

Poetry Patterns with Leo the Lion

Learning objective: To identify and use figurative language and poetic devices, including metaphors, similes, and personification.

Read the poem written by Leo the Lion about the changing seasons. Use the word bank to help you identify the literary devices used and answer the questions below.

The autumn wind is a hungry thief,
Stealing the gold from every leaf.
It whispers secrets to the trees,
Dancing lightly on the breeze.

Like a colourful blanket, the forest lies,
Beneath the vast and watchful skies.
The woods are wearing a coat of brown,
As summer leaves come tumbling down.

Word bank: Metaphor · Simile · Personification · Alliteration · Stanza · Imagery

1. Identify the metaphor in the first stanza. Explain why the poet compares the wind to a 'hungry thief'. (2 marks)

2. Find an example of personification in the first stanza. What human action is the wind performing? (2 marks)

3. Highlight the simile in the second stanza. What two things are being compared? (2 marks)

4. Find an example of alliteration in the poem. Why might a poet choose to use this technique? (2 marks)

5. How many stanzas are in this poem? Describe the rhyme scheme used by Leo the Lion. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of the 'colourful blanket' mentioned in the poem. Include the trees losing their leaves and the 'watchful skies' described by Leo.



Extension challenge: Write your own four-line stanza about winter. Try to include at least one piece of personification and one simile to describe the cold weather.