

Bird Count Lens

Track facts, feelings, and figurative language in one account.

7.9.E “identify the use of literary devices, including subjective and objective point of view;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline sentences that show a subjective point of view, and circle sentences that present objective facts. Number each simile, metaphor, or personification to show how the writer makes the bird count vivid.

Morning Bird Count

- ① On Saturday, I visited the Riverside Bird Count at 6:30 a.m. Frost glazed the grass, and the river moved like a strip of dark glass beside the trail. I thought the cold air pinched harder than a crab. Volunteers stood quietly with binoculars and clipboards. The annual count is held during a three-week period in December and January, when observers record birds in assigned areas. Our group began near the footbridge and walked north for one hour.
- ② At 7:05, Maya recorded twelve Canada geese flying over the water. Their calls bounced between the empty warehouses, and a flock of starlings burst from a maple tree. To me, the geese sounded like a parade of rusty hinges, loud and impossible to ignore. I felt a spark of pride when I spotted a belted kingfisher on a branch. The bird's blue-gray back flashed above the river, while its pointed crest stood up like a tiny crown.
- ③ By 7:30, our team had listed twenty-eight bird species. We submitted the list to the count coordinator, who combines reports from many teams. These reports help scientists and conservation groups track where bird populations are found over time. As the sun rose, the trail seemed to wake with us. I left with numb fingers, muddy boots, and the certain feeling that the ordinary riverbank had opened a secret door. In my view, counting birds turned a gray morning into an adventure.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which sentence in paragraph 1 gives objective information about when the bird count takes place?

2 What subjective idea does the narrator share about the cold air in paragraph 1?

3 What literary device appears in the sentence “the trail seemed to wake with us”? Explain its effect.

4 In paragraph 2, identify one objective detail and one subjective detail. How can you tell the difference?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write 3 or 4 sentences about something you observed outdoors. Underline one objective fact, circle one subjective feeling or opinion, and number one simile, metaphor, or personification.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline sentences that show a subjective point of view, and circle sentences that present objective facts. Number each simile, metaphor, or personification to show how the writer makes the bird count vivid. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which sentence in paragraph 1 gives objective information about when the bird count takes place?	"The annual count is held during a three-week period in December and January, when observers record birds in assigned areas."
2	What subjective idea does the narrator share about the cold air in paragraph 1?	The narrator thinks the cold air "pinched harder than a crab," showing a personal reaction to the cold.
3	What literary device appears in the sentence "the trail seemed to wake with us"? Explain its effect.	Personification. It makes the trail seem alive as morning begins.
4	In paragraph 2, identify one objective detail and one subjective detail. How can you tell the difference?	Objective detail: Maya recorded twelve Canada geese at 7:05. Subjective detail: the geese sounded like rusty hinges. The first can be checked as an observation, while the second is the narrator's personal comparison.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The thermometer read 8°C at noon. ○ I felt relieved when the rain stopped. 1. The puddles held tiny mirrors of the sky.

Accept objective details that can be checked or observed without personal judgment and subjective details that reveal the writer's feelings, opinions, or personal comparisons. For the open task, accept any accurate observation with all three required elements clearly marked.