

# Literary Devices

## Question 1 .

### The Concord Hymn

by Ralph Waldo Emerson

By the rude bridge that arched the flood,  
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled;  
Here once the embattled farmers stood;  
And fired the shot heard round the world.

The foe long since in silence slept;  
Alike the conqueror silent sleeps,  
And Time the ruined bridge has swept  
Down the dark stream that seaward creeps.

On this green bank, by this soft stream,  
We place with joy a votive stone,  
That memory may their deeds redeem,  
When, like our sires, our sons are gone.

O Thou who made those heroes dare  
To die, and leave their children free,—  
Bid Time and Nature gently spare  
The shaft we raised to them and Thee.

Which of these lines from the above poem uses hyperbole effectively?

- ☐ A. "By the rude bridge that arched the flood"
- ☐ B. "Here once the embattled farmers stood"
- ☐ C. "And fired the shot heard round the world"
- ☐ D. "Down the dark stream that seaward creeps"

## Question 2 .

Helen was obviously a young person of italics, a human exclamation point, enthusiastic, irrepressible. She sat fidgeting in her chair, trying her best to convince the detective that she was a grown woman.

Using clues from the passage above, what can the reader infer from "a young person of italics, a human exclamation point"?

- ☐ A. Helen can speak fluently in Italian and English.
- ☐ B. Helen uses dramatic emphasis when speaking.
- ☐ C. Helen absolutely detests getting attention.
- ☐ D. Helen is enthusiastic about English punctuation.

**Question 3 .**

As the sky darkened ominously above him, Freddy struggle to light the fire he had built over the last hour. Camping alone had its drawbacks, but Freddy preferred it to the last day of school chaos that was camping with others. He enjoyed his vacation from the world of technology and immersed himself in the kind, gentle music that nature provided.

This time, however, Freddy wished he had brought his quick-starter fire kit with him. The steel-gray clouds crowded together in the sky, pushing and shoving into each other. Freddy's hands shook as he desperately tried for one measly spark to start his fire. He thought that if he could get it started, he could stave off the cold rain for a just a bit longer. "Come on!" Freddy said, just as his fire ignited. Freddy basked in flames like a starving man gorged himself on food. Then, the sky opened up, dumping buckets of stinging, cold rain onto Freddy. The fire hissed and sputtered angrily as it went out, and Freddy raced into his truck, grateful he would have somewhere warm to sleep for the night.

What does the phrase "kind, gentle music" mean as it is used in the passage above?

- ☐ A. the music Freddy played
- ☐ B. the sounds of nature
- ☐ C. the chatter of his friends
- ☐ D. the songs of his friends

## Question 4 .

**Poor Folk**

by J. Robbins

"Why are you hiding back here?" asked Roosevelt as he approached his friend Delphinia. She had her head buried in a book, as usual, and she was sitting at a table in the loneliest part of the library.

"I'm not hiding," Delphinia replied, blinking blearily at her friend. "I'm trying to finish this book before my afternoon classes start. If it would stop raining for ten minutes, I could read outside, but I'm beginning to doubt that we'll ever see the sun again."

"Oh, please," said Roosevelt with a grin. "You shouldn't let a little thing like the weather get you down. Rain, sun, or snow—I can handle any kind of weather. You're too hard to please. What are you reading now?"

"*Poor Folk* by Fyodor Dostoevsky," Delphinia said. "This book is so good that I'm having a hard time putting it down." Roosevelt paled and rubbed his hands across his face.

"Really? What an . . . interesting title," he told her. "How did you happen to choose that book? I've never even heard of it."

"My grandmother suggested it," she answered. "She was a professor at Yale for twenty years, and I always try to take her recommendations seriously. Dostoevsky is my favorite writer, so I decided to spend my allowance on a brand-new copy." She watched in alarm as Roosevelt groaned and clapped his hands over his face.

"You spent your allowance," he muttered. "I guess that answers the question I came here to ask you."

"What is going on, Roosevelt?" Delphinia asked.

"I need to borrow some money right away, Del!" he exclaimed. "I hate to bring up the topic of money when I still owe you \$50, but this is an emergency. I need to have the brakes on my car fixed before Friday or Polina won't even think about going to the dance with me." Delphinia rolled her eyes in exasperation.

