

Pre-Test-6th Grade
POETRY UNIT 6.2

Reading Passage One: Poem

DIRECTIONS: Please read the poem and then answer the questions that come after it.

I Cry

By: Tupac Shakur

Sometimes when I'm alone
I Cry,
Cause I am on my own.
The tears I cry are bitter and warm.
They flow with life but take no form
I Cry because my heart is torn.
I find it difficult to carry on.
If I had an ear to confide in,
I would cry among my treasured friend,
But who do you know that stops that long,
To help another carry on.
The world moves fast and it would rather pass by.
Then to stop and see what makes one cry,
so painful and sad.
And sometimes....
I Cry
And no one cares about why.

Multiple Choice: Select the best answer to the question.

1. What is the author's purpose for writing the poem?
 - a) To show the reader that he has never had a close friend.
 - b) To show the reader that he feels a lone with no one who cares.
 - c) To show the reader that a real man cries sometimes in life.
2. What can you infer from the line, "The world moves fast and it would rather pass by."
 - a) People are so busy that they don't want to help.
 - b) People are so busy that they are afraid to help.
 - c) People are so busy that they want to help.
3. Using context clues in the following lines, what does the word *confide* mean?

"If I had an ear to confide in,
I would cry among my treasured friend,"

- a) To listen to someone talk.
- b) To trust someone.
- c) To have a conversation with someone.

4. What is the dominate repetition in the poem?
- a) On my own.
 - b) I Cry.
 - c) When I'm alone.
5. What is the mood of the poem?
- a) Fearful and anxious
 - b) Strong and positive
 - c) Sad and lonely.

Reading Passage Two: Poem

DIRECTIONS: Please read the poem and then answer the questions that come after it.

My Own Man
By: Nikki Grimes

When Mom works late I wait with busy
hands, pry soup cans open, spread spicy

mustard on rye with lettuce and tomatoes
sliced so thin the cheese peeks through.

It's my Cheddar Deluxe, which Mom loves
better than anything I cook. The boys next

door say, "How's that look? You fixin' supper
like some girl." I shrug off their teasing

and go on pleasing *me*. I read my books,
choose *Jazz and Rap*, and quiet over

chatter. Blue says, "What's the matter
with that?" And if I take care of my mom

so what? She takes care of me. "Don't be
no Mama's boy," kids say. Well, tough
I'm made this way.

Multiple Choice: Select the best answer to the question.

6. Who is the speaker in the poem?
- a) A child in a large family
 - b) An older boy
 - c) A very young boy

7. Cross text: How do the speakers of the two poems differ?
- One boy lives alone and the other lives with a family.
 - One boy is alone and the other has many friends.
 - One boy is alone and the other is lonely.
8. What images does the poem "My Own Man" focus on?
- A messy house
 - A boy fixing dinner for his mom
 - A boy fixing dinner for himself
9. What is the theme of the poem?
- Families need people who can cook.
 - Being alone means you have to cook for yourself.
 - Taking care of yourself and your family doesn't have a gender (male or female) role.
10. What can you infer about the lines,
- "The boys next door say, 'How's that look? You fixin' supper like some girl.'"
- The neighbor boys think that the speaker is weak.
 - The neighbor boys think that the speaker is strong.
 - The neighbor boys think that he is a good cook.

Define the following vocabulary words

11. Repetition is...
- When the author uses the same word or phrase more than once for emphasis.
 - When you read a poem over and over again.
 - When the author uses the same character in more than one story.
12. Free verse poetry is...
- Poetry that looks and sounds funny.
 - Poetry that doesn't follow any pattern of rhyme, rhythm or line length.
 - Poetry that lacks conventions and doesn't have a specific meaning.
13. A metaphor is...
- A comparison of two different things using the words like or as.
 - When you give an object human traits.
 - A comparison of two unlike things.
14. What is a verse in poetry?
- A single line of poetry.
 - A paragraph of poetry
 - A line of poetry that rhymes with another line.

15. Irony is...

- a) Something that is said or written that is funny.
- b) Something that is said or written that tells the main idea.
- c) Something that is said or written that means the opposite.

16. A simile is...

- a) A comparison of two different things using like or as.
- b) When you give an object human traits.
- c) A comparison of two unlike things.

17. In poetry, rhythm is...

- a) When two or more words sound the same in a poem.
- b) A pattern made by the arrangement of rhymes in a poem.
- c) The musical quality of a poem made by the types of words used.

18. Rhyme scheme in poetry is...

- a) A pattern made by the arrangement of rhymes in a poem.
- b) When two or more words sound the same in a poem.
- c) The musical quality of a poem made by the types of words used.