

POEM ANALYSIS

Read the poem on the following page and then answer the questions below.

1) What type of poem is “The Lakeside” and how do you know? _____

2) Does “The Lakeside” feature a rhyme scheme? If so, what is the rhyme pattern (ex: AABB)?

3) What is an example of personification found in this poem? _____

4) What is an example of imagery found in this poem? _____

5) How does “The Lakeside” make you feel? Explain your answer. _____



POEM ANALYSIS

While reading the poem to the right, use different colors to circle or underline each poetic/literary device used. Label the list below with which color you will use to represent each:

Alliteration

Assonance

Consonance

Metaphors

Similes

Personification

Imagery

Repetition

Hyperbole

Paradox

Oxymoron

Onomatopoeia

Symbolism

The Lakeside by John Greenleaf Whittier, 1849

The shadows round the inland sea
Are deepening into night;
Slow up the slopes of Ossipee
They chase the lessening light.
Tired of the long day's blinding heat,
I rest my languid eye,
Lake of the Hills! where, cool and sweet,
Thy sunset waters lie!

Along the sky, in wavy lines,
O'er isle and reach and bay,
Green-belted with eternal pines,
The mountains stretch away.
Below, the maple masses sleep
Where shore with water blends,
While midway on the tranquil deep
The evening light descends.

So seemed it when yon hill's red crown,
Of old, the Indian trod,
And, through the sunset air, looked down
Upon the Smile of God.
To him of light and shade the laws
No forest skeptic taught;
Their living and eternal Cause
His truer instinct sought.

He saw these mountains in the light
Which now across them shines;
This lake, in summer sunset bright,
Walled round with sombering pines.
God near him seemed; from earth and skies
His loving voice he heard,
As, face to face, in Paradise,
Man stood before the Lord.

Thanks, O our Father! that, like him,
Thy tender love I see,
In radiant hill and woodland dim,
And tinted sunset sea.
For not in mockery dost Thou fill
Our earth with light and grace;
Thou hid'st no dark and cruel will
Behind Thy smiling face!

Answers

POEM ANALYSIS

Read the poem on the following page and then answer the questions below.

1) What type of poem is “The Lakeside” and how do you know? “The Lakeside” is an example of an Ode. While it rhymes, it is not in iambic pentameter or sing-songy, but it is about the admiration for a place.

2) Does “The Lakeside” feature a rhyme scheme? If so, what is the rhyme pattern (ex: AABB)?

Yes, the poem’s rhyme scheme for each stanza is ABABCD

3) What is an example of personification found in this poem? The shadows round the inland sea, Are deepening into night; Slow up the slopes of Ossipee, They chase the lessening light.

4) What is an example of imagery found in this poem? Along the sky, in wavy lines, O’er isle and reach and bay, Green-belted with eternal pines, The mountains stretch away.

5) How does “The Lakeside” make you feel? Explain your answer. Subjective, one example is: This poem makes me feel in awe of nature. All of the things that Whittier explains help the reader understand the beauty he sees and I am amazed by nature, just like him.



POEM ANALYSIS

Finished Example Below

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