

Close Reading of Rigorous Text

As required by the PA Standards and PSSA exams, the books ask students to find evidence from the text to support their answers.

2 Focused Instruction Lesson 2

Read the first part of the poem. Then answer the questions.

The Road Not Taken

by Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
 And sorry I could not travel both
 And be one traveler, long I stood
 And looked down one as far as I could
 To where it bent in the undergrowth;

5 Then took the other, just as fair,
 And having perhaps the better claim,
 Because it was grassy and wanted wear,
 Though as for that the passing there
 Had worn them really about the same,

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Think About It

What **observation** is the poet making about the two roads? To answer the question, pay attention to the title, the central topic, and the actions of the speaker.

What choice does the speaker have to make in the first part of the poem?

What is the theme of the poem?

Why do you think the author chose the title?

Based on the title and the main idea of the poem, the diverging roads suggest _____ about _____

3 Guided Practice Lesson 2

Read the poem. Then answer the questions.

Summer Shower


by Emily Dickinson

A drop fell on the apple tree,
 Another on the roof;
 A half a dozen kissed the eaves,
 And made the gables laugh.

5 A few went out to help the brook,
 That went to help the sea,
 Myself conjectured, Were they pearls,
 What necklaces could be!

The dust replaced in hoisted roads,
 The birds jocoser sung;
 The sunshine threw his hat away,
 The orchards spangles hung.

The breezes brought dejected lutes,
 And bathed them in the glee;
 The East put out a single flag,
 And signed the fete away.



A CLOSER LOOK

Why is the rainfall essential to nature? Underline words and phrases the poet uses to describe the effect that the rain has on the rest of nature.

3 Guided Practice Lesson 2

1 What is the central idea of "Summer Shower"?

A Too much rain causes flooding.
 B People fall in love during summer storms.
 C All parts of nature are interconnected.
 D Birds hunt for worms in the rain.

2 Which lines from the poem best support the answer to question 1?

A "A few went out to help the brook,
 That went to help the sea."
 B "The dust replaced in hoisted roads,
 The birds jocoser sung."
 C "The East put out a single flag,
 And signed the fete away."
 D "Myself conjectured, Were they pearls,
 What necklaces could be!"

What life lesson does the poet wish to share with readers?

How is the rain intertwined with all of nature?

What adventures did the raindrops have after they fell?

What are two details from the poem that show how a drop of rain has the power to help other water forms? What theme do these details suggest?