

SAMPLE PAGES FOR

**THE READY
EOG ASSESSMENT**

**THE
COMPETITIVE
EDGE**

SEVENTH GRADE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

with COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

2013 EDITION

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CPC

CONTEMPORARY PUBLISHING COMPANY OF RALEIGH, INC.

5849 Lease Lane, Raleigh, NC 27617 • (919) 851-8221
www.contemporarypublishing.com

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CHAPTER 4—LITERATURE

Author's Purpose

Authors always have a purpose (motive) when they write. The purpose could be to inform the reader about certain information or ideas, to entertain the reader with something funny, mysterious, or scary, to persuade the reader to buy or do something, or to explain to the reader what happened, what something looks like, or how to do something.

EXAMPLES

Purpose – to inform

William Penn grew up in a rich English family. His father, Admiral William Penn, won many great sea battles for England. He dreamed that his son would do the same. But William joined a new religious group known as the Society of Friends. The Friends were also called Quakers. This name comes from their belief that they should “quake before the power of the Lord.”

Purpose – to entertain

Once there was a king who had a pear tree which bore four and twenty golden pears. Every day he went into the garden and counted them to see that none were missing.

Purpose – to persuade

I think that we as a nation should stop sending food aid to North Korea until they stop testing nuclear weapons that will probably be used on us.

(Sometimes the arguments to persuade someone to think a certain way may reveal the **author's bias**. Bias is a feeling for or against something. Sometimes the author's bias will make authors write statements without adequate evidence to back up their statements.)

Purpose – to explain

Here is a simple way to make cheese from yogurt. You will need a container of plain yogurt, cheesecloth, a piece of string, and a bowl. Empty the container of yogurt onto a piece of cheesecloth large enough for you to gather the four corners with a piece of string. Tie the string around the four corners of the cheesecloth. Hang the cheesecloth filled with yogurt over a bowl. Leave the yogurt overnight until the excess water drips out, and you will have a delicious soft cheese.



PRACTICE

Decide whether the author's purpose is to **inform**, **entertain**, **persuade**, or **explain**.

1. You need an empty oatmeal box, tape, glue, construction paper, felt, scissors, and paint to construct a cardboard drum. Tape the top of the box so that it will remain closed. Cover the sides with construction paper. Cut and glue the felt on the top and bottom of the box. Paint or glue designs on the top and sides of the box.

2. Many Native American peoples lived in South Carolina. About 900 years ago, the Mississippian culture called the Mound Builders flourished. They built great temple mounds. In 1600, the Cherokee, Catawba, and the Yamasil were major nations in the state.

3. When James Madison became President in 1809, Great Britain and France were at war in Europe. Madison tried to keep the United States neutral –not taking sides. But a group of young western Congressmen did not want to remain neutral. These War Hawks pushed the country toward war with Great Britain. The War Hawks were angry about British attacks on American ships and sailors.

4. Once there was a shoemaker who was very poor. He had nothing left but enough leather to make one pair of shoes. He cut out the shoes at night so that he could make them in the morning. He went to bed and in the morning went in to work on the shoes. He was surprised to find that the shoes were already finished.

5. There is no better place to visit than Disney World. There are rides and entertainment for adults and children. It is nonstop fun. Plan your vacation to Florida today.

6. While most films are now shot on location, some work is still done on sound stages. The stages are essentially large barns. Only as much of the set is built as will be seen by the camera.

7. The torch is a modern link to the ancient Olympic Games. At the ancient Games, like today, the flame burned every day that the Games were held. The modern torch relay began with the 1936 Berlin Games. During the relay, the torch is handed from person to person as it makes its way toward the host city. Today every torch relay begins at Olympia, the site of the first Olympics.

8. A lantern-fish is a deep sea bony fish. It is 1–6 inches long. It has a large mouth and eyes and many light-producing organs in its head, underside, and base of the tail.

-
9. Work weeks should only consist of four days, Monday through Thursday. Workers are so stressed that they need more days off to rest. If they had three-day weekends instead of two-day weekends, more work would be accomplished during the work week.
-
10. I watched the alien ship land in the field of wheat. Slowly, the hatch opened, and a group of small, thin, scaly creatures descended the platform. Their orb-shaped eyes were staring into mine. Why are they here? What do they want? Was I safe?
-
11. Donald McKay was a US clipper shipbuilder born in Canada. In 1845, he owned his own shipyard in Boston. He became known as the builder of the fastest and the largest clipper ships. The shipyard closed in 1873 with the popularity of the iron steam-powered ships.
-
12. Nacho dip is delicious and easy to prepare. In a 9" × 13" baking dish, layer 8 oz cream cheese, 1 can Hormel chili (no beans), a medium jar of salsa, and 2 cups of shredded Mexican cheese. Place the dish in the microwave for 7 minutes until cheese is melted. Serve warm with tortilla chips.
-

The reading selection below expresses the author's bias, or opinion, about the famous Arnold Schwarzenegger's election to the office of Governor for the state of California in the fall of 2003. His ex-wife, Maria Shriver, is the niece of former President Kennedy, and has lived her whole life in the political realm. As you read, notice the author's opinions, or bias, about Schwarzenegger.

