

Grade 3

Unit 3

Assessment Guide: Unit Assessment

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Grade 3

Unit Assessment

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

3.1

Unit 3
Assessment

Reading and Writing

Reading

Read the following poem and answer the questions using complete sentences.

How Do I Know When a Poem Is Finished?

Naomi Shihab Nye

When you quietly close
the door to a room
the room is not finished.

It is resting. Temporarily.
Glad to be without you
for a while.

Now it has time to gather
its balls of gray dust,
to pitch them from corner to corner.

Now it seeps back into itself,
unruffled and proud.
Outlines grow firmer.

When you return,
you might move the stack of books,
freshen the water for the roses.

I think you could keep doing this
forever. But the blue chair looks best
with the red pillow. So you might as well

leave it that way.

Reading Questions

1. Does the poem rhyme or is it free verse?

2. Place a number next to each stanza in the poem. How many stanzas are there?

3. Naomi Shihab Nye's poem uses two different examples of repetition. Circle the examples of repetition in the poem.

4. Why do you think Naomi Shihab Nye used repetition?

5. The poem "How Do I Know When a Poem Is Finished?" includes several different examples of personification. Underline two of them.

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CONTINUED

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6. The poem uses literal and nonliteral language. Write one example of each on the lines below.

Literal language:

Nonliteral language:

7. What does the literal language tell the reader about the room?

8. What does the nonliteral language tell the reader about the room?

9. Reread the title of the poem. How is the poem a metaphor for finishing a poem? Give textual evidence to support your answer.

Reading Score: _____ /total of 22 points

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CONTINUED

**Unit 3
Assessment**

Writing

In this section of the Unit Assessment, you will write an original poem describing a place or something from nature. Make sure your poem includes a title, at least two stanzas, repetition, and personification. When you have completed your poem, complete the checklist below.

Poem Checklist	Check
My poem has a title.	
My poem describes a place or something from nature.	
My poem includes at least two stanzas.	
My poem includes repetition.	
My poem includes personification.	

Writing Score: _____ /total of 5 points

[illegible]

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Answer Key

ASSESSMENT ANSWER KEYS

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3.1 Unit 3
Assessment

Reading and Writing

Reading

Read the following poem and answer the questions using complete sentences.

How Do I Know When a Poem Is Finished?

Naomi Shihab Nye

- When you quietly close
the door to a room
the room is not finished. 1
- It is resting. Temporarily.
Glad to be without you
for a while. 2
- Now it has time to gather
its balls of gray dust,
to pitch them from corner to corner. 3
- Now it seeps back into itself,
unruffled and proud.
Outlines grow firmer. 4
- When you return,
you might move the stack of books,
freshen the water for the roses. 5
- I think you could keep doing this
forever. But the blue chair looks best
with the red pillow. So you might as well
leave it that way. 6
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Reading Questions

- Does the poem rhyme or is it free verse?
free verse
- Place a number next to each stanza in the poem. How many stanzas are there?
seven
- Naomi Shihab Nye's poem uses two different examples of repetition. Circle the examples of repetition in the poem.
- Why do you think Naomi Shihab Nye used repetition?
Answers may vary, but they could include that she uses the repetition of the word
when to show the person going into the room and then returning to the room.
She uses the repetition of the word now to show the shift from literal to
nonliteral language.
- The poem "How Do I Know When a Poem Is Finished?" includes several different examples of personification. Underline two of them.

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6. The poem uses literal and nonliteral language. Write one example of each on the lines below.

Literar language:

When you quietly close / the door to a room / When you return, / you might
move the stack of books, / freshen the water for the roses. / But the blue chair
looks best / with the red pillow. So you might as well / leave it that way.

Nonliteral language:

It is resting. Temporarily. / Now it has time to gather / its balls of gray dust / to
pitch them from corner to corner. / unruffled and proud / you could keep doing
this forever.

7. What does the literal language tell the reader about the room?
Answers may vary, but they could include that when someone closes the door to
the room, they are not finished making it the way they want it to be, so they will
come back into the room and rearrange the books or add water to the roses. Or
they may decide they like the way things look, and leave the room as is.

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- What does the nonliteral language tell the reader about the room?
Answers may vary, but they could include that the room is resting because
someone has been moving things around. The room brings together balls of dust in
all the corners of the room. Things seem to be settled, with no one moving things
around, except the person will come back in and start making changes again.
- Reread the title of the poem. How is the poem a metaphor for finishing a poem? Give textual evidence to support your answer.
Answers may vary, but they could include that when a poet writes a poem, it is
often not finished right away (stanza 1). Leaving the poem alone and not making
changes may let the poet see the poem differently when they return to it, and
they may see changes they want to make (stanzas 2, 3, and 4). When the poet
rereads the poem, they may decide to make some changes (stanza 5). The poet
might realize they could keep making changes, but maybe the original version
was best (stanza 6), so they should just leave it as is (stanza 7).

Reading Score: _____ / total of 22 points

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