

Understanding Poetry

The sands of time now cry
Blue skies no longer paint the days
Stars that once were brilliant diamonds
Now painted grey by pollution's haze

Crystal clear our waters once gleamed
With fish abundant and corals bright
Oceans choke and gasp
Now strangled by a plastic blight

Trees once stood proud and tall
Now skeletons, black and burnt
Birds no longer chirp in nature's choir
Silence now, what have we learnt

One can't blame pollution alone
As they say, you reap what you've sown
The Earth is our mother
Give her back the land, it's not ours to own

Every day let's show our thanks
Protect waters, skies, wildlife, soil, and trees
For they are nature's gifts
That should not be lost so easily

By Hazel Grey 2019

Mark multiple choice answers with a X

a/ What is the theme of the poem?

Pollution Greed Religion Celebration Beauty Environment

b/ What is the poem about?

- It is about the beauty of the Earth.
- It is about animals, birds, trees and water.
- It about the Earth and how it is being destroyed by humans
- It is about enjoying nature and the environment

c/ What is the purpose of the poem? **CHOOSE TWO**

- The poet wants people to see how the Earth has been neglected and damaged
- The poet wants us to see our beautiful the Earth is.
- The poet wants us to care for the Earth like we would our mother.
- The poet wants us to enjoy the gifts we have been given by the Earth.

d/ What is the tone of the poem?

Anger Happiness Regretful Encouraging Proud

e/ What is the mood of the poem?

Ecstatic Calm Cheerful Concerned Patriotic

f/ What type of poem is this?

Narrative Sad Lyric Serious Ballad

g/ What are the features of a lyric poem?

Written in first person Written in 3rd person Tell a story
Share feelings Have musical qualities About nature

h/ What gives this poem musical qualities?

It can be sung It has rhythm It has rhyme

i/ How many stanzas does the poem have?

20 5 4 ABCB

j/ What can give a poem imagery?

Rhyme Beat Alliteration Assonance Metaphors
Similes Personification Onomatopoeia Noun Groups

k/ Which of these are sound devices?

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l/ Why do poets use sound devices.

They make the poem fun to read
They make it easier to picture what is happening
They help keep the readers interest
They add description to a poem

j/ Which of these lines have assonance?

Stars that once were diamonds
Now painted grey by pollution's haze

Crystal clear our waters once gleamed
With fish abundant and corals bright

k/ Which of these are metaphors ?

The stars are diamonds

The trees are skeletons

The sand cries

Oceans choke and gasp

l/ 'pollutions haze paints the stars grey' is an example of:

CHOOSE TWO

Alliteration

Personification

Simile

Rhythm

m/ Which line contains a metaphor?

One can't blame pollution alone
As they say, you reap what you've sown
The Earth is our mother
Give her back the land, it's not ours to own

n/ Which lines contain personification?

The sands of time now cry
Blue skies no longer paint the days
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o/ Which lines contain noun groups?

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