"What about your part-time job?" she questioned her friend. "I thought working at BurgerMatic was going to solve all of your financial troubles."

"It did for a while," admitted Roosevelt. "Until I started taking time off to date Polina. Now I'm in worse trouble than before."

"This is not good, Roos," Delphinia sighed. "Isn't there any way you can earn the money before Friday?"

"I guess I could ask Wilco," he said thoughtfully. "He's the only friend I haven't borrowed cash from. Of course, he's saving every penny for college, but I'm sure I can talk him into helping me out just this once." Delphinia's face darkened with anger.

"That's terrible!" she replied as thunder crashed outside. "You are taking advantage of your friends instead of taking responsibility for your actions. I have money in my savings account, but I won't lend you any of it. I hope Polina dumps you for Wilco. At least he has his priorities in order." Delphinia returned to her book, and Roosevelt sauntered out of the library without another word.

As he opened his umbrella and prepared to step out into the driving rain, he checked his watch. *If I hurry, I can still catch Wilco before he leaves for lunch*, Roosevelt thought. Above him, the clouds darkened across the stormy sky, but he paid no attention to the ominous weather.

Which of the following images best reflect the way Delphinia feels at the end of the passage?

- ☐ A. the table in the library
- ☐ B. the thunderstorm
- ☐ C. the book *Poor Folk*
- ☐ D. the umbrella

## Question 5 .

**The Flood**

by J. Robbins

"Hey, Merton, can I borrow a can opener?" asked Atticus as he walked across the gym. Merton, who was trying to unroll a sleeping bag, nodded toward a box on the floor.

"I think my mom threw some kitchen stuff in that box," Merton replied. "I wasn't really paying attention to what she was packing. You can check if you want, but I'm not going to dig through all that stuff. Do you have an extra pillow? I was so busy packing my iPod and games that I forgot to bring a pillow."

"Nope," said Atticus. "The police rushed us out of the house so quickly that I didn't even grab my pillow. Did you ask Wolfram?" Merton glanced around the gym until he saw Wolfram helping a police officer unload supplies from a wheelbarrow.

"Let's go ask him," Merton said to Atticus. "He has been helping the police all day, and I'm sure he wants to take a break. Maybe we can even convince him to let us borrow his laptop to play video games." They crossed the gym quickly, waving to friends and neighbors as they passed by.

"It looks like they evacuated the entire town," Atticus remarked. "The flooding must be worse than I thought. Good thing the high school was built on a hill!"

"Yeah!" agreed Merton. "This is the coolest thing to happen in years. We won't have to go to classes, and I brought my comic books for us to read." Atticus let out a loud whoop and gave his friend a high-five. Wolfram looked up with a smile as his friends approached.

"Oh, good," Wolfram said. "You guys can help unload these wheelbarrows. We have to hurry because they need the wheelbarrows outside as soon as possible. The fire department is using them to bring sandbags to the flooded areas." Atticus and Merton exchanged worried glances.

"This is getting serious," exclaimed Atticus.

"Getting out of class for a few days doesn't seem so great now," admitted Merton. "I hope this emergency is over soon so everyone can go back to their regular lives." Behind them, the gym door opened and a rain-soaked group walked in.

"Rhapsody!" called Wolfram as he spotted his cousin. "Are you okay?" Rhapsody shivered in her thin jacket and nodded miserably.

"We had to leave all our stuff behind," she replied. "Our house was completely destroyed, but thankfully, the police were able to get us all to safety." Wolfram looked at his friends and cleared his throat loudly.

"Oh! You can have my extra sleeping bag," said Atticus. "I have a spare blanket, too, if you want it."

"My sister brought enough clothes to dress an army," Merton told Rhapsody. "I can ask her if she'll let you borrow some of her clothes."

"We'll save a few boxes of supplies for you," promised Wolfram. "You won't need anything as long as we're around."

"You guys are the best!" Rhapsody exclaimed gratefully. They resumed unloading supplies and chatting happily as the rain slowly began to taper off outside.

In this passage, Rhapsody's situation serves primarily to

- ☐ A. add a comedic element to the plot of the passage.
- ☐ B. show the competition between Merton and Atticus.
- ☐ C. highlight the serious consequences of the flood.
- ☐ D. emphasize the ineffective efforts of the police.