Superstar Governor

Arnold Schwarzenegger emigrated from Austria to the United States penniless and built an entertainment empire. He starred in *Conan* movies in his early career, won Mr. Olympia and Mr. Universe as a body builder, created a series of modern action movies such as the *Terminator* series, and joined with actors Bruce Willis and Sylvester Stallone to build the famous restaurant Planet Hollywood.

During the fall of 2003, television cameras showed Arnold Schwarzenegger smiling at his wife Maria Shriver as he celebrated his election to governor of California. This was an easy win, thanks to the Kennedy gal's magic.

Many people will theorize about this event. They will say that the voters were fed up with "business as usual" politicians and wanted someone more interesting. They will say that the body-builder-turned-actor-turned-governor-wannabe bought his victory with millions of dollars of his own money. They will say that the star appeal of the highest paid action hero in the world caused any real voter to ignore his positions on political issues. Critics may also say that voters didn't seem to care that Arnold was not specific during campaigning about any political issues. Forget all of these theories about Arnold's victory. In the end, it was the striking presence of a Kennedy that made all the difference for Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Arnold couldn't have made history in California without Maria. And he knows it. No more than a few sentences into his acceptance speech, Arnold told the world that he won thanks to his

wife, Maria Kennedy Shriver. Arnold's character or political views did not matter to the public because Maria stood by him as a faithful wife. At all of the campaign stops, Maria never wavered that there could be an ounce of doubt in her mind about her husband's ethical core and ability to lead the state as governor. She challenged voters to trust and believe her, the woman who had pledged to love him for better or worse.

Superstar Arnold Schwarzenegger was elected governor to lead the nation's most populated state with an economy that's the fifth largest in the world. Winning was easy, but how did he govern? He needed more than macho charisma and Kennedy gal magic to stay on top.

The author's bias, or opinion, about superstar politicians is clear in this selection.

13. What is the author's bias, or opinion, about any superstar who is elected to a political office?

14. List at least three phrases from the selection to support your response.

1.

2.

3.

The Changing Food Pyramid/Healthy Eating Plate

The food pyramid is a triangle divided into the food groups according to the servings a person should consume. It is used by dieters and nutritionists, taught in school health classes, and plastered on many food packages. The healthy eating plate is the newest instrument showing what part of your plate should be covered by certain food groups.

Government officials are considering tailoring the nutritional advice according to people's age and activity levels. The changes are designed to help people eat better and reduce obesity across the nation. The new food pyramid/plate will make overall calorie recommendations and the number of servings based on people with inactive lifestyles, which reflect the current trend in the United States.

The public will be able to comment on the new food pyramid/plate before government officials finalize it. If approved, it will include a few changes. Since overeaters often misinterpret what a "serving" means on package labeling, quantities will be listed in cups and ounces instead. Also, people could figure out how much to eat based on their age and activity level. Information about servings for twelve different calorie levels, from 1,000 calories to 3,200, will be included. Recommendations for servings for inactive men ages 35 to 50 will be very different than suggestions for growing boys ages 8-12.

The detailed serving information based on the new food pyramid/plate will be available on Web sites and in brochures.

15. What is the author's bias, or opinion, about the eating habits and lifestyles of Americans?

16. List at least three phrases from the selection to support your response.

1.

2.

3.

The author of the selection below has a particular purpose. Respond to the questions after the selection.

The McKissick Museum

The McKissick Museum features the history of Kershaw County pottery in “It’s Just Mud: Kershaw County Pottery.” The exhibit showcases a variety of pieces, including jugs, churns, pitchers, vases, flowerpots and planters. While most of the works are functional, some reflect the artistic flair of their creators. From 1920 to 1980, ceramic production flourished in the Kershaw County town of Bethune. The rich, natural clay deposits funneled pottery-making there, as well as nearby Camden. Evidence of the ceramics trade in this region can be traced to Native Americans and Colonial settlers. Exhibit visitors will see more than 150 examples of wares produced near Bethune. Drawn largely from collections, the display will feature pieces ranging in size from 1 1/2 inches to 20 inches in height. It also will explore the stories of the men and women ceramic artists who created the pots, including Oscar Brumeloe, founder of Bethune Pottery. The McKissick Museum is free and open to the public.

17. What words or phrases prove that the author tries to entertain or enlighten the reader?

18. What words or phrases prove that the author tries to explain something or inform the reader?

19. What words or phrases prove that the author tries to persuade the reader?

The author of the selection below has a particular purpose. Respond to the questions after the selection.

