Holes by Louis Sachar

★ **Read the following text and find literary devices.**

(1) Camp Green Lake was hell on earth. The desert was an endless oven that swallowed the boys' strength day after day. The sun, a giant burning eye in the sky, watched every movement Stanley made as he dug another hole in the dry lakebed. **(2)The cracked ground stretched across the camp like broken glass,** and clouds of dust floated around the boys like smoke from a dying fire.

Stanley's shovel felt as heavy as an anchor chained to his arms. Every clang against the dirt echoed through the camp like prison bars slamming shut. **(3)Sweat rolled down his face.** Nearby, Zero worked silently, a ghost drifting across the desert while the other boys complained under their breath.

(4) Fear followed the campers everywhere. It hid beside the holes, rested near the yellow-spotted lizards, and crept into the boys' minds whenever Mr. Sir appeared. Mr. Sir was a hungry wolf searching for weakness, and **(5)his sharp voice cracked through the air**. Even the wind seemed cruel, scratching the boys' skin with hot sandy fingers. **(6)Stanley could smell sweat, dirt, and the sour odor of clothes baking beneath the blazing heat.**

At night, Camp Green Lake transformed completely. The sky became a black velvet blanket covered with diamonds, and the cool breeze wrapped itself around the boys like soft icy fingers. For a few moments, the campers escaped the prison of heat and exhaustion. (7) **The boys were so exhausted they felt they had dug a million holes that day**. Stories floated through the darkness like ghosts from another lifetime, and laughter slowly replaced silence.

(8) Inside Stanley, hope was a tiny flame. The holes the boys dug were not only empty spaces in the ground; they were windows into the past, uncovering secrets buried for generations. Every shovel of dirt revealed another piece of history, (9) **proving that Camp Green Lake was not a camp, but a battlefield.** (10) **Pain and fear followed the boys everywhere** around Camp Green Lake.

Choose the literary device used in the highlighted sentences above. Some may be used more than once. Options: Metaphor, Simile, Personification, Hyperbole, Visual Imagery, Olfactory Imagery, or Auditory Imagery

1.

2.

3.

4.

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10.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

★ **Read the following conflicts and identify what type of conflict it is.**

1. Zigzag becomes angry and hits Stanley while they are digging holes.
   What type of conflict is this?
   A) Man vs Nature
   B) Man vs Society
   C) Man vs Man
   D) Man vs Self

2. Stanley feels afraid about helping Zero escape because he knows he could be punished.
   What type of conflict is this?
   A) Man vs Technology
   B) Man vs Self
   C) Man vs Society
   D) Man vs Nature

3. Stanley and the other boys struggle to survive in the extreme heat and dryness of the desert.
   What type of conflict is this?
   A) Man vs Nature
   B) Man vs Society
   C) Man vs Technology
   D) Man vs Man

4. The boys are forced to dig holes every day because of the unfair rules at Camp Green Lake.
   What type of conflict is this?
   A) Man vs Nature
   B) Man vs Self
   C) Man vs Society
   D) Man vs Man

5. Stanley struggles with the exhausting work of digging holes all day with a shovel.
   What type of conflict is this?
   A) Man vs Technology
   B) Man vs Nature
   C) Man vs Self
   D) Man vs Society

6. Zero punches Mr. Pendanski after Mr. Pendanski insults him and calls him stupid.
   What type of conflict is this?
   A) Man vs Nature
   B) Man vs Man
   C) Man vs Society
   D) Man vs Self

7. Stanley doubts himself while carrying Zero up the mountain because he feels weak and exhausted.
   What type of conflict is this?
   A) Man vs Technology
   B) Man vs Society
   C) Man vs Self
   D) Man vs Nature

8. Stanley and Zero try to survive alone in the desert without enough food or water.
   What type of conflict is this?
   A) Man vs Technology
   B) Man vs Society
   C) Man vs Nature
   D) Man vs Man

LIVEWORKSHEETS

★ **Characterization. Drag and drop the statements into the correct column.**

Stanley	Zero	X-Ray	Armpit
Squid	**Zigzag**	**Mr. Sir**	**The Warden**
Madame Zeroni	**Kate Barlow**	**Sam**	**Mr. Pendanski**

Descriptions to Drag and Drop:

- Pretends to be weaker than he really is so he can avoid hard work. A
- Carries his friend up the mountain even when he is exhausted. B
- Sells onions and has a kind relationship with Kate. C
- Becomes an outlaw after tragedy changes her life completely. D
- Gives advice and asks for a promise to be fulfilled. E
- Gets angry easily and attacks Stanley during a fight. F
- Acts tough but is afraid of the Warden. G
- Steals Clyde Livingston's shoes by accident because of bad luck. H
- Has difficulty reading and writing but survives alone in the desert. I
- Scratches his face with sunflower seeds after quitting smoking. J
- Uses fear and control to dominate the campers. K
- Acts friendly at times, but still supports the cruel system at Camp Green Lake. L
- Changes from an insecure boy into someone brave and confident. M
- Survives alone in the desert after running away from camp. N
- Keeps her pain and anger hidden behind her tough criminal reputation. O

LIVEWORKSHEETS