

Poetic Patterns with Leo the Lion

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

Read Leo the Lion's poem about his morning walk through the savannah. Answer the questions below to show your understanding of how poets use language to create pictures in the reader's mind.

The sun is a golden coin in the sky,
As I trot through the grass, I hold my head high.
The dew drops dance like diamonds on leaves,
While the whispering wind hums through the trees.

My paws pad softly on paths made of sand,
I am the king of this sun-drenched land.
The breeze is as cool as a splash in a stream,
Life in the wild is a beautiful dream.

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

1. Find an example of alliteration in the first stanza. Explain why a poet might use this technique. (2 marks)

2. Identify the two similes used in the poem. What two things are being compared in each one? (2 marks)

3. Look at the rhyming pattern of the poem. How would you describe the rhyme scheme? (Hint: Look at the last words of each line). (2 marks)

4. How does the poet use 'imagery' to help the reader imagine the setting? Give one specific example from the text. (2 marks)

5. If you were writing a poem about your own morning routine, which descriptive adjective would you choose to describe the weather? Write a sentence using a simile to describe it. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Leo the Lion walking through the savannah. Include the 'golden coin' sun and the 'diamond' dew drops mentioned in the poem.



Extension challenge: Write your own four-line stanza (a quatrain) about a different animal using at least one simile and one example of alliteration.