Subscriptions

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20. What words or phrases prove that the author tries to entertain or enlighten the reader?

21. What words or phrases prove that the author tries to explain something or inform the reader?

22. What words or phrases prove that the author tries to persuade the reader?

S

Review

Some One

Some one came knocking
 At my wee, small door;
 Some one came knocking,
 I'm sure—sure—sure;
 I listened, I opened,
 I looked to left and right,
 But nought there was a-stirring
 In the still dark night;
 Only the busy beetle
 Tap-tapping in the wall,
 Only from the forest
 The screech-owl's call,
 Only the cricket whistling
 While the dewdrops fall,
 So I know not who came knocking,
 At all, at all, at all.

1. Why did the author write this poem?

Cooperation, American style

When Benjamin Franklin signed the Declaration of Independence, he was credited with saying, “We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately.”

No wonder. Franklin was the founder of the first successful cooperative formed in the United States. He organized the Philadelphia Contributionship for the Insurance of Houses from Loss by Fire in 1752.

The principles behind the Declaration of Independence that form the basis of American democracy are the same beliefs that form the basis of cooperatives.

Cooperatives follow seven internationally recognized principles:

- Voluntary and Open Membership
- Education, Training and Information
- Democratic Member Control

- Cooperation Among Cooperatives
- Member Economic Participation
- Concern for Community
- Autonomy and Independence

A cooperative is owned and democratically controlled by the people who use its services. Each cooperative member has one vote regardless of their equity in the company. That is, wealthy members can't buy more control, and everyone has an equal say. This is in contrast to investor-owned businesses where only shareholders have a vote in how a business is run. Even among shareholders, some have more votes than others depending on their shares of stock.

Similarly to cooperatives, the Declaration of Independence declared the equality of rights of its citizens.

One member, one vote

Cooperatives are taxpaying businesses that return surplus revenues to members proportionate to their use of the cooperative, not proportionate to their ownership share. Cooperatives are motivated not by profit, but to meet their members' needs for goods or services. Surplus revenues from the co-op are returned to individual members, who pay taxes on that income.

At the time the Declaration was written, democracy was a pretty untested idea—but the founders of our country were determined to make it work.

People power

The Declaration of Independence declared that people have the right to organize to secure their futures when their rights are infringed upon. And similarly, cooperatives are formed when the marketplace fails to provide needed goods or services. Cooperatives empower people to improve their quality of life and enhance their economic opportunities through self-help. Electric cooperatives were formed by folks who knew they could not rely on others to provide them with electric service. As such, electric cooperatives were fundamentally self-help organizations.

Throughout the world, cooperatives are providing co-op members with financial services, electricity, consumer goods, housing, and other services

that would otherwise not be available to them. Today, nationally known cooperatives include many household names, such as SunKist, SunMaid, Blue Diamond, Florida's Natural, Land O'Lakes, ACE Hardware and TruServ.

So, as you observe Independence Day with families and friends this year, think about those principles that inspired our Founding Fathers. They also inspired the founders of electric cooperatives, who were determined to provide safe and reliable electric energy to secure the futures of their communities.

2. Which statement *best* summarizes the author's bias in this selection?
 - a. The selection reveals the author's bias about Benjamin Franklin.
 - b. The selection reveals the author's bias about the Declaration of Independence.
 - c. The selection reveals the author's bias about electric cooperatives.
 - d. The selection reveals the author's bias about economic opportunities.

Agreement Benefits Students, Schools, Employers

There is a huge, huge pool of people in North Carolina who are woefully undereducated. There are 1,154,724 adults in our state who do not have a high school diploma or the literacy skills they need to hold a good job. That represents one-third of the potential work force in the state. Leaving these North Carolinians stuck with inadequate skills obviously is bad for each of them. Additionally, their numbers have grown to the point that undereducated people have become a drain on North Carolina's overall efforts to attract and keep business and industry.

The State Department of Education and the North Carolina Community College System have agreed to work together to identify, recruit, and educate adults who didn't get through high school, or didn't acquire the skills needed in high school to get good jobs.

The drain on business and potential wage-earners from this lack of skills has been well-documented in our state. Only 15 percent of today's jobs require minimum skills for employment—a high school diploma or below. But 33 percent of North Carolina ninth-graders drop out before they complete high school. Another 10 percent of each ninth grade class leaves high school without the necessary skills for employment. Meanwhile, 85 percent of jobs available today require advanced training—at least an associate's degree or a four year college degree. Just 32 percent of those ninth-graders get advanced training or associate's degrees; 68 percent will enter a four year college. The kids who don't finish high school, or who acquire minimum skills when they do and go no farther, have no hope in today's economy of getting and keeping a decent job.

