

The Bin Yawns

Study poetic choices, then write a poem with a purpose.

10.T.T.4.b "Apply knowledge of various poetic techniques and conventions to create poetic text for an intended purpose. (C)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read the three numbered stanzas aloud. Underline one vivid image, circle each "Bring your bottle," and box one example of personification. Notice where the poet ends each line. The poem is original classroom writing.

After the Final Bell

- ① At lunch the bin yawns by the gate,
swallowing cups we used once.
A straw skips toward the drain,
a thin blue flag without a country.
Bring your bottle.
- ② Silver wrappers glitter on the floor
like small fish stranded after a tide.
The custodian's cart whispers past.
Our trail is easy to leave
and someone else must follow it.
- ③ Tomorrow, pack the cup you can keep.
Let the tap fill it again.
Bring your bottle.
The creek beyond the playing field
is asking us to leave it clear.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What action does the poem urge, and who is its intended audience? Use a detail.

2 How does the repeated “Bring your bottle” change the effect of the surrounding images?

3 Explain how either the stranded-fish simile or one example of personification supports the purpose.

4 Read “Our trail is easy to leave / and someone else must follow it.” How does the line break affect emphasis?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 10-12-line free-verse poem persuading fellow students to reduce single-use plastic at school. Include a phrase repeated at least twice, a simile or metaphor, and personification. Choose line endings that emphasize your message. Use one ruled line for each verse line; unused lines may stay blank. Underline your comparison, box your personification, and circle the refrain in your own poem.

[illegible]

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Read the three numbered stanzas aloud. Underline one vivid image, circle each “Bring your bottle,” and box one example of personification. Notice where the poet ends each line. The poem is original classroom writing. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What action does the poem urge, and who is its intended audience? Use a detail.	It urges students to bring reusable bottles or cups and reduce disposable waste. Lunch, the custodian and the playing field place the message at school; “Bring your bottle” directly addresses students.
2	How does the repeated “Bring your bottle” change the effect of the surrounding images?	The refrain turns images of waste into a memorable, practical action. Its return after “fill it again” connects a repeatable habit to the repeated words.
3	Explain how either the stranded-fish simile or one example of personification supports the purpose.	The wrappers like stranded fish make litter seem displaced and troubling. Alternatively, the yawning bin suggests endless consumption, or the asking creek gives the environment a voice. Explain the choice’s persuasive effect.
4	Read “Our trail is easy to leave / and someone else must follow it.” How does the line break affect emphasis?	The first line briefly centers how easily students leave waste; the next shifts attention to the person who must clean it. The pause emphasizes that contrast and responsibility. Other evidence-based readings are valid.

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A crushed bottle waits by my locker
like a tiny, silent alarm.

Bring a bottle you can keep.

The trash can asks for more,
but I do not have to answer.

I can turn toward the tap.

Bring a bottle you can keep.

Let water travel home with you,
then back to school tomorrow.

One choice will not clear every drain,
but this cup can skip the bin
again, and again, and again.

The numbered reading sections are stanzas, not prose paragraphs. Annotation examples: blue flag, vivid image; both “Bring your bottle” lines, refrain; bin yawns or creek asking, personification. The sample has twelve deliberate verse lines: bottle/alarm is a simile, trash can asking is personification, and the repeated bottle line reinforces a reusable habit. Accept varied 10–12-line poems with the requested techniques, audience and purpose; rhyme is optional. Judge purposeful choices, not agreement with one interpretation.