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② 'Dover Beach' by Matthew Arnold
Explanation :-

The speaker looks out upon a calm sea, and observes the fullness of the tide and the moon reflecting on the water. Looking across the English channel, the speaker sees the light of the French coast fade away, while the cliffs of the English coast stand tall and bright, and bay seems calm.

Suddenly, the speaker addresses someone else, and implores this person to come and look at what the speaker is looking at, and to enjoy the night's pleasant air. The speaker senses something is not quite right and describes the spray where the water meets the moonlit land. The speaker instructs the other person to listen to the sound of the pebbles as the waves shift them back and forth, up the beach and down again. The speaker notes this slow repeating action and identifies it with eternal sadness.

All of a sudden, the speaker thinks about the ancient Greek playwright, Sophocles and imagine, Sophocles hearing the same sadness in the Aegean sea as the speaker hears now on the English coast. Sophocles, in the mind of the speaker, listen the sad sound of

the waves to the general sorrow of humanity which moves like the waves. The speaker then notices another thought that comes with the sound of the sea.

Explaining the next thought, the speaker describes religious faith as a sea that was once full like the tide. At that time, it stretched around the earth like a girdle. Now, though, the speaker just hears that sea's sad retreat. As the sea of faith becomes smaller, says the speaker, it disappears into the atmosphere and leaves the edges of the world naked.

The speaker suddenly addresses the Compagnon as "love", and states desperately that the two of them need to treat each other with honesty and authenticity. This is because the world, though it has a dream-like quality of variety, beauty and newness, doesn't actually offer joy, love and clarity. Neither, claims the speaker, can it provide certainty, peace or relief from pain. The speaker then compares their collective situation to standing on a flat and dark piece of land which is caught up in the chaos of fighting. Here battles between unknowing groups continue under the cover of darkness.