

Name: _____

Date: _____

Poetry Worksheet

Read the poem below before answering the following questions.

The Owl and the Pussycat



The Owl and the Pussy-Cat went to sea
In a beautiful pea-green boat:
They took some honey,
and plenty of money
Wrapped up in a five-pound note.
The Owl looked up to the stars above,
And sang to a small guitar,
"O lovely Pussy, O Pussy, my love,
What a beautiful Pussy you are,
You are,
You are!
What a beautiful Pussy you are!"

Pussy said to the Owl, "You elegant fowl,
How charmingly sweet you sing!
Oh! Let us be married;
too long we have tarried:
But what shall we do for a ring?"
They sailed away, for a year and a day,
To the land where the bong-tree grows;
And there in a wood a Piggy-wig stood,

With a ring at the end of his nose,
His nose,
His nose,
With a ring at the end of his nose.

"Dear Pig, are you willing to sell for one
shilling
Your ring?" Said the Piggy, "I will."
So they took it away, and were married next
day
By the Turkey who lives on the hill.
They dined on mince and slices of quince,
Which they ate with a runcible spoon;

And hand in hand on the edge of the sand
They danced by the light of the moon,
The moon,
The moon,
They danced by the light of the moon.

-- *Edward Lear*

Questions:

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A. Read to understand

Write a summary of the poem.

B. Literal questions

1. Who wrote this poem?

2. When was the poem written?

3. What is the theme of this poem?

4. Who are the characters in the story?

5. Why do you think the poet wrote this poem?

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6. Why did the owl and cat go in search of a ring?

7. Who sold the owl and the cat the ring?

8. What did the owl and the cat take with them on their journey?

9. What did the owl and the cat eat after they were married?

C. Discuss

1. Why would a farmer place a ring at the end of the nose of a pig?
2. What does a ring in marriage symbolized?

D. Inferential questions

1. Determine the character traits of the animals in the poem?

2. What type of figurative language is most present in this poem? Explain.

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3. What does the following words mean:

a. elegant _____

b. tarried _____

c. shilling _____

d. quince _____

E. Read to appreciate

4. What is a nonsense poem? What qualifies this poem as a nonsense poem?

5. How does this poem appeal to the senses?

6. List the rhyming words from the poem for the following words.

Stanza one rhymes	Stanza two rhymes

7. What is the rhyming scheme for this poem?

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8. Why does the phrase “*runcible spoon*” means?

9. What is the tone of this poem?

F. Visualization Exercise

Choose a character from the story to draw.

