

2.7 Developing a paragraph with claim and evidence

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 13 marks**

KEY WORDS poetry paragraph 诗歌段落

Objective

Build the skills to write a **poetry paragraph** 诗歌段落.

You must be able to:

- state what close reading enables
- explain what makes evidence from a poem different
- name the initial components of a paragraph
- avoid quoting without defending

1 Worked examples

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

■ Close reading

Writers **read a text closely to identify details that, in combination, enable them to make and defend a claim about an aspect of the text.** The same standard as 1.7, applied to a poem.

■ Evidence in poetry

A poem’s evidence is small — a word, a break, a comparison — so “in combination” carries more weight here. Two or three details supporting one claim is the shape of a strong paragraph.

■ Two components

The claim and textual evidence that defends the claim. Claim first.

■ Quoting is not defending

A quotation placed after a claim proves nothing until the writer says what in the quotation supports it. The words carrying the weight must be identified.

2 Practice

2.1 State what close reading enables a writer to do. [2]

2.2 Explain why “in combination” matters especially in poetry. [2]

2.3 Quoting is not defending.

(a) State what a writer must add after a quotation. [2]

(b) State the components of the paragraph’s opening. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A poem’s evidence is typically [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A small — a word, a break, a comparison
B a whole chapter
C the poet’s biography
D the publication date

3.2 A quotation supports a claim only when the writer [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A identifies what in it carries the weight
B makes it longer
C puts it first
D omits the claim

3.3 Write a claim about a poem you know and name two details that would defend it.^[4]