**Question 6 .****Eclipse**

by A. Gautam

The trail of rain trickled down the slope  
And the wind howled between the walls  
Sunny sat silently on the sliding chair  
Listening to the sounds from everywhere

His fluffy kitten purring by his leg  
Dark roast coffee brewing violently  
Thunder thumping high in the sky  
Lightning waving the clouds goodbye

But louder than everything and everyone  
Was the voice of Jenny echoing on and on  
Like the ever flowing river from a mountain  
As the snow from its eyes melted with the rain

Which line from the poem contains onomatopoeia?

- ☐ A. His fluffy kitten purring by his leg
- ☐ B. Like the ever flowing river from a mountain
- ☐ C. As the snow from its eyes melted with the rain
- ☐ D. Lightning waving the clouds goodbye

**Question 7 .****Remembrance**

It was unarguably the best day of Tatalina's life. The sun and the wind had agreed to create the most perfect weather that afternoon. Tatalina, emerging from a sea of faces, walked across the stage. The whole school cheered for her. Tatalina was off to a bigger world.

"Proud of you, *mija*," her father stated his joy after the ceremony. This statement was followed by a long silence and a grim face. Everyone who was there for Tatalina understood the sudden change in him. After Tatalina's mother passed away in childbirth, her father had worked day and night to raise little Tatalina.

"Mama would have been so happy," Tatalina said as she fought back her tears.

At that very moment, a patch of cloud passed over the sun, and a flash of lightning appeared in the southern sky. There was only that patch of cloud in the expansive blue sky. Tatalina studied the shape of the cloud for a long time. It seemed to have wings and was white as a dove. The world stopped for a minute as if Tatalina were all alone with the sky.

"I knew she was watching," Tatalina said. Her father smiled at hearing those words, and his eyes brightened. Immediately, the sky cleared up and gave way to the sun's warm rays. Tatalina was all laughter as she said, "Time to celebrate! A girl only graduates from high school once." She kissed her father's coarse hands and smiled as if she had conquered the universe.

The author shows a sudden change in the weather to symbolize

- ☐ A. the change in Tatalina and her father's mood.
- ☐ B. the importance of being prepared for changes.
- ☐ C. the risks of an outdoor graduation ceremony.
- ☐ D. the knowledge that Tatalina's father possesses.

**Question 8 .**

Katya shoved her hands deep in her pockets as she walked. The cold night air seemed to push her forward, and she just let herself be rushed along. She didn't know where she was going, and she didn't care. She had just said goodbye to her best friend, Irina, and the empty city street, as cold and bleak as the far side of the moon, was no match for the emptiness in Katya's heart. Irina was moving forward in her life as a high school graduate headed for a prestigious university. *Unlike me*, Katya thought. *I can't even imagine what I'll do next.*

A bus stop on the corner of the street caught Katya's attention. The bus line had been out of service in her town for years, and she couldn't remember seeing a bus stop on this corner before. *I guess it's as good a place to wait as any*, she thought as she sat down on the bench. She didn't know what she was waiting for. A sign to guide her into the future, perhaps. Maybe she would just sit on the park bench and wait for the sun to come up.

Suddenly, a light flashed in Katya's eyes. She turned to see a bus pulling up to the stop. The bus was painted a plain gray, and Katya could not see a company name or destination written anywhere. Instead, it seemed as dull and blank as her future. There were no passengers on the bus—only a driver looking out at her impassively. The door opened, and Katya felt a rush of wind at her back.

"Coming aboard, miss?" asked the driver. Katya felt a chill run up her spine as she stood. She climbed aboard the bus and took a seat in the back. As she looked out the window, she could see light streaking the sky to the east. The morning light traced a pattern across the sky, and the sun's gentle hands began to change the view outside Katya's window from an empty wasteland into a bustling, friendly city. *No matter what happens next, it will be a fresh start. That is just what I need*, Katya thought as the bus moved toward the light.

Which of the following is used as a symbol of hope in this story?

