

Poetry

Infant Sorrow

by William Blake

My mother groaned, my father wept—
Into the dangerous world I leapt,
Helpless, naked, piping loud,
Like a fiend hid in a cloud.

Struggling in my father's hands,
Striving against my swaddling bands,
Bound and weary, I thought best
To sulk upon my mother's breast.

1. Which of these is true about the poem's rhyme scheme?
 - A. Every two lines rhyme.
 - B. Every other line rhymes.
 - C. The first and last lines rhyme.
 - D. There is no rhyme scheme.
2. Which of these **best** describes an epic poem?
 - A. a lyric poem that describes the events of a tragic love story of a heroic figure
 - B. a long poem that describes the poet's thoughts and feelings on nature
 - C. a free verse poem that is a satire of important historical events of a nation
 - D. a narrative poem about the heroic deeds significant to a culture or a nation

I Hear America Singing

by Walt Whitman

I HEAR America singing, the varied carols I hear;
Those of mechanics—each one singing his, as it should be, blithe and strong;
The carpenter singing his, as he measures his plank or beam,
The mason singing his, as he makes ready for work, or leaves off work;
The boatman singing what belongs to him in his boat—the deckhand singing on the steamboat deck;

The shoemaker singing as he sits on his bench—the hatter singing as he stands;
The wood-cutter's song—the ploughboy's, on his way in the morning, or at the noon intermission, or at sundown;
The delicious singing of the mother—or of the young wife at work—or of the girl sewing or washing—Each singing what belongs to her, and to none else;
The day what belongs to the day—At night, the party of young fellows, robust, friendly,
Singing, with open mouths, their strong melodious songs.

3. The poem is an example of which of these styles of poetry?
 - A. free verse because it lacks a fixed meter
 - B. blank verse because of unrhymed iambic lines
 - C. a lyric because of its musical quality and rhythm

D. an epic because it describes heroic people

4. Which statement **best** expresses the main idea of the poem?

- A. The poet sees beauty and hears music everywhere he goes.
- B. The poet loves America and the working people who made it.
- C. The poet claims his country is strong as it is benevolent.
- D. The poet adores his country because it is his patriotic duty.

The Tiger

by William Blake

Tiger Tiger burning bright,
In the forests of the night;
What immortal hand or eye,
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?

In what distant deeps or skies.
Burnt the fire of thine eyes?
On what wings dare he aspire?
What the hand, dare seize the fire?

And what shoulder and what art,
Could twist the sinews of thy heart?
And when thy heart began to beat.
What dread hand? and what dread feet?

What the hammer? what the chain,
In what furnace was thy brain?
What the anvil? what dread grasp.
Dare its deadly terrors clasp?

When the stars threw down their spears
And watered heaven with their tears:
Did he smile His work to see?
Did he who made the lamb make thee?

Tiger Tiger burning bright,
In the forests of the night:
What immortal hand or eye,
Dare frame thy fearful symmetry?

5. Which rhyme scheme does the poet use in the first 8 lines of the poem?

- A. a-b-c-d-e-f-g-h
- B. a-a-b-b-c-c-d-d
- C. a-b-a-b-c-d-c-d
- D. a-b-c-b-d-d-e-e

6. Which of these **best** describes the style of this poem?
- A. an epic because it tells a story of a heroic figure
 - B. a narrative because it is a satire of strength
 - C. a free verse because it lacks a metrical pattern
 - D. a lyric because it expresses the poet's feelings
7. Which sentence **best** states the main idea of this poem?
- A. Those who are dangerous like the tiger rule over the meek animals.
 - B. The speaker feels afraid of the immortal hand that shaped the tiger.
 - C. Those who lack imagination cannot enjoy the beauty of the earth.
 - D. The speaker is amazed by the awe-inspiring beings in the universe.

Serious Sixteen

This year, I simply do not want a cake
Just genuine emotions—nothing fake
I'm older now, bigger things are at stake
And fewer are mistakes I hope to make

Almost a man, I see my future now
I'm free to drive, responsible somehow
Turning my dreams into reality
Ready to fight any adversity

I have one shot; I want to do it best
Can you help me prepare for my life's test?
Oh friends! Just give me something meaningful

8. Identify the words that are stressed in this poem.
- A. help, me, test
 - B. have, shot, to
 - C. I'm, now, things
 - D. man, see, now

The Waiting by A.Gautam

The corridor is longer than the endless distance of my fears
I pace back and forth
Back
And
Forth
I want to leave
Before the smell of rubbing alcohol
Seeps into my veins

Some people are laughing far away
Buried hiccups faintly echo—near me

Waiting is a game with an unseen opponent
Who always wins
The world in here does not care about the sun or the moon
Fluorescent light slowly swallows time
Letting it out in parts—in seconds that are longer than the hours . . .

After eons, my father appears
His face, a shining star
His lips stretching to form a smile
His eyes, sparkling
With him the room is a carnival
His victory is my eternal festival.

9. What is the effect of the word position in this poem?
- A. It explains the lack of hope in the narrator's heart.
 - B. It helps the reader visualize the actions inside the hospital.
 - C. It shows how the father emerges as a triumphant person.
 - D. It describes the environment's effect on the father.

