



Test Passage – Poetry



Title of Selection: My Teacher Likes Vacations Too Teaching Band 3-4

The selection and the Problem/Solution Thinking Guide are provided. The Problem/Solution Thinking Guide identifies the story elements of a poem with a problem/solution plot. These summary elements are used to develop a meaningful summary paragraph.

This product includes:

- ★ The Selection: My Teacher Likes Vacations Too by Alice Schellhorn Magrane
- ★ The Problem/Solution Thinking Guide
- ★ Test Questions
- ★ Answer key with Question and Answer Strategies
- ★ Summary Extension Activity
- ★ Summary Element Matching Activity

This poem selection is intended to assess how students understand, make inferences, and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of poetry. The question and answer strategies demonstrate how students can provide evidence from the text to support their understanding.

With poetry selections, students are required to:

- ★ Summarize the poem
- ★ Describe the characteristics of the various forms of poetry and how those characteristics create imagery (e.g., narrative poetry, lyrical poetry, humorous poetry, free verse)
- ★ Explain how the structural elements of the poem relate to the form of the poem (e.g., lyrical, free verse)



My Teacher Likes Vacations Too

By Alice Schellhorn Magrane
Illustrated by Catherine Garrant

The days were getting warmer;
The trees were getting leaves.
And little Julia thought she heard
Birds singing in the breeze.

5 At breakfast she asked her mother,
"When will school be out?"
And her mother answered smiling,
"You'll hear all the children shout!"

10 The classes seemed so long that June,
They made poor Julia squirm;
She'd gaze out of the window,
And watch a robin catch a worm!

15 Then on a day that was really hot
The teacher told the class,
"We've had a really wonderful year
And tomorrow's day is the last."

20 It was a truly beautiful day,
So there really was no doubt;
That when the final school bell rang,
The children **did** run and shout!

They called to all their friends and pals
And laughed as they ran towards home;
But Julia standing near the classroom door,
Heard her teacher on the phone.

25 "I think my teacher called a friend,
Though I didn't listen more,
I heard her say she couldn't wait
'Til they went down to the shore!"

30 "So, Mom, guess what I found out this year?
With everything we learned to do...
I learned that even teachers,
Love vacations too!"



1 What is the main message in the poem?

- A** It is important to work hard until the school year ends.
 - B** It is difficult for students to focus on school work when the weather is warm.
 - C** Students and teachers view the school year differently.
 - D** Summer vacation can make students and teachers happy.
-

2 Lines 11-12 are included in the poem because they –

- F** give examples of how time seemed to drag on
 - G** list reasons why Julia liked her teacher
 - H** tell why Julia was anxious for the school year to end
 - J** explain why the teacher told the class tomorrow was the last day
-

3 Which word best describes the feeling that the poet creates in this poem?

- A** Confusion
 - B** Surprise
 - C** Anger
 - D** Gratitude
-

4 Which poetic structure is found in the poem?

- F** rhyme
- G** long line length
- H** use of repetition
- J** free verse

5 Lines 29 through 32 are important to the poem because they show that –

- A** Julia dislikes school
 - B** Julia has a problem
 - C** the teacher is strict
 - D** there is a common theme
-

6 What is the speaker doing in this poem?

- F** Attending class
 - G** Teaching the class
 - H** Narrating the story
 - J** Making breakfast
-

7 What is the best summary of the poem?

- A** Julia is ready for summer. She asks her mother when school will be out. Before she knows it, her teacher announces the last day of school is tomorrow.
- B** Julia asks her mother when school would be out. Her mother told her to look for children shouting. On the last day of school, the children did shout, and the teacher was excited too.
- C** Julia is unsure about the end of the school year and learns her teacher looks forward to the last day of school too.
- D** Julia’s teacher announces tomorrow is the last day of school. Julia hears her teacher talking on the phone as the other students rush out shouting with joy about the ending of the school year.



Problem/Solution Thinking Guide
Fiction, Poetry or Drama

Title of the Selection *My Teacher Likes Vacations Too*

By Alice Schellhorn Magrane Illustrated by Catherine Garrant

SOMEONE	Julia
Main Character	
WANTED	to know when school would be out
Goal	
BUT	She didn't know, and her mother only gave her clues.
Problem	
SO	The teacher finally announced the last day of school.
Solution	
THEN	Julia was surprised to learn that teachers like vacations too.
Outcome	

Summary

Julia wanted to know when school would be out, but she didn't know, and her mother only gave her clues. So, her teacher finally announced the last day of school. Then Julia was surprised to learn that teachers like vacations too.

My Teacher Likes Vacations Too

By Alice Schellhorn Magrane
Illustrated by Catherine Garrant

Main

Character

The days were getting warmer;
The trees were getting leaves.
And little Julia thought she heard 4
Birds singing in the breeze.