- ☐ A. the rising sun
- ☐ B. the bus bench
- ☐ C. the bus driver
- ☐ D. the cold wind

**Question 9 .****Do not go gentle into that good night**

Dylan Thomas

Do not go gentle into that good night,  
Old age should burn and rave at close of day;  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Though wise men at their end know dark is right,  
Because their words had forked no lightning they  
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Good men, the last wave by, crying how bright  
Their frail deeds might have danced in a green bay,  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight,  
And learn, too late, they grieved it on its way,  
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Grave men, near death, who see with blinding sight  
 Blind eyes could blaze like meteors and be gay,  
 Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

And you, my father, there on the sad height,  
 Curse, bless, me now with your fierce tears, I pray.  
 Do not go gentle into that good night.  
 Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

**Directions: Drag the tiles to the correct boxes to complete the pairs.**

Match the figurative lines from the poem with their meaning.

Blind eyes could blaze like meteors and be gay,

Old age should burn and rave at close of day;

Their frail deeds might have danced in a green bay,

Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight,

The poet states that a non-living object flies like a bird while men sing to it.



The poet states that an abstract idea will glow with enthusiasm before death approaches it.



The poet states that a person is able to use his vision in spite of lacking the ability of seeing.



The poet states that the people compare their weak actions to rhythmic movements in an attempt to praise themselves.



**Question 10 .****Cutlery**

by c.safos

The guests arrive  
like drops of rain  
sizzling down  
a railroad tie.

We feast  
on three courses  
in between  
songs and chatter.

In the mutton,  
sinews like floss,  
pull through my teeth  
like a cold breeze blowing  
through an open window.

The conversation  
quiets to a whisper,  
a mutter, a rumor—  
a rumor of a conversation.

The cold has set in  
to the meal,  
to the person,  
to the bones.

The steel cutlery is a dull whisper.  
The place settings stand for guests  
like anthills waiting to be trampled.

This house is a tomb where even the shadows  
dread seeing themselves in the light.

Why does the author compare the way sinews move through teeth to the way a wind blows through a window?

- ☐ A. to show that the speaker needs to floss after eating
- ☐ B. to show that there are large gaps in the speaker's teeth
- ☐ C. to show that the speaker doesn't think the mutton is good
- ☐ D. to show that the window in the room he or she is in is open



## Question 11 .

**Save the Dance**

by A. Gautam

**CHARACTERS:**

HARI  
NIKOLAI  
MONGOO  
LUDMILLA

**Stage Set:** The dining hall of a college cafeteria. Only a few lights are on. HARI and LUDMILLA are seated. HARI doesn't know that he has just won the elections because of a recount.

HARI: So, why did I get nothing after all my hard work?

LUDMILLA: Don't say that. You've got our love and respect.

HARI: Nah. I lost! I lost the election by a landslide.

LUDMILLA: Well, what can we do when somebody decides to bring all their friends to vote? I mean, everybody knows you deserved to win.

HARI: Anyway, I will still be a member and give the new president my time and advice.

LUDMILLA: That's the spirit! I knew you would not give up. *(Smiles, pauses, and blushes)*  
Hey, by the way have you decided about the international dance?

HARI: What do you mean—decided?

LUDMILLA: Well, who are you taking?

HARI: Oh, I thought MONGOO already told you. Yep, I'm taking her. Who are you going with?

LUDMILLA: Huh. *(Looks away as if to hide her sad face)* That's fantastic!

HARI: Hey, best friend! *(Gives LUDMILLA a big hug)* Who is the lucky guy that gets to dance with you?

LUDMILLA: Ohh. I . . . I'm actually not going.

LUDMILLA: Huh. *(Looks away as if to hide her sad face)* That's fantastic!

Which literary element is used in the lines above?

- ☐ A. dramatic irony
- ☐ B. exposition
- ☐ C. verbal irony
- ☐ D. climax

**Question 12 .****Olympics**

The Olympics are an important international event in which countries from all over the world gather together to compete in various sporting competitions. This tournament began in ancient Greece. The games were held in Olympia from the eighth to the fifth century BC. Over time, the popularity of the event increased. The Olympic Games now take place once every four years and are held in different countries each time. The Olympics are divided into several different categories: Winter Games, Summer Games, Youth Games, and Paralympic Games, which are for physically disabled athletes. Some countries, such as Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and the United States, excel at a number of games. However, China definitely takes the cake in many Olympic sporting events. Their medal records, which are over 500 and counting since 1979, are absolutely staggering.

