**Released STAAR Poetry Question Stems**

**From 2011 Released Sample Passages and Questions/All Grades:**

* The poet mentions the speaker’s [some object] at the beginning of the poem to convey—
* The italicized section of the poem serves to—
* What do lines \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_ tell the reader?
* Which line indicates that the speaker \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Which statement best describes the contrast between the speaker’s experiences in the two settings of the poem?
* What does the [event or object in the poem] reveal to the reader?
* The poet helps the reader understand how it felt to [setting in the poem] mainly by—
* The poet places the words [line from the poem in quotations] on a line by themselves most likely because the words—
* The repetition of the line [line or phrase from the poem in quotations] on a line by themselves most likely because the words—
* The repetition of the line [line or phrase from the poem in quotations] suggests that the speaker—
* At the end of the poem, the speaker expresses a feeling of –
* Because the poem is written from the speaker’s point of view, the reader is better able to understand—
* Read lines \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ from the poem.

The poet uses personification/hyperbole/metaphor/etc. in these lines to show that—

Place the lines from the poem in a box like this one.

* Which line best communicates the speaker’s feelings of regret/sadness/elation/ or some other emotion?
* Why is the multiple meaning of the word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in line \_\_\_\_\_\_ important to the poem?
* The [photograph/map/chart] reinforces the poem’s [tone/mood/setting/conflict/ theme] of—
* In line \_\_\_\_\_\_, the sentence [quote from the poem] suggests the poem explores the theme of—
* The poem’s setting is significant because it helps contrast—
* The [tone/mood/theme] of this poem can best be described as—
* How are the [object in the poem] and the speaker similar?
* Which line from the poem best expresses the speaker’s sense of [emotion or feeling]?
* The metaphor in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stanza is used to emphasize that the—
* The poet uses a simile in lines \_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_ to reveal that the speaker—
* Dividing the poem into [number of stanzas] stanzas allows the poem to—
* The [object in the poem] is important to the poem because it represents—
* The poet likely intends for the [lines in the poem] to express the speaker’s—
* Which lines from the poem reflect a lesson that the speaker learns?
* In the poem, the speaker’s mood changes from—
* In stanza \_\_\_\_\_\_, the poet’s use of a metaphor suggests that—
* Read these lines from the poem.

These lines highlight the speaker’s [feeling or emotion] because they show that—

Place the lines from the poem in a box like this one.

* Based on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stanza, the reader can conclude that the speaker—

**8th Grade Paired Passages with Poem:**

* Both the author of the [letter, article, story, play, etc.] and the speaker in the poem would most likely consider a blank page to be a—
* Read lines \_\_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_\_ from the poem.

Place the lines from the poem in a box like this one.

Which sentences from the[letter, article, story, play, etc.] express the same ideas as these lines from the poem?

* How does the author’s purpose for writing [title of the letter, article, story, etc.] differ from the poet’s purpose in [title of the poem]?
* Read these excerpts from the [letter, article, story, play, etc.] and the poem.

Place the lines from the poem in a box like this one.

Based on these excerpts, the reader can conclude that both the author and the poet share a similar belief that—

* What is the difference between the author of the [letter, article, story, play, etc.] and the speaker of the poem?