

Grade 3 Assessment: The Power of Poetry

Learning objective: To analyze poetic devices and compose original verse using imagery and structure.

Read the poem below carefully. Use your knowledge of figurative language and poetic structure to answer the questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

The silver moon is a silent lantern,
Watching the world with a steady glow.
The wind whispers secrets to the rustling trees,
As the brook babbles softly, moving slow.

Everything rests in the velvet night,
While stars dance high in the deep, dark sky.
Max the monkey dreams of puzzles tonight,
As the sleeping world lets out a sigh.

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

1. Identify one example of personification in the first stanza and explain why it is used. (2 marks)

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

3. The poet describes the moon as a 'silent lantern'. What poetic device is this? Explain what this tells us about the moon. (2 marks)

4. Identify one example of onomatopoeia in the passage. How does this word add to the reader's experience of the scene? (2 marks)

5. Compare the structure of the two stanzas. How are they similar in terms of rhythm and rhyme? (3 marks)

6. Explain why the poet chose the word 'velvet' to describe the night. What does this suggest about the atmosphere? (3 marks)

7. What might happen to the mood of the poem if the poet had used harsh, jagged sounds instead of soft, flowing language? Justify your answer. (3 marks)

8. Creative Writing Task: Compose a four-line stanza about Nova the owl stargazing. You must include one simile, one example of alliteration, and maintain a consistent rhythm. (5 marks) (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene inspired by the final stanza of the poem: Max the monkey asleep under the 'dancing stars' and the 'silver moon'.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Extension: If you were to add a third stanza to this poem, how would you change the tone to reflect the arrival of morning? Write your ideas in a short paragraph, describing the vocabulary choices you would make.