

LO: I am learning to understand the meaning of a text

Read the lyrics from the song 'Fast Car' by Tracy Chapman:

*See my old man's got a problem
He lives by the bottle that's the way it is
He said his body's too old for working
His body's too young to look like this
My mama went off and left him
She wanted more from life than he could give
I said somebody's got to take care of him
So I quit school, that's what I did*

Now answer the questions below using evidence from what you have read:

1. What is the problem with the singer's dad?
2. How old do you think he is?
3. How old do you think he looks? Why do you think this?
4. Why did the mum leave?
5. What sacrifices did this singer make?
6. How do you think the singer feels about making these sacrifices?
7. Why does the singer want to escape?

