

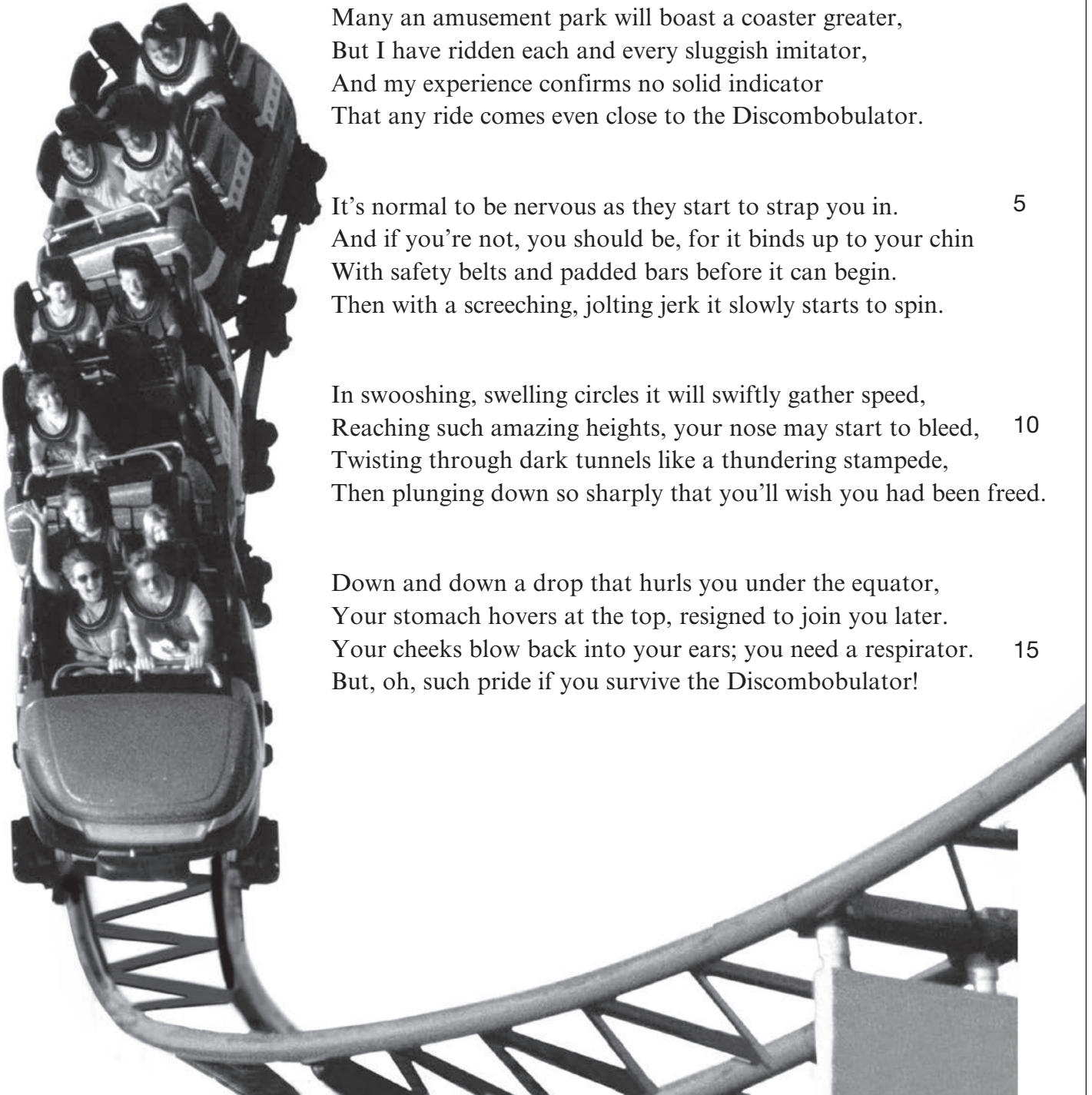
## The Discombobulator

Many an amusement park will boast a coaster greater,  
But I have ridden each and every sluggish imitator,  
And my experience confirms no solid indicator  
That any ride comes even close to the Discombobulator.

It's normal to be nervous as they start to strap you in. 5  
And if you're not, you should be, for it binds up to your chin  
With safety belts and padded bars before it can begin.  
Then with a screeching, jolting jerk it slowly starts to spin.

In swooshing, swelling circles it will swiftly gather speed,  
Reaching such amazing heights, your nose may start to bleed, 10  
Twisting through dark tunnels like a thundering stampede,  
Then plunging down so sharply that you'll wish you had been freed.

Down and down a drop that hurls you under the equator,  
Your stomach hovers at the top, resigned to join you later.  
Your cheeks blow back into your ears; you need a respirator. 15  
But, oh, such pride if you survive the Discombobulator!



## The Discombobulator



**7** What does the word “boast” mean as used in line 1?

- claim
- display
- operate
- describe

**8** In lines 3 and 4, why does the speaker say “And my experience confirms no solid indicator / That any ride comes even close to the Discombobulator”?

- to show how brave the speaker is
- to describe the speed of the Discombobulator
- to compare the Discombobulator to other rides
- to indicate that the speaker has ridden other roller coasters

**9** According to the speaker, how are people likely feeling before the ride begins?

- sick
- eager
- curious
- anxious

**10** In line 9, alliteration is used to

- imitate sounds.
- build suspense.
- emphasize movement.
- develop a comparison.

**11** Explain why safety features are an important part of the design of the Discombobulator. Use specific details from the poem and your own ideas to support your answer.

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**12** Explain whether or not you would enjoy riding the Discombobulator. Use information from the poem and your own ideas to support your answer.

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