**Directions: Select the correct answers.**

Which two meanings **best** describe the phrase "takes the cake"?

- ☐ to have the ability of grabbing any chance one gets
- ☐ to be extremely intelligent
- ☐ to be the most outstanding in some respect
- ☐ to be extremely hard-working
- ☐ to be exceptional

**Question 13 .****The White Cliffs of Dover**

The White Cliffs of Dover are located in Dover, England, and are famous for their unusual white color. The cliffs are made up of white chalk formed from coccoliths, which are the skeletons of algae that used to live at the bottom of the sea.

The White Cliffs are not only a recognizable symbol of England, but are also a popular tourist destination. People from around the world flock to the cliffs every year to witness their unusual beauty. People can take a walk along the top of the cliffs and enjoy the breathtaking view of the English Channel, while listening to the waves tussle with the rocks below. People can also explore and become familiar with the wide variety of flora and fauna found in the region.

What is the meaning of "the waves tussle with the rocks below" in the second paragraph?

- ☐ **A.** The waves crash against the rocks with a lot of force.
- ☐ **B.** The waves make musical sounds when they hit the rocks.
- ☐ **C.** The rocks are washed away by the waves.
- ☐ **D.** The rocks block the path of the waves.

**Question 14 .**

Take caution, wayward seafarer,  
These waters are not the same  
As the one's across the hemisphere  
That you have tried to tame.  
The waves will swell much higher,  
The wind will punch your bones,  
And the ocean will introduce you  
To the locker of Davy Jones.  
Been years, I've manned this lighthouse  
And seen many a vessel head out.  
Never have I seen one return  
Without scars from a mighty bout.  
So take caution, wayward seafarer,  
It's your hide if you do not take heed.  
If you still want to brave this ocean,  
I'm wishing you Godspeed.

Which line from the poem makes the ocean seem human?

- ☐ A. "If you still want to brave this ocean, / I'm wishing you Godspeed."
- ☐ B. "And the ocean will introduce you / To the locker of Davy Jones."
- ☐ C. "These waters are not the same / As the one's across the hemisphere"
- ☐ D. "Been years, I've manned this lighthouse / And seen many a vessel head out."

**Question 15 .****Impact of World War II**

World War II was no nine days' wonder; it was an event in the history of civilization that will never be forgotten. The period from 1939 to 1945 was filled with international foul play and countries sailing under false colors. Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in America and America replied in kind. Germany created absolute havoc in Europe, which forced several countries to retaliate. Countries betrayed each other, and millions of lives were lost. People from all walks of life were thrown into their respective armies to fight for their countries. They parted from their families, not knowing if they would ever have the opportunity of seeing them again. The war trained soldiers to consider weapons and victory as their better halves and fight for their countries until they sacrificed their lives. The war was so encompassing that an entire generation of the American and British people were impacted by it in some way.

**Directions: Drag each label to the correct location on the image.**

Match the figurative phrases with their meanings in the passage.

to portray a false picture  
in order to deceive people

people's spouses

an event that creates a  
brief excitement but is  
soon forgotten.

various social, economic, and  
ethnic groups

**Question 16 .****The Flood**

by J. Robbins

"Hey, Merton, can I borrow a can opener?" asked Atticus as he walked across the gym. Merton, who was trying to unroll a sleeping bag, nodded toward a box on the floor.

"I think my mom threw some kitchen stuff in that box," Merton replied. "I wasn't really paying attention to what she was packing. You can check if you want, but I'm not going to dig through all that stuff. Do you have an extra pillow? I was so busy packing my iPod and games that I forgot to bring a pillow."

"Nope," said Atticus. "The police rushed us out of the house so quickly that I didn't even grab my pillow. Did you ask Wolfram?" Merton glanced around the gym until he saw Wolfram helping a police officer unload supplies from a wheelbarrow.

"Let's go ask him," Merton said to Atticus. "He has been helping the police all day, and I'm sure he wants to take a break. Maybe we can even convince him to let us borrow his laptop to play video games." They crossed the gym quickly, waving to friends and neighbors as they passed by.

"It looks like they evacuated the entire town," Atticus remarked. "The flooding must be worse than I thought. Good thing the high school was built on a hill!"

