

# 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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?

Rhyme      Beat      Alliteration      Assonance      Metaphors  
Similes      Personification      Onomatopoeia      Noun Groups

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

o/ Which lines contain noun groups?

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