Adult education has by and large been an add-on, woefully underfunded in the K-12 system by the state. Funding for the community college system is a huge, unaddressed issue in our state that is coming to the forefront. The goal of the new partnership is getting these adults back into their local school districts, which all have adult education programs. That may have more relevancy and appeal for adults if they can see how it's tied to meaningful further education at a community college.

North Carolina's community colleges have many programs directly tied to dire workforce needs. Once enrolled in community college, students can be connected with a variety of federal and state assistance, which greatly reduces tuition. As those workforce surveys show, many of the skills that community colleges demand are in jobs with high vacancy rates and that are virtually recession-proof. In other words, there is boundless opportunity for people who are properly trained. And our state has an overabundance of people without adequate education and skills. If ever there were a meeting of need and opportunity, this is it. Similar programs are being developed to capture high school students to gain high school and community college credit at the same time. Such efforts are essential for kids who have the aptitude to be suc-

successful adults, but simply don't find the traditional K-12 system relevant to their skills and interests.

There are many hurdles to establishing a seamless, K-14 or K-16 educational system in our state, and many will remain. This agreement between the K-12 representatives takes turf battles off the table for the adult education system, and the betterment of countless North Carolinians.

3. Which statement *best* explains the bias of the author of this editorial?
 - a. The author believes too many high schools do not prepare their students for college and the workplace.
 - b. The author believes community colleges are too demanding and rigorous for most students without skills.
 - c. The author believes that community colleges and high schools must work together to prepare productive workers.
 - d. The author feels that not everyone needs to attend college to obtain the skills needed in today's workplace.

The Angler and the Little Fish

An angler after a long day's toil had nothing to show for his pains but one small fish. As he was taking the perch off the hook the fish spoke:

"Spare me, good fisherman. I am so small that I will make you but a sorry meal. Throw me back into the river and later when I am grown bigger and worth eating, you may come here and catch me again."

"No, no," said the wary angler, "I have you now, but if you once get back into the water, your tune will be 'catch me if you can.'"

4. What is the author's purpose in writing this selection?
 - a. to entertain
 - b. to inform
 - c. to persuade
 - d. There is no purpose.

The Constitution

We the People of the United States... These are the first words of the Constitution of the United States. The Constitution is the plan of government for our country. When it was written in 1787, most countries were ruled by kings and queens. Those rulers claimed their power came from God. These first words of the Constitution tell us that in our country political power comes from the people. Under our Constitution, the people have ruled the United States for over 200 years.

5. What is the purpose of this selection?
 - a. to entertain
 - b. to inform
 - c. to persuade
 - d. There is no purpose.

Blown Diet

As she left to shop, Sue sipped a can of diet cola. Fantasies about guzzling a chocolate shake drifted in and out of her head. She felt herself weakening after she parked in the shopping center. Passing the bakery was too much. The sweet smells of freshly baked donuts and cakes greeted her senses. Rows of pies, sweet rolls, and cookies beckoned her on. This was a rendezvous with old friends. The diet was over.

6. What is the author's purpose in writing this selection?

My First Car

I'll never forget my first car. It was a blue and white Mercury two-door. It had bucket seats and was really sporty.

All of my friends were jealous. None of them had a new car. So I took all of them with me when I went out. We had a great time "cruising" the streets.

I enjoyed this car for several years. Even though I have had many cars since this one, I will never forget it.

7. What is the purpose of this selection?
- a. to entertain
 - b. to inform
 - c. to persuade
 - d. There is no purpose.

Excerpt from an 1860 paper in Charleston, South Carolina

The political policy of the South demands that we should rise up and announce to the world that we must be a free and an independent people. All admit that a final breakup of the Union is inevitable, and we believe the crisis is not far off. Then let it come now; the better for the South that it should be today.

8. What is the purpose of this selection?
- a. to entertain
 - b. to inform
 - c. to persuade
 - d. There is no purpose.

Black Hair

In the bleachers I was brilliant with my body,
Waving players in and stomping my feet,
Growing sweaty in the presence of white shirts.
I chewed sunflower seeds, I drank water,
and bit my arm through the late innings.

9. What is the purpose of this poem?
- a. to entertain
 - b. to inform
 - c. to persuade
 - d. There is no purpose.

The House Cat

The house cat sits
And smiles and sings.
He knows a lot
Of secret things.

10. Why did the author write this poem?
- _____
- _____

Author's Craft

An author uses many tools and techniques of language to craft a piece of writing. This is called the **author's craft**. The author's craft is divided into two categories, fictional elements and literary devices.

Literary Devices

Literary devices are specific tools of language that can appear in any type of writing. Look at some of these devices.

