

Voices of Water

The water in the rain says *tick tick tack*

The water in the sleet says *slush*

The water in the ice says *crick crick crack*

The water in the snow says *hush*

The water in the sink says *slosh slosh*

The water in the tap says *drip*

The water in the bath says *wash wash*

The water in the cup says *sip*

The water in the pool says *splish splash*

The water in the stream says *trill*

The water in the sea says *crish crash*

The water in the pond stays still.

The water in the soil says *sow, sow*

The water in the cloud says *give*

The water in the plants says *grow, grow*

The water in the world says *live*

Tony Mitton

All 3 poems this week have been taken from *I am the seed that grew the tree: a nature poem for every day of the year* which is published by Nosy Crow.

Voices of Water Questions

1. Write a pair of rhyming words from stanza one. (1 mark)

2. Why do you think the water in the snow says *hush*? (2 marks)

3. Complete this sentence:

In stanza two, the poet writes about types of water that you find in _____ (1 mark)

4. Write an example of words in the poem that are repeated. (1 mark)

5. Write the only word in this poem which is longer than one syllable (1 mark)

6. Most lines end with words in italics (letters which slope to the right *like this*).

a) Which line does not end with italics and has the only full stop in the poem? (1 mark)

b) Why do you think this is? (1 mark)

7. There are two main dictionary definitions of 'sow'.

a) Which one is correct for this poem? Circle the correct answer (1 mark)

to scatter or place something in the ground

a female pig

b) How do you know you are correct? Use evidence from the text in your answer (1 mark)

8. This poem uses lots of onomatopoeia (words that sound like the noise they refer to).

Which is your favourite onomatopoeia in this poem and why? Support your answer with an example. (2 marks)

9. This poem explores water in many forms. Can you list any other forms of water that could make a fifth stanza? What might they say? (2 marks)

Voices of Water Answers

1. Write a pair of rhyming words from stanza one. (1 mark)

A pair from: tick and crick/tack and crack/slush and hush

2. Why do you think the water in the snow says *hush*? (2 marks)

One mark for linking 'hush' to a synonym like 'quiet' or 'silent' and a second for an example of how the snow might move/be moved.

e.g. When snow falls, the snowflakes don't make a sound or If you walk through snow you can't hear footsteps.

3. Complete this sentence:

a house/a building/indoors/the bathroom (1 mark)

4. Write an example of words in the poem that are repeated. (1 mark)

Any of the odd-numbered lines (except lines 9 and 11)/the/water/in

5. Write the only word in this poem which is longer than one syllable (1 mark)

water

6. Most lines end with words in italics (letters which slope to the right *like this*).

a) **Line 12/The water in the pond...stays still.** (1 mark)

b) Why do you think this is? (1 mark)

Answer should refer to the full stop stopping the flow of the poem like the still water or the upright letters look more still/less flowing than the italicised letters.

7. There are two main dictionary definitions of 'sow'.

a) Which one is correct for this poem? Circle the correct answer (1 mark)

to scatter or place something in the ground

b) How do you know you are correct? Use evidence from the text in your answer (1 mark)

Answer should include the word soil from the poem

8. Which is your favourite onomatopoeia in this poem and why? Support your answer with an example. (2 marks)

Answers can be any of the following, followed by a personal reason:

tick/tack/slush/crick/crack/hush/slosh/drip/splish/splash/trill/criss/crash

e.g. I like the word splish because it sounds like a lighter version of splash and I haven't heard it before.

9. This poem explores water in many forms. Can you list any other forms of water that could make a fifth stanza? What might they say? (2 marks)

Answers will vary but might include:

- **water in the drain**
- **water in the kettle**
- **water in the pipes**
- **water on the window**

Two marks for 2 forms of water or for one form of water and a sound.

e.g. the water in the pipes says *gurgle gurgle*