

Tone Worksheet 1

Directions: Read each poem and then answer the following questions

Ellis Park

By Helen Hoyt

Little park that I pass through,
I carry off a piece of you
Every morning hurrying down
To my work-day in the town;
Carry you for country there
To make the city ways more fair.
I take your trees,
And your breeze,
Your greenness,
Your cleanness,
Some of your shade, some of your sky,
Some of your calm as I go by;
Your flowers to trim
The pavements grim;
Your space for room in the jostled street
And grass for carpet to my feet.

Your fountains take and sweet bird calls
To sing me from my office walls.
All that I can see
I carry off with me.
But you never miss my theft,
So much treasure you have left.
As I find you, fresh at morning,
So I find you, home returning --
Nothing lacking from your grace.
All your riches wait in place
For me to borrow
On the morrow.

Do you hear this praise of you,
Little park that I pass through?

1. What is this poem about? _____

2. What is the speaker's tone? _____

Explain your answer using textual evidence.

In Trouble and Shame

By D.H. Lawrence

I look at the swaling¹ sunset
And wish I could go also
Through the red doors beyond the black-purple bar.

Then I would turn round
And seeing my cast-off body lying like lumber,
I would laugh with joy.

I wish that I could go
Through the red doors where I could put off
My shame like shoes in the porch
My pain like garments,
And leave my flesh discarded lying
Like luggage of some departed traveller
Gone one knows not where.

1. **swaling**: burning

3. What is this poem about? _____

4. What is the speaker's tone? _____

Explain your answer using textual evidence.

From **Prelude**
By Richard Aldington

How could I love you more?

I try to think of one lovely gift
No lover yet in all the world has found;
I think: If the cold somber¹ gods
Were hot with love as I am
Could they not endow² you with a star
And fix bright youth forever in your limbs?
Could they not give you all things that I lack?

You should have loved a god; I am but dust.
Yet no god loves as loves this poor frail dust.

- 1. **somber**: dark, dreary, joyless
- 2. **endow**: give someone something for free

5. What is this poem about? _____

6. What is the speaker's tone? _____

Explain your answer using textual evidence.

Lone Dog
By Irene Rutherford McLeod

I'm a lean dog, a keen dog, a wild dog, and lone;
I'm a rough dog, a tough dog, hunting on my own;
I'm a bad dog, a mad dog, teasing silly sheep;
I love to sit and bay the moon, to keep fat souls
from sleep.

I'll never be a lap dog, licking dirty feet,
A sleek dog, a meek dog, cringing for my meat,
Not for me the fireside, the well-filled plate,
But shut door, and sharp stone, and cuff and kick,
and hate.

Not for me the other dogs, running by my side,
Some have run a short while, but none of them
would bide¹.
O mine is still the lone trail, the hard trail, the
best,
Wide wind, and wild stars, and hunger of the
quest!

- 1. **bide**: endure, bear, tolerate

7. What is this poem about? _____

8. What is the speaker's tone? _____

Explain your answer using textual evidence.