Whispers on the Ridge

Read a Romantic-period poem and analyze nature, memory and feeling.

7.T.PM.1.b "Read and comprehend to analyze one genre of literature from a particular time period and identify key features of style and theme. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Read the supplied period poem. Underline two nature images, circle a place where flowers or the heart are given human movement, and label the speaker's feeling at the beginning and end. Use the printed lines as evidence.

William Wordsworth: "I wandered lonely as a Cloud" (1807 excerpt)

1 William Wordsworth published this lyric in *Poems, in Two Volumes*, volume 2 (1807), during the Romantic period. Read its first and final stanzas below; the middle stanza is omitted. The speaker describes an encounter with flowers and later remembers it. Original capitalization and spelling are retained: "Daffodills" means daffodils, and "pensive" means thoughtful. "Inward eye" suggests an imagined or remembered view. Source: Project Gutenberg eBook 8824, transcription of the 1807 volume. Read the primary-work transcription at gutenberg.org/ebooks/8824.

2 I wandered lonely as a Cloud
That floats on high o'er Vales and Hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd
A host of dancing Daffodills;
Along the Lake, beneath the trees,
Ten thousand dancing in the breeze.

3 For oft when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude,
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the Daffodils.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Name two Romantic-style features of this period lyric and give a printed example of each.

2. How does the speaker's feeling change from the first stanza to the final stanza? Use details from both.

3. What does "inward eye" suggest, and how does it connect nature to the speaker's later feeling?

4. State a theme of this excerpt and support it with two printed details.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence prose lyric about an outdoor place that changes someone's mood. Use a first-person speaker, at least two sensory images, and one example of personification to show a theme about nature.

ANSWER KEY

Whispers on the Ridge

GRADE 7 · 7.T.PM.1.b

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Read the supplied period poem. Underline two nature images, circle a place where flowers or the heart are given human movement, and label the speaker's feeling at the beginning and end. Use the printed lines as evidence. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Name two Romantic-style features of this period lyric and give a printed example of each.	**Nature imagery: a Cloud above Vales and Hills or flowers beside the Lake. Personification: dancing Daffodills or the heart dancing. Individual feeling and memory are also supported.**
2	How does the speaker's feeling change from the first stanza to the final stanza? Use details from both.	**The speaker begins lonely and later experiences pleasure when the remembered flowers flash upon the inward eye.**
3	What does "inward eye" suggest, and how does it connect nature to the speaker's later feeling?	**It suggests memory or imagination: the flowers return mentally while the speaker lies on the couch, filling the heart with pleasure.**
4	State a theme of this excerpt and support it with two printed details.	**Remembered natural beauty can bring joy in solitude: flowers flash upon the inward eye, and the heart fills with pleasure and dances with them.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

After school, I sat beside the rain-dark pond and watched circles tremble across its green surface. The wet grass cooled my hands, while the smell of earth rose around me. A willow dragged its fingers through the water, as if it were smoothing away my anger. By the time I left, the pond had taught me that a quiet place can make a heavy day feel lighter.

Accept supported alternative style or theme interpretations grounded in the printed period excerpt. First and final stanzas are provided, with the middle stanza explicitly omitted; do not claim this is the full poem. For the preserved writing task, check four sentences, first-person voice, two sensory images, personification and a nature-related theme.