ALLITERATION: repetition of the first sound or syllable in neighboring words. An author uses alliteration to create a musical effect or to emphasize certain words. Alliteration is often heard in advertisements and commercials. **Example:** *Betty Botter bought some butter.*

ASSONANCE: the repetition of vowel sounds. **Example:** *About the glade in a frail agony of grace*

CONSONANCE: the repetition of the same consonant two or more times in short succession. **Example:** *He clasps the crag with crooked hands.*

ONOMATOPOEIA: words whose sounds suggest their meanings. **Example:** *It's a jazz affair, drum crashes and cornet razzes.*

HYPERBOLE: an author’s technique of over-exaggerating (making things larger or smaller, greater or worse than they actually are), a statement to create an effect. **Example:** *You snore louder than a freight train!*

METAPHOR: a comparison of two things that usually are not considered similar. **Example:** *She is sunshine, brightening our day.*

SIMILE: a comparison of two unlike things using “like” or “as.” **Example:** *The candy was as hard as a rock.*

PERSONIFICATION: an author’s technique of giving human-like qualities to non-humans, such as animals or objects. **Example:** *The flowers were begging for water.*

ANALOGY: used to compare complex situations with simpler, more familiar ones. **Example:** *What anti-virus software is to a computer, vaccinations are to babies.*

ALLEGORY: a text, painting, or play that uses symbolic figures or objects to make a general statement about people or life. **Example:** *In Aesop’s fables, Aesop used animals and their actions to allegorically represent human beings and our way of living.*

SYMBOLISM: when one thing stands for something else. **Example:** *Skull and crossbones—danger*

IMAGERY: the use of words that appeal to any of the five senses. **Example:** *He fumed and charged like an angry bull.*

PRACTICE

Put **S** for simile, **M** for metaphor, **P** for personification, **A** for alliteration, **AS** for assonance, **C** for consonance, **O** for onomatopoeia, **AN** for analogy, **ALL** for allegory, **I** for imagery, **H** for hyperbole, and **SY** for symbolism.

- _____ 1. The old house appeared sad.
- _____ 2. The devil’s eyes were flaming coals.
- _____ 3. Her hair was like golden fleece.
- _____ 4. They fought like cats and dogs.
- _____ 5. I’m so hungry, I could eat a horse!
- _____ 6. Grey were the geese and green was the grazing.
- _____ 7. Eiffel Tower—Paris, romance, good food
- _____ 8. Red rooster says, “Cockadoodle do doo.”
- _____ 9. Fish is to water as bird is to air.
- _____ 10. In George Orwell’s *Animal Farm*, a farm governed by animals stands to represent the communist regime of Stalin in Russia before WWII.

- _____ 11. I lie down by the side of my bride.
- _____ 12. Curse, bless me now with your fierce tears.
- _____ 13. His touch was ice.
- _____ 14. The swans were dancing a waltz.
- _____ 15. His arms were like redwood branches.



Genre

Genre is a type of writing. There are four basic genres into which almost all writing fits: **poetry**, **nonfiction**, **drama**, and **fiction**.

Poetry

Most of the writings that you encounter in your daily life are prose. **Prose** is writing that has lines that go from page to page. Magazine articles, newspaper articles, stories, fairy tales, and novels are all prose. Sometimes, though, you will encounter poetry.

Poems are written words that are written in stanzas and lines, with or without rhyme, showing emotion and imagination. A row of words is a **line**. Lines are usually sentences in prose, but in poetry, lines may be a sentence or the sentence may be split into a few lines (line break). A **stanza** is a group of lines. Unlike prose that is divided into paragraphs, poems are broken down into stanzas. These groups of lines are usually grouped together by how the lines rhyme. Most of the time, the stanzas will have the same number of lines. An empty line separates stanzas. All poetry has a speaker, the “voice” or narrator, who is not necessarily the poet.

EXAMPLE

Excerpt from “The Folly of Being Comforted”

A One that is ever kind said yesterday:
‘Your well-beloved’s hair has threads of grey,
And little shadows come about her eyes;
Time can but make it easier to be wise
Though now it seem impossible, and so
All that you need is patience.’

S Sometimes poems have lines that **rhyme**. When words rhyme, they have the same end sound. The rhyming words come at the end of the lines. A perfect rhyme is a set of words that sound exactly alike, like “bug” and “rug.” An imperfect rhyme is a set of words that sound nearly the same, like “wing” and “caring.”

Look at the example above. Here are the rhyming words:

yesterday/grey

eyes/wise

The sequence or pattern of rhyming words at the ends of the lines of poetry is the **rhyme scheme**. This pattern is usually labeled using letters of the alphabet.

EXAMPLE**Excerpt from “The Folly of Being Comforted”**

Heart cries, ‘No,	A
I have not a crumb of comfort, not a grain.	B
Time can but make her beauty over again:	B
Because of that great nobleness of hers	C
The fire that stirs about her, when she stirs,	C
Burns but more clearly. O she had not these ways	D
When all the wild summer was in her gaze.’	D

E

Many poems have a **rhythm**. Rhythm means that the sounds of words create a pattern (a beat). Some poets like to stress words in a certain way. The poems are usually arranged to stress syllables in a pattern. This pattern creates a rhythm called **meter**. Each use of the pattern is called a **foot**.

