

LESSON 2

Poem

Poetry is a form of creative writing. Through poems, writers share their thoughts and ideas about such topics as personal treasures or observations in nature. Poets use words in creative ways to help readers picture what is being described. They also use words in a way that creates a certain feeling or mood. The following poem is a personal narrative poem with three verses.

Night in the City

I journey across the harbor
On a ferry, noisy and slow.
As we skirt the darkened shore,
The skyline seems to grow.

Tall buildings frame the harbor
Like guards keeping watch at night.
The day's business is complete;
City lights are twinkling bright.

All seems quiet and peaceful.
The view is wonderfully pretty.
I'm outside, looking in,
At dark shadows of my city.

business

complete

ferry

frame

harbor

journey

noisy

peaceful

skirt

skyline

twinkling

view

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. Word Building

Use another form of the vocabulary word in parentheses to complete each sentence. You may use a dictionary for help.

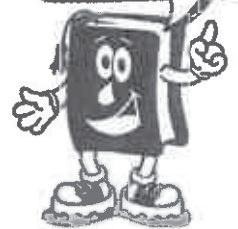
- a. We are _____ the work. (complete)
- b. All I want is some _____ and quiet. (peaceful)
- c. I could hear the speaker when the _____ stopped. (noisy)
- d. Several new _____ have opened in our neighborhood. (business)
- e. Both _____ cross the harbor daily. (ferry)

2. Suffixes

The *-ed* suffix, added to a word, produces the past tense of a verb. Use the *-ed* form of the vocabulary word in parentheses to complete each sentence.

- a. Have you _____ your homework? (complete)
- b. They _____ across the hot, dry desert. (journey)
- c. The scientist _____ the enormous bone. (view)
- d. The stars _____ throughout the night. (twinkling)
- e. The hikers _____ the area of the park. (skirt)

A suffix is a word part that comes after a root word.



3. Word Origin

The word *journey* comes from the Latin word *diurnum*, meaning "day." Long ago, the word *journey* meant "the distance traveled in one day." Today, the word *journey* is used to name travel from one place to another, no matter how long the journey takes. The word *journal* also comes from *diurnum*. What do you think a journal is?

4. Word Meanings

Match each vocabulary word in the first column with its meaning in the second column. Write the number of the correct meaning on the line. Use the glossary at the back of the book for help with the meanings.

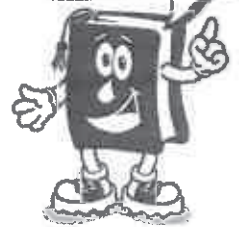
- | | | |
|-------|-------------|--|
| _____ | a. business | 1. an outline of a group of buildings |
| _____ | b. skyline | 2. a rim or border |
| _____ | c. frame | 3. a company or factory |
| _____ | d. harbor | 4. a boat used for carrying people back and forth over water |
| _____ | e. ferry | 5. a port |

5. Figurative Language

Write a vocabulary word to complete each simile. You may use a dictionary for help.

- The children were as _____ as a clanging bell.
- The beach was as _____ as a summer night.
- Her eyes are _____ like the evening stars.
- The swimmers swam as playfully as _____ seals.
- The _____ of the house looked like a wooden skeleton.

A simile uses *like* or *as* to compare two different things.



business

complete

ferry

frame

harbor

journey

noisy

peaceful

skirt

skyline

twinkling

view

6. Word Puzzles

Use vocabulary words to complete the puzzle. Then find the hidden vocabulary word formed by the boxed letters. Write the hidden word in a sentence. Use the glossary at the back of the book for help with the meanings.

a. company

— — — — — — — —

b. an article of clothing

— — — — —

c. a kind of boat

— — — —

d. entire or whole

— — — — — — — —

e. loud

— — — — — —

f. a trip

— — — — — — —

g. a scene

— — — —

Sentence: _____

7. Narrative Writing

On a separate piece of paper, write a personal narrative poem. Select a familiar topic, one that holds a special interest for you and will most likely hold a similar interest for your readers. Your poem may have three or four verses and may include rhyme. In your poem, use vocabulary words in special ways to help readers picture what you are describing. Underline the vocabulary words. (See the model poem on page 6.)