



Theme in Literature

Name: _____

Date: _____

Grade: Grade 5

Part A: Multiple Choice

Circle the best answer for each question.

1. Poem: 'I gave my coat to the shivering child,
/ She smiled and handed me a flower, wild.'

Story: A boy shares his sandwich with a
stranger, who later helps him find his lost dog.

What theme do both share?

- A) Coats and sandwiches are important to share.
- B) Both texts are about children who are cold and hungry.
- C) Kindness given freely often returns when you least expect it.
- D) Strangers should not be trusted.

2. Story A: A girl admits she broke the window
and her parents forgive her. Poem B: 'Speak the
truth though your voice may shake, / Honest
words no bond can break.' What do both share?

- A) Only Story A is about honesty because the poem is about shaking.
- B) Both texts share the theme that honesty builds trust and strengthens relationships.
- C) The poem and story have completely different themes.
- D) The theme of both texts is that breaking windows is wrong.

3. How do poems and stories most often convey
theme differently?

- A) Poems use figurative language and imagery while stories use plot events and dialogue.
- B) Stories always have a clearer theme than poems do.
- C) Poems cannot have themes because they are too short.
- D) Stories use rhyme and meter while poems use characters.

4. Poem: 'Though the mountain seemed too tall
to climb, / I took one step at a time.' Story: Ana
was terrified of her speech, but practiced every
night and delivered it perfectly. What theme do
both share?

- A) Mountains are difficult to climb.
- B) Ana practiced her speech every night.
- C) Speeches and mountains are scary obstacles.
- D) Believing in yourself gives you the strength to overcome obstacles.

Part B: Fill in the Blank

Write the correct answer on each line.

1. A poet often conveys theme through _____ language such as metaphor and simile.

2. A story conveys theme through character actions, dialogue, and the _____ of the plot.

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Circle the best answer for each question.

1. Poem: 'I gave my coat to the shivering child,
/ She smiled and handed me a flower, wild.'

Story: A boy shares his sandwich with a
stranger, who later helps him find his lost dog.
What theme do both share?

- A) Coats and sandwiches are important to share.
- B) Both texts are about children who are cold and hungry.
- C) **Kindness given freely often returns when you least expect it.**
- D) Strangers should not be trusted.

2. Story A: A girl admits she broke the window and her parents forgive her. Poem B: 'Speak the truth though your voice may shake, / Honest words no bond can break.' What do both share?

- A) Only Story A is about honesty because the poem is about shaking.
- B) **Both texts share the theme that honesty builds trust and strengthens relationships.**
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3. How do poems and stories most often convey theme differently?

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4. Poem: 'Though the mountain seemed too tall to climb, / I took one step at a time.' Story: Ana was terrified of her speech, but practiced every night and delivered it perfectly. What theme do both share?

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- C) Speeches and mountains are scary obstacles.
- D) **Believing in yourself gives you the strength to overcome obstacles.**

Part B: Fill in the Blank

Write the correct answer on each line.

1. A poet often conveys theme through figurative language such as metaphor and simile.
2. A story conveys theme through character actions, dialogue, and the resolution of the plot.