EXAMPLE

I **hear** it **in** the **deep** heart’s **core**.

Notice that the stressed words or beats are marked. This line has four feet.

Sometimes words, whole stanzas, or phrases are repeated in poems to help create rhythm. It may also make poems easier to remember. The use of a word, phrase, or stanza two or more times to stress an idea or theme is called **repetition**.

EXAMPLE

Dickery, dickery, dare,
The pig flew up in the air.
The man in brown
Soon brought him down!
Dickery, dickery, dare.

Notice that “dickery, dickery, dare” is repeated throughout the poem.

Authors can also use **allusion**. This is when an author brings up ideas from outside the text, such as another work of literature or real life event. The author does this to compare the ideas, characters, or situations in his or her work with those of another author.

EXAMPLE

I doubt if Phaethon feared more – that time
he dropped the sun-reins of his father’s chariot
and burned the streak of sky we see today –
or if poor Icarus did- feeling his sides
unfeathering as the wax began to melt,
his father shouting: “wrong, your course is wrong.”

Dante alludes to the Greek mythology. Phaethon and Icarus are Greek mythological characters that are alluded to evince his fear as he falls down from air into the eighth circle of Hades.

Sensory details are also used by the author to help the reader imagine the scene using his or her senses.

EXAMPLES

Visual details – sparkling sand with white-speckled shells

Sound details – the lapping of the surf against the sand

Smell details – scent of suntan lotion

Taste details – salt water

Feelings/textures details – sand between toes

When authors use abstract details, these details are open to **interpretation**.

EXAMPLE

Mary was happy with her freedom.

“Freedom” could mean independence, a few hours away from her parents, a divorced woman...

Types of Poetry

BALLAD: A narrative poem, often of folk origin and intended to be sung, consisting of simple stanzas and usually having a refrain.

Excerpt from “The Mermaid”

‘Twas Friday morn when we set sail,
And we had not got far from land,
When the Captain, he spied a lovely mermaid,
With a comb and a glass in her hand.

EPIC: A lengthy narrative poem celebrating the adventures and achievements of a traditional or legendary hero.

Excerpt from “Canto the First”

I want a hero; an uncommon want,
When every year and month sends forth a new one,
Till, after cloying the gazettes with cant,
The age discovers he is not the true one;
Of such as these I should not care to vaunt,
I’ll therefore take our ancient friend Don Juan—
We all have seen him, in the pantomime,
Sent to the devil somewhat ere his time.

FREE VERSE: Poetry that does not have a set pattern of rhythm or rhyme.

Excerpt from “The Mountain”

The mountain held the town as in a shadow
I saw so much before I slept there once;
I noticed that I missed stars in the west,
Where its black body cut into the sky.
Near me it seemed; I felt it like a wall
Behind which I was sheltered from a wind.

HAIKU: A form of Japanese poetry with 17 syllables in three unrhymed lines of five, seven, and five syllables often describing nature or a season.

An old silent pond...
a frog jumps into the pond,
Splash! Silence again.

LIMERICK: A five-line poem (with an AABBA rhyme scheme and a set rhythm pattern) that tells a funny story.

Our novels get longa and longa
Their language gets stronga and stronga
There’s much to be said
For a life that is led
In illiterate places like Bonga.

NARRATIVE POETRY: Poetry that tells a story and has a plot.

Excerpt from “John Barleycorn”

“There was three kings into the east,
Three kings both great and high,
And they have sworn a solemn oath
John Barleycorn should die.”

ODE: A lyric poem usually expressing enthusiastic emotion.

Excerpt from “Ode to a Nightingale”

My heart aches, and a drowsy numbness pains
My sense, as though of hemlock I had drunk,
Or emptied some dull opiate to the drains
One minute past, and Lethe-wards had sunk;
‘Tis not through envy of the happy lot,
But being too happy in thy happiness—
That thou, light-winged Dryad of the trees,
In some melodious plot
Of beechen green, and shadows numberless,
Singest of summer in full-throated ease.

SONNET: A poem with 14 lines of 10 syllables with a conventional rhyme scheme.

Sonnet 55

Not marble, nor the glided monuments
Of princes, shall outlive this powerful rhyme;
But you shall shine more bright in these contents
Than unswept stone besmear’d with sluttish time.
When wasteful war shall statues overturn,
And broils root out the work of masonry,
Nor Mars his sword nor war’s quick fire shall burn
The living record of your memory.
‘Gainst death and all-oblivious enmity
Shall you pace forth; your praise shall still find room
Even in the eyes of all posterity
That wear this world out to the ending doom.
So, till the judgment that yourself arise,
You live in this, and dwell in lovers’ eyes.

