

POETRY TEST

Directions: Vocabulary: Use a word from the box to complete its correct definition. Use each word ONCE.
If you spell a word incorrectly but have answered correctly, I will award you the points. If you have multiple spelling errors, you will lose points on your final grade.

irony	mood/tone	poetry	lyrical
sensory language	foreshadow	flashback	topic
free verse	stanza	rhyme/meter	narrative

1. A poem that is written with no set pattern, rhyme, and the speaker's emotions are expressed.

2. A type of writing designed to convey ideas, experiences, and emotions in a vivid and imaginative way. _____
3. A group of lines that make up a poem. _____
4. Poetry written with rhyming words and a beat. _____
5. What the poem is about. _____
6. The use of words that helps the readers see, hear, taste, feel, or smell what is being talked about in the poem. _____
7. When an author/poet reflects on an earlier experience or event. _____
8. When an author/poet jumps ahead to discuss a future event _____
9. This is the contradiction of meaning. _____
10. This type of poetry tells a story and we hear the voices of the speaker/characters

11. The feeling expressed to the reader. _____
12. This is a poem that contains rhyming words. _____

Directions: Read the poem “Swish” and answer the following questions.

“Swish” by Chance Yellowhair

My basketball springs
Like a tumbleweed jumping up and down
In the dusty afternoon
The ball goes up and up
Till it encircles the rim
Like a hurricane or tornado beginning
The net tickles its side
As it swishes through
Another three-pointer makes the day

13. How is the poem organized?

- a. through dialogue
- b. in a stanza
- c. a paragraph
- d. a chapter

14. The author compares the basketball to what?

Three-pointer tumbleweed springs

15. Which line from the poem contains alliteration?

- a. in the dusty afternoon
- b. my basketball springs
- c. hurricane or tornado
- d. none of the above

16. The author compares the basketball to a hurricane and tornado to show how the ball:

- a. sounds when it hits the rim
- b. feels in the shooter's hands
- c. spins around and around
- d. can be dangerous if you don't take cover

17. “The net tickling its side...” is an example of:

- a. alliteration
- b. simile
- c. idiom
- d. personification

18. Is it free verse? yes no

Directions: Read an excerpt from the poem "A Bird Came Down the Walk" and answer the question.

He glanced with rapid eyes
That hurried all around
They looked like frightened Beads, I thought

19. To whom or what does the word "they" refer?

- A. the speaker and the bird
- B. the bird and his friends
- C. the bird's wings
- D. the bird's eyes

Directions: Read an excerpt from the poem "The Echoing Green" and answer the question.

The sun does arise,
And make happy the skies;
The merry bells ring
To welcome the Spring;
The skylark and thrush,
The birds of the bush,
Sing louder around
To the bells' cheerful sound;
While our sports shall be seen
on the echoing Green.

20. What is the effect of using personification in lines 2 and 4?

- A. Personification suggests that nature can be dangerous.
- B. Personification contrasts birds with human beings.
- C. Personification explains the difference between skylarks and thrushes.
- D. Personification creates a mood of happiness.

21. Is this poem free verse? yes no

This poem is a conversation between a dog and a squirrel. Read the poem and answer the questions.

The bushy flick of your tail catches my attention.
I am aware of your presence, but I am ignoring you.

You are now my bull's-eye.
This will be a fine game.
It may be a game, but I set the rules.

Whenever you lower your guard, I step forward.
I never lower my guard.
All escape routes are intact.

My body is an arrow pointing at your heart.
O large clumsy one, have you any idea how fast I can run?
I draw closer.

The space between us is nothing.
Odd how the sunlight kindles your dark fur.

I can taste the silk of your tail.
You can't possibly get away now.
I know the precise point at which I must flee.
Still, those eyes . . .

Gaze locked, I pounce!
And you are . . . Gone, of course.
My heart pounds! See you tomorrow?

22. What character is speaking when they say: "O large clumsy one, have you any idea how fast I can run?"

Dog
Squirrel

23. Which line from the poem contains a metaphor?

- A. "The bushy flick of your tail"
- B. "I am aware of your presence,"
- C. "My body is an arrow"
- D. "Gone, of course."

24. Which of the following words could best be used in place of the word **precise** in the poem above?

A. general

B. highest

C. earliest

D. exact

"A Dog's Desire"

I wish I weren't a dog in the city.
but I am in a cage; it is such a pity.
Sure, I'm cute, but I'm also big and strong;
and this cage is small; it is just so wrong.
All I want to do is play with a ball,
to run with a boy who is so very tall.
I'd like to roam in grass, wild and free—
play fetch with a boy, run around a tree.
I could curl up on a bed and watch him go to sleep
Or even take the spinach he doesn't want to eat.
Well, maybe not the spinach, but I promise I'll be good
the way I know a boy's best dog should.
Here comes a boy now, and he's looking right this way!
The cage door opens and I bound into the day.
I'm so glad to be a dog in the city
because this little boy thinks that I am pretty!

25. What is the **best** way to describe the theme of the poem?

Dogs in cities are put in cages.

Everyone should have a dog.

Dogs need to be adopted.

Boys like to play with dogs.