# Rainy Platform Poems

Notice how poetic choices shape a station scene.

**8.T.T.4** "Poetic Techniques: Analyze and apply poetic techniques."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline comparisons that do not mean exactly what they say, circle actions given to nonhuman things, and number one repeated word or phrase each time it appears. Use your marks to see how imagery, figurative language, and repetition create mood.

### Station at Dusk

1 At dusk, the river wears a coat of copper, and the bridge lifts its iron shoulders. Buses cough at the curb while cyclists stitch thin silver paths through the rain. I stand beneath the station clock, listening as the city gathers its scattered voices. One window blooms yellow, then another, until the wet streets carry a small, trembling sky. The river keeps moving, carrying the day away past the docks where gulls settle like folded paper.

2 Rain taps, rain taps, rain taps on the awning, a patient drummer outside the doors. Inside, shoes squeak and umbrellas shake their dark feathers over the tile. The station breathes in crowds, then breathes them out, each face a brief lantern in the gray. I watch a child press one hand to the glass. Beyond it, headlights swim through puddles, bright fish searching for a deeper stream. The rain repeats its quiet question, and the pavement answers with ripples.

3 Then the train arrives, a long black sentence sliding across the platform. Its doors open, and warm light spills onto waiting hands. For one moment, no one speaks. We are commas, paused between leaving and return. Then bags roll, brakes sigh, and the crowd moves forward. I step inside. Behind me, the river, the rain, and the blinking windows become a page turning softly into night. The wheels whisper below us, carrying tomorrow toward the first pale station.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What metaphor appears in the phrase “the river wears a coat of copper”? Explain what the comparison shows.

2. Find one example of personification in the second paragraph. What does it suggest about the station?

3. How does repeating “rain taps” affect the sound and mood of the second paragraph?

4. What does the metaphor “We are commas, paused between leaving and return” suggest about the people on the platform?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write 4 to 6 lines about arriving at or leaving a place. Include a metaphor or simile, personification, and a repeated word or phrase. Underline the comparison, circle the personification, and number the repeated words or phrase.

**ANSWER KEY**

# Rainy Platform Poems

**GRADE 8 · 8.T.T.4**

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline comparisons that do not mean exactly what they say, circle actions given to nonhuman things, and number one repeated word or phrase each time it appears. Use your marks to see how imagery, figurative language, and repetition create mood. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | What metaphor appears in the phrase "the river wears a coat of copper"? Explain what the comparison shows. | **The river is compared to a copper coat. It shows that the river looks copper-colored in the dusk light.** |
| 2 | Find one example of personification in the second paragraph. What does it suggest about the station? | **"The station breathes in crowds, then breathes them out" personifies the station. It suggests that the station seems alive as people enter and leave.** |
| 3 | How does repeating "rain taps" affect the sound and mood of the second paragraph? | **The repetition creates a steady, drumlike rhythm and emphasizes the persistent rain.** |
| 4 | What does the metaphor "We are commas, paused between leaving and return" suggest about the people on the platform? | **It suggests that the people are briefly stopped between one place or time and the next.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

_Morning is a locked door at my bus stop._
The (wind tugs my sleeve and begs me to hurry.)
1. I wait, 2. I wait, 3. I wait for the bus.
Tires hiss across the shining road.
When the doors fold open, the day lets me in.

Accept supported interpretations of the figurative language and repetition. For Part 3, accept any 4 to 6 lines that include and correctly mark a comparison, personification, and repeated word or phrase.