

Name: _____

Directions: Read the poem and answer the questions that follow.

Victory

She gritted her teeth
and took a breath as she
crouched at the line.

She paused,
the sound of her own heart
beating beating beating

A quick glance to the right
and to the left was all it took.
No one would pass her this time.

This time would be different.
This time she would
feel the rush
hear the cheers
be at the finish first.

She would finally feel the heavy weight
lifted from her heart
and draped around her neck instead.
Joy would fill places

where before only worry lived.

This time,
victory was
hers.

1. What is the character in the story doing?
 - a. Training for a race
 - b. Waiting at the free throw shot line during a basketball game
 - c. Jump roping
 - d. Running in a race
 - e. Competing in the Olympics

2. Based on the poem you can conclude _____.
 - a. The character has lost before
 - b. The character has trained for a long time
 - c. The character is one of the best
 - d. The character thinks winning is everything

3. Based on the information in the poem, what can you conclude about the character's feelings? Select the **two** correct answers.

She is proud of herself.
She is worried that she will lose.
She is feeling self-conscious about her appearance.
She is determined to succeed
She is disappointed in herself.