

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.