

8.9 Selecting relevant and sufficient evidence

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 12 marks**

Objective

Build the skills to select **evidence in a short poem** 短诗取证.

You must be able to:

- state the conditions for effectiveness and sufficiency
- explain what sufficiency means in a fourteen-line poem
- name the six purposes evidence serves
- avoid the two opposite faults

1 Worked examples

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

■ Conditions

Effective: commentary explains a logical relationship between evidence and claim.

Sufficient: quantity and quality provide apt support for the line of reasoning.

■ In a short poem

There is little text, so sufficiency is nearly always about **quality**: the right three words, closely read, outweigh six loosely gestured at.

■ Six purposes

Illustrate, clarify, exemplify, associate, amplify, or qualify.

■ Two faults

Too little: one quotation carrying an essay's whole claim. **Too much:** quoting most of a short poem, which leaves nothing for the commentary to be about. Both fail sufficiency from opposite directions.

2 Practice

2.1 State the conditions for effectiveness and sufficiency. [2]

2.2 Explain what sufficiency usually means in a short poem. [2]

2.3 There are two opposite faults.

(a) Name them. [2]

(b) State why quoting most of a short poem fails. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 In a short poem, sufficiency is usually about [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** quality
B quantity
C length
D rhyme

3.2 Quoting most of a short poem leaves nothing for [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** the commentary to be about
B the thesis
C the title
D the reader

3.3 An essay on a fourteen-line poem quotes ten of the lines.

(a) State the fault.

[1]

(b) Explain the fix.

[2]
