

# **“Oranges” by Gary Soto**

Language Arts 6





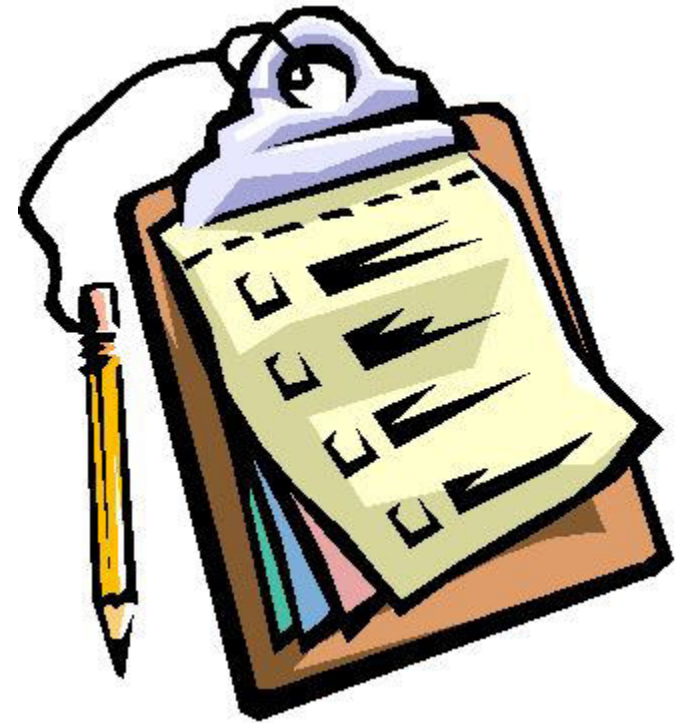
# Class Announcements

Share something you're looking forward to doing this weekend.

# Today's Agenda



- Writing Warm-Up
- “Oranges” Read Along
- Imagery and Theme
  
- I can identify examples of imagery in a poem
- I can identify the theme of a poem



# Theme



- What is a theme?
- the message or lesson that the author wants the reader to learn
- It is often NOT directly stated in the story



# Theme Examples



- It is not wise to cut corners
- True love wins in the end
- Life is not always fair
- Hard work is more important than talent



# Writing Warm-Up



- When was a time you tried something you had never done before? How were you feeling and why?

# “Oranges” Readers



- Directions: We are going to read the poem “Oranges” by Gary Soto. We will have 5 volunteers read different parts of the poem. We will work to find examples of imagery and to find the theme of the poem.
- Reader 1
- Reader 2
- Reader 3
- Reader 4
- Reader 5

## “Oranges” by Gary Soto 1



*The first time I walked  
With a girl, I was twelve,  
Cold, and weighted down  
With two oranges in my jacket.  
December. Frost cracking  
Beneath my steps, my breath  
Before me, then gone,  
As I walked toward  
Her house, the one whose  
Porch light burned yellow  
Night and day, in any weather.*



What do we know about the speaker of the poem?

What is the setting of the poem?



# “Oranges” by Gary Soto 2



*A dog barked at me, until  
She came out pulling  
At her gloves, face bright  
With rouge. I smiled,  
Touched her shoulder, and led  
Her down the street, across  
A used car lot and a line  
Of newly planted trees,  
Until we were breathing  
Before a drugstore. We  
Entered, the tiny bell  
Bringing a saleslady  
Down a narrow aisle of goods.*



How does the speaker feel about the girl?

What images stand out to you?

# “Oranges” by Gary Soto 3



*I turned to the candies  
Tiered like bleachers,  
And asked what she wanted -  
Light in her eyes, a smile  
Starting at the corners  
Of her mouth. I fingered  
A nickle in my pocket,  
And when she lifted a chocolate  
That cost a dime,  
I didn't say anything.*

What is the conflict the speaker is facing?

Why doesn't he say anything?

# “Oranges” by Gary Soto 4



*I took the nickle from  
My pocket, then an orange,  
And set them quietly on  
The counter. When I looked up,  
The lady's eyes met mine,  
And held them, knowing  
Very well what it was all  
About.*

What does the lady at the counter understand about the speaker's situation?

# “Oranges” by Gary Soto 5



*Outside,  
A few cars hissing past,  
Fog hanging like old  
Coats between the trees.  
I took my girl's hand  
In mine for two blocks,  
Then released it to let  
Her unwrap the chocolate.  
I peeled my orange  
That was so bright against  
The gray of December  
That, from some distance,  
Someone might have thought  
I was making a fire in my hands.*

What imagery stands out to you?

Where is there contrast in the imagery?

# “Oranges” by Gary Soto 5



*Outside,  
A few cars hissing past,  
Fog hanging like old  
Coats between the trees.  
I took my girl's hand  
In mine for two blocks,  
Then released it to let  
Her unwrap the chocolate.  
I peeled my orange  
That was so bright against  
The gray of December  
That, from some distance,  
Someone might have thought  
I was making a fire in my hands.*

What do you think the theme of the poem is?

# Writing



- Go back to the memory of trying something new you wrote about before. Write down all the imagery you can remember about the experience. (For an extra challenge: try writing a short poem about the experience!)