

Poetry with Leo the Lion

Learning objective: To identify and use poetic devices including personification, alliteration, and rhyming patterns.

Read Leo the Lion's poem about the savanna. Think about how the words create a picture in your mind, then answer the questions below.

The golden sun wakes up the sleeping plain,
It stretches fingers made of morning light.
The grass begins to whisper in the rain,
Chasing away the shadows of the night.

A busy breeze dances through the trees,
It hums a tune that only branches know.
The lions lounge and settle at their ease,
Watching the river's gentle, silver flow.

Word bank: Alliteration · Personification · Rhyme · Stanza · Rhythm · Imagery

1. Find an example of personification in the first stanza. Explain what human action the sun is doing. (2 marks)

2. Identify one example of alliteration in the second stanza. Why might a poet choose to use this technique? (2 marks)

3. What is the rhyming pattern of the poem? (Hint: Look at the last word of each line). (1 mark)

4. How does the poet describe the river? Use a quote from the text. (2 marks)

5. If you were to add a third stanza to Leo's poem, what other animal or plant would you describe? Use one piece of alliteration. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of the 'busy breeze' dancing through the trees based on the imagery in the second stanza.



Extension challenge: Write your own four-line poem about a different habitat, such as the ocean or a forest, using at least one example of personification and one example of alliteration.