

5.4 The function of an image or imagery

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

Objective

Build the skills to explain **imagery** 意象.

You must be able to:

- state what descriptive words contribute to
- state the two things an image can be
- define imagery as a collection
- explain what a pattern of images does

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Sensory imagery

Descriptive words, such as adjectives and adverbs, contribute to sensory imagery. The senses are the material.

■ Two kinds of image

An image can be literal or it can be a form of a comparison that represents something in a text through associations with the senses. A literal image describes; a figurative one represents.

■ Imagery

A collection of images, known as imagery, may emphasise ideas in parts of or throughout a text. The collection is the unit of analysis, not the single image.

■ Patterns

Three images of cold in one poem are a pattern, and the pattern makes a claim that no single image does. Look for what the images share before asking what each one means.

2 Practice

2.1 State the two things an image can be. [2]

2.2 Define imagery and state what it may do. [2]

2.3 The collection is the unit of analysis.

(a) Explain why. [2]

(b) State what to look for first. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A figurative image [1]

- **A** describes only
- **B** represents through associations with the senses
- **C** rhymes
- **D** counts syllables

3.2 Imagery may emphasise ideas in parts of or [1]

- **A** throughout a text
- **B** other texts
- **C** the title only
- **D** the author's life

3.3 A poem contains four images of enclosure.

(a) State what this constitutes. [1]

(b) Explain what the pattern claims that one image would not.

[2]

4 Go further

- work through the **5.4 The function of an image or imagery** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Poetry II** section of the AP English Literature handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 literal; or a comparison representing something through associations with the senses.

2.2 a collection of images that may emphasise ideas in parts of or throughout a text.

2.3 (a) a pattern of images makes a claim that no single image makes on its own. (b) what the images share.

3.1 B. representation through the senses.

3.2 A. throughout a text.

3.3 (a) imagery —a collection. (b) one image of enclosure could be incidental, while four establish that the poem is about being confined.