SOLILOQUY: A dramatic or literary form of discourse in which a character talks to himself or herself or reveals his or her thoughts without addressing a listener.

Excerpt from “Julius Caesar”

Anthony: Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears;
I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.
The evil that men do lives after them;
The good is oft interred with their bones.

PRACTICE

Trees

The Oak is called the king of trees,
The Aspen quivers in the breeze,
The Poplar grows up straight and tall,
The Peach tree spreads along the wall,
The Sycamore gives pleasant shade,
The Willow droops in watery glade,
The Fir tree useful timber gives,
The Beech amid the forest lives.

1. Does this poem have a regular rhythm? Explain.

2. What is the rhyme scheme in this poem? Is the rhyme perfect or imperfect?

Hickory, dickery, dock,
The mouse ran up the clock.
The clock struck one,
The mouse ran down!
Hickory, dickery, dock.

3. "Hickory, dickery, dock" is an example of what?

4. What are the stressed words or beats in the first line? How many feet are there?

There was a young rustic named Mallory,
Who drew but a very small salary.
When he went to the show,
His purse made him go
To a seat in the uppermost gallery.

5. What type of poetry is this? How do you know?

the first cold shower
even the monkey seems to want
a little coat of straw.

6. What type of poetry is this? How do you know?
-

Half a league, half a league,
Half a league onward.
All in the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.
“Forward, the Light Brigade!
Charge for the guns!” he said:
Into the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.

7. What type of poetry is this excerpt? How do you know?
-

When to the sessions of sweet silent thought
I summon up remembrance of things past,
I sigh the lack of many a thing I sought,
And with old woes new wail my dear time's waste;
Then can I drown an eye, unused to flow,
For precious friends hid in death's dateless night,
And weep afresh love's long since cancell'd woe,
And moan the expense of many a vanish'd sight;
Then can I grieve at grievances foregone,
And heavily from woe to woe tell o'er
The sad account of fore-bemoaned moan,
Which I new pay as if not paid before.
But if the while I think on thee, dear friend,
All losses are restored and sorrows end.

8. What type of poetry is this? How do you know?
-

But patience is more oft the exercise
Of Saints, the trial of their fortitude,
Making them each his own Deliver,
And victor over all
That tyranny or fortune can inflict.

9. Is this rhymed poetry or free verse? Explain.
-

Spoken by Macbeth, Macbeth Act 2 Scene 1

Is this a dagger which I see before me,
The handle toward my hand? Come, let me clutch thee.
I have thee not, and yet I see thee still.
Art thou not, fatal vision, sensible
To feelings as to sight? Or art thou but
A dagger of the mind, a face creation,
Proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain?

10. What is this excerpt an example of?
-

Review

Meditation 10

Philip Pain

Alas, What is the *World*? A Sea of Glass
 Alas, what's *Earth*: it's but an Hower-glass.
 The Sea dissolves; the Glass is quickly run;
 Behold, with speed man's Life is quickly done.

- 5 Let me so swim in this Sea, that I may
 With thee live happy in another day.

1. What writer's technique does the poet use
 in lines 1 and 2?
 - a. simile
 - b. personification
 - c. metaphor
 - d. hyperbole

2. What is the writer's technique in line 3?
 - a. simile
 - b. personification
 - c. metaphor
 - d. hyperbole

3. What is the rhyme scheme of the poem?
 - a. ABCDEF
 - b. AABCCD
 - c. AABBCC
 - d. ABABCC

4. Does this poem contain perfect or imper-
 fect rhymes? Explain.

Flashlight

My flashlight tugs me
 through the dark
 like a hound
 with a yellow eye.

sniffs
 at the edges
 of steep places

paws
 at moles
 and rabbits
 holes,

points its nose
 where sharp things
 lie asleep—

and then it bounds
 ahead of me
 on home ground.

5. *My flashlight tugs, sniffs, paws, points its
 nose, and bounds* are examples of what lit-
 erary device?
 - a. simile
 - b. metaphor
 - c. mood
 - d. personification

6. “*My flashlight tugs me through the dark
 like a hound with a yellow eye*” is an exam-
 ple of what literary device?
 - a. simile
 - b. metaphor
 - c. mood
 - d. personification

Remembering

Soft grey ghosts crawl up my sleeve
 to peer into my eyes
 while I within deny their threats
 and answer them with lies.

Mushlike memories perform
 a ritual on my lips
 I lie in stolid hopelessness
 and they lay my soul in strips.



7. Which of the following is an example of personification?
- Soft grey ghosts crawl up my sleeve.
 - a ritual on my lips
 - I within deny their threats.
 - I lie in stolid hopelessness.

Passing Time

Your skin like dawn
Mine like dusk.

One paints the beginning
of a certain end.

The other, the end of a
sure beginning.