Goal

5 At breakfast she asked her mother,
"When will school be out?"

Problem

And her mother answered smiling,
"You'll hear all the children shout!"

10 The classes seemed so long that June,
They made poor Julia squirm;
She'd gaze out of the window,
And watch a robin catch a worm! 2

Solution

15 Then on a day that was really hot
The teacher told the class,
"We've had a really wonderful year
And tomorrow's day is the last."

20 It was a truly beautiful day,
So there really was no doubt;
That when the final school bell rang,
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Heard her teacher on the phone.

25 "I think my teacher called a friend,
Though I didn't listen more,
I heard her say she couldn't wait
'Til they went down to the shore!"

30 "So, Mom, guess what I found out this year?
With everything we learned to do...
I learned that even teachers,
Love vacations too!" 1, 3, 5

Outcome

7

Julia wanted to know when school would be out, but she didn't know, and her mother only gave her clues. So her teacher finally announced the last day of school. Then Julia was surprised to learn that teachers like vacations too.



My Teacher Likes Vacations Too

1 What is the main message in the poem?

- A It is important to work hard until the school year ends.
 - B It is difficult for students to focus on school work when the weather is warm.
 - C Students and teachers view the school year differently.
 - D Summer vacation can make students and teachers happy.
-

2 Lines 11-12 are included in the poem because they –

- F give examples of how time seemed to drag on
 - G list reasons why Julia liked her teacher X
 - H tell why Julia was anxious for the school year to end X
 - J explain why the teacher told the class tomorrow was the last day X
-

3 Which word best describes the feeling that the poet creates in this poem?

- A Confusion
 - B Surprise
 - C Anger
 - D Gratitude
-

4 Which poetic structure is found in the poem?

- F rhyme
- G long line length X
- H use of repetition X
- J free verse X

5 Lines 29 through 32 are important to the poem because they show that –

- A** Julia dislikes school
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6 What is the speaker doing in this poem?

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- C** Julia is unsure about the end of the school year and learns her teacher looks forward to the last day of school too.
- D** Julia’s teacher announces tomorrow is the last day of school. Julia hears her teacher talking on the phone as the other students rush out shouting with joy about the ending of the school year.

Basic Summary with Clue Words

Julia wanted to know when school would be out, but she didn't know, and her mother only gave her clues. So her teacher finally announced the last day of school. Then Julia was surprised to learn that teachers like vacations too.

Summarization Activity - Extension Activity

After students use the structure and elements of the plot to generate a basic summary, they can use it to develop a similar version without using the clue words: *someone, wanted, but, so, then*. Give students an opportunity to rewrite their summary without using the summary clue words.

Example

Julia asks her mother when school would be out. Her mother told her to look for children shouting. On the last day of school, the children did shout, and the teacher was excited too!



(Following Page)

Summary Element Matching Activity

Directions: Cut apart and place the summary parts by the correct summary element in the Problem/Solution Thinking Guide. Or, match the summary elements with the correct clue words- Someone, Wanted, But, So, Then. See page 10.

Julia

Someone

to know when school
would be out

Wanted

She didn't know, and her
mother only gave her
clues.

But

The teacher finally
announced the last day of
school.

So

Julia was surprised to
learn that teachers like
vacations too.

Then

Thank you for your interest!
 We work to better connect **teaching** and **testing!**

For more Thinking Guide Activities see other offers below.



<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Fisher-Reyna-Education-TpT-Year-Membership-Reading-and-Writing>

The Ant and the Grasshopper by Aesop

- 1 One bright summer day a grasshopper was hopping about. He chirped and he sang. He was in a very playful mood. Just then an ant passed by pulling on an ear of corn. He worked hard to carry a huge cob to his nest. The ant and grasshopper were friends.
 "Come and play with me awhile," said the grasshopper. "You do not need to work so hard. It is a beautiful summer day. Come on. Let's have some fun!"
- 2 "I am laying up food for the winter," said the ant. "I think you should do the same my friend. Stop avoiding necessary work."
- 3 "Oh, why bother about winter?" asked the grasshopper. "I have plenty of food to eat right now. I just want to enjoy this beautiful summer day! Come on. Let's have a little fun!"
- 4 Not stopping to listen, the ant continued with his work. When the winter came, the grasshopper had no food to eat. As he sat suffering from hunger, he saw the ants sharing the corn and grain they had stored during the summer. The grasshopper had learned a very important lesson, but he had learned it too late.



Summary:
 _____ wanted _____,
 but _____ (someone) _____.
 So, _____.
 Then _____.

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Test-Passage-activities-Fable-The-Ant-and-the-Grasshopper>



Action Shots!

Teaching and Testing can be engaging, meaningful, and fun!