"Yeah!" agreed Merton. "This is the coolest thing to happen in years. We won't have to go to classes, and I brought my comic books for us to read." Atticus let out a loud whoop and gave his friend a high-five. Wolfram looked up with a smile as his friends approached.

"Oh, good," Wolfram said. "You guys can help unload these wheelbarrows. We have to hurry because they need the wheelbarrows outside as soon as possible. The fire department is using them to bring sandbags to the flooded areas." Atticus and Merton exchanged worried glances.

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"Getting out of class for a few days doesn't seem so great now," admitted Merton. "I hope this emergency is over soon so everyone can go back to their regular lives." Behind them, the gym door opened and a rain-soaked group walked in.

"Rhapsody!" called Wolfram as he spotted his cousin. "Are you okay?" Rhapsody shivered in her thin jacket and nodded miserably.

"We had to leave all our stuff behind," she replied. "Our house was completely destroyed, but thankfully, the police were able to get us all to safety." Wolfram looked at his friends and cleared his throat loudly.

"Oh! You can have my extra sleeping bag," said Atticus. "I have a spare blanket, too, if you want it."

"My sister brought enough clothes to dress an army," Merton told Rhapsody. "I can ask her if she'll let you borrow some of her clothes."

"We'll save a few boxes of supplies for you," promised Wolfram. "You won't need anything as long as we're around."

"You guys are the best!" Rhapsody exclaimed gratefully. They resumed unloading supplies and chatting happily as the rain slowly began to taper off outside.

Which of the following best describes the mood at the end of the passage?

- ☐ A. tense
- ☐ B. hopeful
- ☐ C. eerie
- ☐ D. ominous

**Question 17 .**

As the sky darkened ominously above him, Freddy struggle to light the fire he had built over the last hour. Camping alone had its drawbacks, but Freddy preferred it to the last day of school chaos that was camping with others. He enjoyed his vacation from the world of technology and immersed himself in the kind, gentle music that nature provided.

This time, however, Freddy wished he had brought his quick-starter fire kit with him. The steel-gray clouds crowded together in the sky, pushing and shoving into each other. Freddy's hands shook as he desperately tried for one measly spark to start his fire. He thought that if he could get it started, he could stave off the cold rain for a just a bit longer. "Come on!" Freddy said, just as his fire ignited. Freddy basked in flames like a starving man gorged himself on food. Then, the sky opened up, dumping buckets of stinging, cold rain onto Freddy. The fire hissed and sputtered angrily as it went out, and Freddy raced into his truck, grateful he would have somewhere warm to sleep for the night.

What does the phrase "last day of school chaos" mean as it is used in the passage above?

- ☐ A. Freddy wanted to be as loud as students on the last day of school.
- ☐ B. Freddy liked to go camping on the last day of school with friends.
- ☐ C. Freddy believed that camping with others was as fun as school.
- ☐ D. Freddy thought camping with others was too distracting and wild.

**Question 18 .**

Uncle Vern's clunker was heard well before it was seen coming down the hill to our house. The once classic 1963 Buick Skylark was now a sputtering, screaming rust-bucket, but Uncle Vern was still so proud of it. It was the first car he bought with his own money, and he could not give the poor thing up for a new car. He didn't have the money to fix the myriad of problems with the car.

Every time he visited, he looked at the car all doe-eyed and said, "Ain't she a beauty, kids? Don't you wish you had one just like her?" We kids would roll our eyes behind his back and say, "Yeah, Uncle Vern. She's real special." We never did understand why he called the car a "she" when it was barely worth calling it a car, but he loved that hunk of junk. Mom always made him park it around back when he visited. Uncle Vern just laughed and said, "Good idea! We don't want anyone to try to steal her."

Once, he offered to take use for a ride. Mom put her foot down on that. "You can ride around in that death-trap if you want, but don't you think about putting my babies in that tin can you call a car!" Uncle Vern never offered to drive us in his car again.

The phrase "heard well before it was seen" means that

- ☐ A. Vern honked the horn a lot.
- ☐ B. the car made very loud noises.
- ☐ C. people talked about the car.
- ☐ D. the kids tried to hear the car.

