Pond Poem Clues

Notice how poetic choices create a changing mood.

3.T.T.4 "Poetic Techniques: Explain, analyze, and use poetic techniques to shape understandings."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that give nature human actions, circle comparisons that use like, and write a 1 beside each group of repeated sound words. Notice how these choices help you picture the pond and feel its changing mood.

A Pond Through Rain

1. At dawn, the pond wore a coat of silver mist. Reeds bowed at the shore, and one frog called, "Wake up, wake up!" His voice skipped across the water like a pebble. The sun lifted slowly, a round, warm coin in the sky. Small ripples tapped the bank, tap, tap, tap, while dragonflies zipped above the grass.

2. By noon, gray clouds gathered over the pond. The wind raced through the reeds and shook their green hands. Rain drummed on the water, drum, drum, drum. The frog slipped under a leaf, but the pond did not seem afraid. It opened its wide, dark face to every drop, as if it were listening to a song.

3. Later, the rain grew softer, and the wind walked away. A pale rainbow stretched over the pond like a bright bridge. The reeds stood tall again. Drop by drop, the water became still. The frog peeked out and gave one low croak. Evening wrapped the pond in quiet, and the last ripples rested near the shore.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What human action does the pond do in paragraph 1? What does this help you picture?

2. Which words in paragraph 2 give the wind or reeds human actions? How do these words make the scene seem?

3. Why does the poet repeat “drum, drum, drum” in paragraph 2?

4. How do the poetic choices in paragraph 3 make the ending feel different from paragraph 2?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 4- to 6-line poem about a weather scene. Include one comparison using like, one thing in nature doing a human action, and repeated sound words. On a new line, write one sentence explaining how one technique shapes the feeling of your poem.

ANSWER KEY

Pond Poem Clues

GRADE 3 · 3.T.T.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words that give nature human actions, circle comparisons that use like, and write a 1 beside each group of repeated sound words. Notice how these choices help you picture the pond and feel its changing mood. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What human action does the pond do in paragraph 1? What does this help you picture?	**The pond "wore a coat of silver mist." It helps the reader picture mist covering the pond like a coat.**
2	Which words in paragraph 2 give the wind or reeds human actions? How do these words make the scene seem?	**The wind "raced" and "shook their green hands." These words make the wind and reeds seem lively and active.**
3	Why does the poet repeat "drum, drum, drum" in paragraph 2?	**The repeated words copy the steady sound of rain hitting the water.**
4	How do the poetic choices in paragraph 3 make the ending feel different from paragraph 2?	**Paragraph 2 has drumming rain and a racing wind, which feel busy and unsettled. Paragraph 3 has softer rain, still water, and quiet, which make the ending calm and peaceful.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Snow tiptoes across the yard. It lands like tiny white feathers. Soft, soft, soft, it covers the fence. The mailbox wears a chilly cap. Morning shines on the quiet street. The personification makes the snow seem gentle.

Accept other correctly identified poetic techniques and reasonable explanations that match the poem. For the open response, check for a simile, personification, repetition, and an explanation of how a technique affects the reader's picture or feeling.