Walking the Dog

A crackle, a scrape, a huffing pant
A sudden shower of leaves;
A darting squirrel, a taut leash
The energetic dog heaves
On through the canopied, crackling brown sea
His chest like the bow of a boat
Only his leaps and his forward motion
Keeping him afloat.
Sunlight falls at a horizontal slant
As we enter the late afternoon
And pick up our pace a little more—
Darkness will fall on us soon.

DIRECTIONS: Read the poem aloud. Then answer the questions.

1. What is the “canopied, crackling brown sea?” _________________

2. Circle the word below that describes the dog.

   sleepy   lively   frightened

3. What season is it in the poem? _____________________

4. Circle the correct rhyme scheme below.

   ABCB DEFE GHIH       ABABCDDEFEF