

The Weaver of Words: Leo's Poetry Garden

Learning objective: To analyse poetic devices and identify how poets use imagery to convey meaning.

Read the passage carefully about Leo the Lion's creative process. Answer the questions in full sentences, using evidence from the text where possible.

Leo the Lion sat amongst the swaying sunflowers, his golden mane catching the afternoon light. He was not hunting or roaring today; instead, he was carefully weaving words into a garden of verse. Leo believed that a poem was like a secret treasure map. He chose his words with the precision of a craftsman, selecting adjectives that shimmered like dewdrops on a spider's web.

'The wind whispers secrets to the ancient oak,' Leo murmured, scribbling on his parchment. He loved using alliteration to make his lines dance, letting the sounds bounce rhythmically against the page. To Leo, poetry was not just about rhyming; it was about capturing the feeling of the sun on one's fur or the quiet rustle of autumn leaves. He often personified the nature around him, imagining the clouds as fluffy sheep grazing across the blue meadow of the sky. As he finished his latest stanza, he felt a warm sense of accomplishment. He did not need a crown to be a king; he had his quill, his imagination, and the endless, beautiful rhythm of the natural world to guide his poetic journey.

Word bank: metaphor · alliteration · rhythm · imagery · stanzas · personification

1. Identify two examples of figurative language used by Leo in his poetry. (2 marks) (2 marks)

2. What does Leo use to write his poetry, and where is he sitting while he works? (2 marks) (2 marks)

3. Why does the author describe Leo's poetry as a 'secret treasure map'? (3 marks) (3 marks)

4. How does Leo's attitude towards being a 'king' differ from what we might expect of a lion? (3 marks) (3 marks)

5. Do you agree with Leo that poetry is more about capturing feelings than just rhyming? Justify your opinion. (3 marks) (3 marks)

Draw: Draw Leo the Lion sitting in a garden, surrounded by sunflowers and symbols representing his poetry, such as floating words or musical notes.



Extension challenge: Compare and contrast Leo's approach to poetry with the way a scientist might observe nature. Write a short paragraph explaining why both perspectives are valuable. Then, compose your own four-line stanza using at least one metaphor and one example of alliteration.