

Sample Lesson #3

Winter-Time

By Robert Louis Stevenson

Late lies the wintry sun a-bed,
A frosty, fiery sleepy-head;
Blinks but an hour or two; and then,
A blood-red orange, sets again.

Before the stars have left the skies,
At morning in the dark I rise;
And shivering in my nakedness,
By the cold candle, bathe and dress.

Close by the jolly fire I sit
To warm my frozen bones a bit;
Or with a reindeer-sled, explore
The colder countries round the door.

When to go out, my nurse doth wrap
Me in my comforter and cap;
The cold wind burns my face and blows
Its frosty pepper up my nose.

Black are my steps on silver sod;
Thick blows my frosty breath abroad;
And tree and house, and hill and lake,
Are frosted like a wedding-cake.



- L.5.5 1. Personification is a literary device, in which an author gives human features to something non-human.

Late lies the wintry sun a-bed,
A frosty, fiery sleepy-head;

In the lines above, the speaker uses personification to _____.

- A) explain why frost appears on the ground overnight
- B) describe how the sun refuses to come out in winter
- C) show how cold it is overnight during winter
- D) exaggerate the distance of the sun from Earth

- L.5.5.A 2. In the last line of the first stanza, the speaker completes a metaphor.

The metaphor compares the _____ to a _____.

- L.5.5.A 3. In the last two lines of the poem, the speaker uses a simile.

The simile compares the _____
to a _____.

- RL.5.4 4. In the first stanza, what do the words “Blinks but an hour or two...” refer to?

- A) On winter days, the sun comes out for such a short time.
- B) The speaker is winking at the winter weather.
- C) The sun blinks on and off like a traffic light.
- D) The wind is causing a candle to flicker.

- RL.5.1 5. In the time period of the poem, the speaker probably does not have electricity. What evidence supports this?

- A) The speaker’s sled is pulled by a reindeer.
- B) The speaker does not use an electric toothbrush.
- C) The speaker dresses by candlelight.
- D) The speaker is cold in the morning.

- RL.5.4 6. When to go out, my nurse doth wrap me...

In this line, the word *nurse* means _____.

- A) medical person or healer
- B) nanny or caregiver
- C) friend or playmate
- D) parent or grandparent