8. “*Your skin like dawn, mine like dusk*” is an example of what literary device?
- simile
 - metaphor
 - mood
 - personification

“The Seven Ages of Man”

a speech from the play *As You Like It*
by William Shakespeare

All the world’s a stage,
And all the men and women merely players.
They have their exits and their entrances,
And one man in his time plays many parts.

- 5 His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,
Mewling¹ and puking in the nurse’s arms.
Then the whining schoolboy, with his satchel
And shining morning face, creeping like snail
Unwillingly to school. And then the lover,
10 Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad
Made to his mistress’ eyebrow. Then a soldier,
Full of strange oaths and bearded like the
pard,²
Jealous in honor, sudden and quick in quarrel,
Seeking the bubble reputation
15 Even in the cannon’s mouth. And then the jus-
tice,

- In fair round belly with good capon³ lined,
With eyes severe and beard of formal cut,
Full of wise saws and modern instances,⁴
And so he plays his part. The sixth age shifts
20 Into the lean and slippered Pantaloon⁵
With spectacles on nose and pouch on side,
His youthful hose, well saved, a world too wide
For his shrunk shank,⁶ and his big manly voice,
Turning again toward childish treble, pipes
25 And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all,
That ends this strange eventful history,
Is second childishness and mere oblivion,⁷
Sans⁸ teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans every-
thing.

¹ mewling: whimpering, whining

² pard: leopard

³ capon: chicken

⁴ saws and modern instances: old sayings and obvious examples

⁵ Pantaloon: a foolish old man. Pantaloon was a stock character in Italian comedies.

⁶ shrunk shank: shrunken legs

⁷ oblivion: forgetfulness

⁸ sans: without

9. Which of the following statements is true about Shakespeare’s writing technique?
- The speech uses personification to make objects seem human-like.
 - The speech is an extended metaphor that compares our lives to a play.
 - The speech uses symbolism to represent seven stages of a person’s life.
 - The speech uses onomatopoeia to make comparisons more effective.
10. Line 6 uses the writer’s technique of ____.
- imagery
 - personification
 - simile
 - metaphor
11. Lines 8, 10, and 12 use the writer’s technique of ____.
- imagery
 - personification
 - simile
 - metaphor

12. After reading the following poem, write down examples of the sensory details (visual, sounds, smells, tastes, feelings/textures) in this poem.

After Apple-Picking

My long two-pointed ladder's sticking through a tree
Toward heaven still,
And there's a barrel that I didn't fill
Beside it, and there may be two or three
Apples I didn't pick upon some bough.
But I am done with apple-picking now.
Essence of winter sleep is on the night,
The scent of apples: I am drowsing off.
I cannot rub the strangeness from my sight
I got from looking through a pane of glass
I skimmed this morning from the drinking trough
And held against the world of hoary grass.
It melted, and I let it fall and break.
But I was well
Upon my way to sleep before it fell,
And I could tell
What form my dreaming was about to take.
Magnified apples appear and disappear,
Stem end and blossom end,
And every fleck of russet showing clear.
My instep arch not only keeps the ache,
It keeps the pressure of a ladder-round.
I feel the ladder sway as the boughs bend.
And I keep hearing from the cellar bin
The rumbling sound
Of load on load of apples coming in.
For I have had too much
Of apple-picking: I am overtired
Of the great harvest I myself desired.
There were ten thousand thousand fruit to touch,
Cherish in hand, lift down, and not let fall.
For all
That struck the earth,
No matter if not bruised or spiked with stubble,
Went surely to the cider-apple heap
As of no worth.
One can see what will trouble

This sleep of mine, whatever sleep it is.
Were he not gone,
The woodchuck could say whether it's like his
Long sleep, as I describe its coming on,
Or just some human sleep.

13. “Just like a sword is the weapon of a warrior, pen is the weapon of a writer” is an example of ____?
- a. personification
 - b. analogy
 - c. imagery
 - d. sensory details
14. The use of the serpent as the symbol for the House of Slytherin in Harry Potter for “evil” is an example of ____.
- a. imagery
 - b. assonance
 - c. symbolism
 - d. personification
15. In the poem “The Raven” by Edgar Allen Poe, the line “Once upon a midnight dreary while I pondered weak and weary” is an example of what?

16. Circle the stressed beats in this line.

Eight soldiers marching near the gate.

17. What type of poetry is this excerpt about Peter Gilligan? How do you know?

The old priest Peter Gilligan
Was weary night and day
For half his flock were in their beds
Or under green sods lay.

Once, while he nodded in a chair
At the moth-hour of the eve
Another poor man sent for him,
And he began to grieve.

18. When a poet says that water make a “swishing, churning” sound, what kind of literary device is the poet using?

19. Which of the following sentences is an example of hyperbole?

- a. He sleeps like a log.
- b. The night was as black as coal.
- c. The baby is a screaming machine.
- d. The paper bag sailed across the highway.