**Question 19 .**

Here and there Marla remembered patches, sensations, pictures, and scents: mother holding baby sister up for her to kiss; the fragrance of the baby powder; the pine trees near the house chanting loudly in an autumn wind; her father's alert face, intent on the toy water-wheel he was setting up for her in the little creek; the beautiful sheen of the pink silk dress Aunt Victoria had sent her; the look of her mother's steady, grave eyes when she was sick; the leathery smell of the books in the University Library one day when she followed her father there; the sound of the rain pattering on the low, slanting roof of her bedroom.

What do the words "chanting loudly in an autumn wind" describe?

- ☐ A. the character's favorite autumn activity
- ☐ B. the melody made by the wind in autumn
- ☐ C. the sound of the trees swaying in the wind
- ☐ D. the words that the trees repeat in the wind

**Question 20 .**

**Eclipse**  
by A. Gautam

The trail of rain trickled down the slope  
And the wind howled between the walls  
Sunny sat silently on the sliding chair  
Listening to the sounds from everywhere

His fluffy kitten purring by his leg  
Dark roast coffee brewing violently  
Thunder thumping high in the sky  
Lightning waving the clouds goodbye

But louder than everything and everyone  
Was the voice of Jenny echoing on and on  
Like the ever flowing river from a mountain  
As the snow from its eyes melted with the rain

What poetic device does the following line contain?

The trail of rain trickled down the slope

- ☐ A. onomatopoeia
- ☐ B. internal rhyme
- ☐ C. hyperbole
- ☐ D. slant rhyme

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# Answers

1. C
2. B
3. B
4. B
5. C
6. A
7. A
8. A
9. --
10. B
11. C
12. --
13. A
14. B
15. --
16. B
17. D
18. B
19. C
20. A



# Explanations

1. A hyperbole is a figure of speech in which statements are exaggerated or extravagant. It implies strong feelings or is used to create a strong impression and is not meant to be taken literally. The line "And fired the shot heard round the world" is the only example of a hyperbole among the answer choices that are provided. This hyperbole helps create a picture of the strong embattled farmers who were heroes.
2. Italics and exclamation points give emphasis to what is written. The description infers that Helen expresses herself with dramatic flourish, like an exclamation point.
3. In the passage, the author says that Freddy likes the "kind, gentle music" in nature. Freddy enjoys the sounds of nature so much that he sees them as a soft, calming music to accompany him while he is camping by himself. The vivid language used by the author helps the reader hear, taste, smell, touch, and see what Freddy experiences.
4. At the end of this passage, Delphinia's face "darken[s] with anger," and she yells at her friend Roosevelt. The weather outside turns from rain into a thunderstorm at the same time. The bad weather reflects the stormy emotions Delphinia is experiencing in this passage.
5. In this passage, Rhapsody is evacuated to the gym with only the clothes she is wearing. She tells the other characters, "Our house was completely destroyed, but thankfully, the police were able to get us all to safety." Rhapsody's situation in this passage serves to highlight the serious consequences of the flood.
6. The second stanza starts with a line that contains onomatopoeia. Onomatopoeia is the use of words that imitate the sounds that they describe, such as "boom" or "bang." In this poem, the author describes the sound the fluffy kitten makes when it purrs.
7. Authors often show the changes in the outer world to represent the changes in the inner world of a person. In this story, the contrast of the sun and the cloud represents the realm of emotions Tatalina and her father feel on the graduation day. The sudden change in the weather shows both the joy of achievement and the sorrow of the mother's absence.
8. Symbolism is a literary device that uses certain objects or images to represent other ideas. A symbol is most often something tangible or visible that represents an abstract idea (love, hate, worry). At the beginning of this story, Katya feels hopeless as she walks in the dark night. As her outlook improves at the end of the story, Katya notices the sun rising on a new day. The rising sun is a symbol of hope in this story.
9. Poets use figurative language and symbolism for poetic effect.  
 The line "Their frail deeds might have danced in a green bay" implies that "frail deeds," which is an abstract idea, are given the ability to dance.  
 The line "Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight" implies that the "sun," which is an inanimate object, has the ability of birdlike flight.  
 The line "Blind eyes could blaze like meteors and be gay" implies that the people who are dying and losing their ability to see can fight against death and choose how they'll die.  
 The line "Old age should burn and rave at close of day" shows a personified idea where the poet states that old age should burn with enthusiasm before death approaches it and takes it away into the night.
10. **Similes** compare two unlike things. Poets and authors show the comparison by using the words **like** and **as**.  
  
