

Grade: 5A/B/C**Name:** _____**Date:** _____**Score:** **/20****Subject:** Poetry (Song to Mothers)**Section:** Elementary

1 Your laugh is a green song,

2 cancion verde,

3 that branches

4 through our house,

5 its yellow blooms smelling

6 like warm honey.

7 Your laugh peels apples

8 and stirs their cinnamon bubblings,

9 then opens a book and pulls me

10 onto your lap.

11 At night, your laugh kisses

12 us soft as a petal, smooths my pillow

13 and covers me, a soft leafy blanket,

14 green and yellow.

15 I snuggle into your laugh,

16 your canción verde
17 and dream of growing
18 into my own green song.

Pat Mora

➤ **Circle the best answer. (10 points)**

1. The narrator of the poem is probably _____.

- A. a mother
- B. a teenager
- C. a small child
- D. a full-grown adult

2. The poem is about the _____ of the narrator's mother.

- A. smile
- B. laughter
- C. special dishes
- D. favorite songs

3. You can tell that the narrator _____.

- A. barely speaks English
- B. doesn't know how to talk yet
- C. speaks another language besides English
- D. is fluent in at least three different languages

4. You can tell that the narrator's mother _____.

- A. doesn't like to read
- B. likes to brush her hair
- C. wishes she didn't have to work
- D. spends a lot of time with her children

5. What could bubblings in line 8 mean?

- A. soap bubbles
- B. mumbling and laughter
- C. bubbles in cooking apples
- D. eating with your mouth full

➤ **Answer the following questions.**

1. In lines 13 and 14, the poet says that the mother's laughter is "a soft leafy blanket, green and yellow." Is this metaphor or personification? Explain. (2 points)

2. Find a simile and explain it. (2 points)

3. What figure of speech is "your laugh is a green song?" Explain. (2 points)

4. “Your laugh opens a book and pulls me.” Is it metaphor or personification? Explain. (2 points)

5. Write your own simile or metaphor. Describe the laugh, smile, or voice of someone you know. Compare it to something else to help describe it. (2 points)
