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**Question 1. Why does the poet say, “I would not intrude on him”? Why doesn’t he offer him money to buy another ball?**

The poet says, “I would not intrude on him” because he wants the boy to learn the lesson of loss naturally, without interference. Offering money to buy a new ball would take away the value of this experience. The poet believes it is important for the boy to understand responsibility through this small loss.

**Question 2. The line says, “...staring down all his young days into the harbour where his ball went...” Has the boy had the ball a long time? Is the ball linked to his memories?**

Yes, the ball has been with the boy for a long time. As it bounced into the water, it reminded him of his childhood memories. He realizes these moments are gone forever—like the ball—though he can create new memories with new balls.

**Question 3. What does “in the world of possessions” mean?**

It means the world is focused on owning things—land, money, property, or goods. Losing even something small, like a ball, helps the boy understand what it feels like to lose something valuable that he owned.

**Question 4. Has the boy lost anything before? Which words suggest your answer?**

No, he probably hasn’t experienced loss before. The phrase “**He senses first responsibility in a world of possessions**” suggests this is his first time facing such a feeling.

**Question 5. What is the boy learning from losing the ball? Explain in your own words.**

The boy is learning how to accept loss and cope with grief. This experience teaches him about the realities of life, where things are lost and cannot be regained. It is his first step toward maturity and responsibility, understanding that losses happen and he must move forward.