Lake Camp Sounds

Read a poem and notice how its details and patterns work together.

6.T.T.4.a "Recognize and describe poetic techniques used to present and design content, including stanzas, rhyme scheme, imagery, figurative language, and/or sound devices. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the three stanzas. Circle pairs of rhyming end words, underline one sensory image, and box each simile or metaphor to show how the poet builds a scene.

Night at the Lake

1 At cool dusk, we hike toward the lake's blue shore.
Tall pines stand silent, dark against the wide open sky.
Our boots crunch dry leaves across the shadowed forest floor.
The sunset makes the western clouds burn warm and high.
The water holds the last bright threads of fire.
A mirror smooth as window glass in fading night.
Loons call low beside a single shadowy pine spire.
Our lanterns bloom, like small moons of amber light.

2 After dark, a cloud bank covers the moon,
and wind worries the tent's thin wall.
The sky becomes a charcoal balloon,
stretched wide above the tall pine trees.
Raindrops race on the roof, rat-a-tat,
like tiny dancers in a drum parade.
We listen, quiet as a watchful cat,
until the storm has crossed the glade.
Then stars return, sharp points of ice,
and night breathes out its cool advice,
over the wet and waiting camp.

③ By morning, mist lifts from the lake,
and every spiderweb wears pearls.
The sun wakes slowly, wide awake,
while smoke from breakfast twists and curls.
A squirrel scolds from an oak tree,
its quick voice snapping through the air.
We pack, yet pause so we can see
the bright day opening everywhere.
The trail leads home, but in my mind,
the lake keeps singing, clear and blue.
I carry its quiet light behind,
a pocketful of sky to view.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How is the poem divided, and what rhyme scheme do the first four lines of the first stanza follow?

2. Quote one phrase from the third stanza that creates a picture in your mind. Which sense does it use?

3. In the second stanza, what does the speaker compare the sky to? What does this metaphor suggest?

4. Which sound word describes the rain in the second stanza? How does it help you hear the scene?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a six-line poem about an outdoor place. Arrange it in two three-line stanzas, make the first two end words in each stanza rhyme, and make the third end word different. Include one sensory image, one simile, and alliteration.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number the three stanzas. Circle pairs of rhyming end words, underline one sensory image, and box each simile or metaphor to show how the poet builds a scene. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How is the poem divided, and what rhyme scheme do the first four lines of the first stanza follow?	**It has three stanzas. The first four lines follow ABAB: shore/floor and sky/high.**
2	Quote one phrase from the third stanza that creates a picture in your mind. Which sense does it use?	**"every spiderweb wears pearls" uses sight.**
3	In the second stanza, what does the speaker compare the sky to? What does this metaphor suggest?	**The sky is compared to a charcoal balloon. It suggests a dark, wide cloud cover above the camp.**
4	Which sound word describes the rain in the second stanza? How does it help you hear the scene?	**"rat-a-tat" mimics the quick tapping sound of raindrops on the tent roof.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Bright birds bounce on a sunlit wire.
Blue breezes brush the maples higher.
The pond shines like a polished plate.

Small waves whisper beside the shore.
Green frogs leap and ask for more.
Their splash rings out past the gate.

Accept other accurately quoted sensory images, such as "sharp points of ice" or "smoke from breakfast twists and curls," with a reasonable sense named. For the poem, accept varied topics if it has two three-line stanzas, the required rhyme pattern, sensory image, simile, and alliteration.