Rain's Last Clap

Notice how imagery, comparison, repetition, and personification shape a storm scene.

5.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 each comparison that uses like, circle three places where a nonhuman thing acts like a person, and number the three sentences that begin with "We watched." These techniques help shape the mood and meaning of the passage.

Window Weather

1. When rain tapped the classroom windows, our playground plans folded away. The blacktop shone like a silver pond, and puddles held upside-down trees. At first, everyone sighed. Then Maya placed her palm on the glass and said, "Listen." The rain drummed a quick beat on the roof, turning the quiet room into a small concert hall.

2. Beyond the door, the wind raced around the building and rattled the flagpole. It seemed to whisper, "Come outside," though no one could go. We watched drops chase one another down the window. We watched them join, slide, and disappear. We watched the gray sky pour water over the empty swings, while the swings waited patiently for feet.

3. By lunch, the storm had softened. A thin line of blue opened above the school, like a zipper on a dark coat. Sunlight spilled across the blacktop, and each puddle flashed with gold. Maya smiled and tapped the window again. "The concert is ending," she said. Outside, the rain gave one last clap, then left the playground shining.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What does the comparison “like a silver pond” help you picture about the blacktop?

2. The passage repeats “We watched” three times. How does this repetition shape the scene?

3. What human action does the passage give the swings, and what does it help you imagine?

4. How does calling the rain a “concert” shape your understanding of the storm?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write four lines about an ordinary kind of weather. Use a comparison with like or as, give one weather object a human action, and begin two lines with the same words. Then write one sentence explaining how one of your choices shapes the scene.

ANSWER KEY

Rain's Last Clap

GRADE 5 · 5.T.T.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each comparison that uses like, circle three places where a nonhuman thing acts like a person, and number the three sentences that begin with "We watched." These techniques help shape the mood and meaning of the passage. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does the comparison "like a silver pond" help you picture about the blacktop?	**It helps the reader picture the wet blacktop as shiny and covered with water.**
2	The passage repeats "We watched" three times. How does this repetition shape the scene?	**It shows that the students are closely watching the rain and slows the scene as they notice small changes.**
3	What human action does the passage give the swings, and what does it help you imagine?	**The swings "waited patiently," which helps the reader imagine them as empty and ready for children to return.**
4	How does calling the rain a "concert" shape your understanding of the storm?	**It makes the storm seem musical, with rain sounds acting like beats and a final clap.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The fog wrapped the field in a blanket. I saw the trees fade like pencil marks. I saw the buses glide through pale air. The sun pushed the fog aside. The repeated words show that I am watching the fog closely as the morning changes.

Accept reasonable responses that identify the stated technique and explain its effect using details from the passage. For the writing task, check for a comparison, personification, repeated line openings, and an explanation connected to the student's own lines.