 In this case, the speaker's says that sinews are like floss in the way they pass through his teeth in the same way a wind blows through an open window. Think about the space in an open window. There must be a gap for this to happen. This simile is showing how the speaker's teeth must appear.

- 11.** In this dialogue, Ludmilla shows verbal irony by saying the opposite of what she feels. The stage directions show that Ludmilla is feeling sad while her dialogue shows words of excitement. Verbal irony is intentionally produced by speakers. Verbal irony is different from dramatic irony in which the audience knows more than the character onstage.
- 12.** Writers often use figurative language and symbolism to enhance their writing.  
The figurative phrase "takes the cake" in the context of the passage means "to be exceptional" or "to be outstanding in some respect." The phrase suggests that Chinese athletes who compete in the Olympic games are exceptionally good as they maintain their records throughout the games.
- 13.** The word "tussle" means "struggle" or "fight." Figuratively, "tussle" refers to the forceful manner in which the waves crash against the rocks, making them seem as if they are fighting with each other. The author uses personification to give the waves and rocks a human quality and to add to the appeal of the White Cliffs of Dover.
- 14.** Personification is a figure of speech in which things are endowed with human qualities or are represented as possessing human form.  
  
Example: A reference to thunder booming "angrily" personifies thunder by giving it emotion.  
  
Example: a smiling moon  
  
In this case the object being personified is the ocean. The ocean really cannot make formal introductions. The ocean will not say, "Seafarer, I would like to introduce you to Davy Jones' locker. Davy Jones' locker, I would like you to meet the seafarer." The strong and dangerous ocean that the speaker describes could cause the seafarer to die a watery death, and "introduce" is a stronger and more concise choice of words.
- 15.** Writers use figurative language and symbolism to enhance their writing.  
The phrase "nine days' wonder" means "an event that creates a brief excitement but is soon forgotten." In the passage, it is stated that World War II was no nine days' wonder. That means the war was a historical event that will never be forgotten.  
The phrase "sailing under false colors" means "to portray a false picture in order to deceive people." In the passage, countries like Japan deceived several countries by falsely pretending to be neutral. However, Japan later attacked America's Pearl Harbor and several other islands.  
The phrase "all walks of life" means "various social, economic, and ethnic groups." In the passage, men from all professions were asked to join the war, as the army always needed more soldiers. Men from all walks of life joined the army, irrespective of their social status.  
The phrase "their better halves" means "people's spouses." During the war, men were separated from their families in order to serve an army. For the years during the war, they had almost lost contact with their spouses and, instead, weapons had become their constant companions.
- 16.** In this passage, the characters have been evacuated from their homes to a school gym due to a dangerous flood. The final sentence of the passage states that "the rain slowly began to taper off outside" as the main characters cheerfully unload supplies. The reader can conclude that the flood will soon end. The mood at the end of this passage can best be described as hopeful.
- 17.** In the passage, Freddy prefers to camp by himself so that he can enjoy nature without the technology and distractions of everyday life. The author compares camping with others to "the last day of school chaos" so that the reader can understand that Freddy thinks camping with others is distracting and wild, just like the last day of school for the year can be. On the last day of school before summer or any long vacation, teachers do not often give tests or homework because they know their students are not paying attention and are instead thinking about after school and talking a lot.
- 18.** The phrase "was heard well before it was seen" tells the reader that Uncle Vern's car made really loud noises when he drove it. Anything that is heard before it is seen must be awfully loud. The author uses this phrase to help the reader imagine just how loud Uncle Vern's old car is to the other characters in the story.
- 19.** A chant is a simple melody or a "monotonous rhythmic voice." Since trees and the wind cannot actually sing, this figurative phrase implies that the trees make a distinctive song-like sound as it sways in the wind.

- 20.** Onomatopoeia is the use of words that imitate the sounds that they describe, such as "hiss" or "buzz." In the first line of the poem, "trickled" is an example of onomatopoeia. Say the word "trickled" aloud, and you will hear that the word itself mimics the sound of something slowly dripping.