakers in “The Seafarer.” Some critics believe that a second person begins to speak at line 64, and others believe that there is only one speaker throughout the poem. Which interpretation do you believe is more accurate, and why?
- 8. When are people most alone?**  
A cold, stony landscape mirrors the harsh, unpredictable lives of the Anglo-Saxons. What other kinds of landscapes might evoke a feeling of isolation or loneliness?