



English Virtual Learning

English IV

May 21, 2020



Lesson: May 21, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

- I can analyze poems by identifying a variety of figurative language and sound devices in both.
- I can practice poetry writing skills such as rhythm, rhyming, and descriptive vocabulary.
- I can explain my thinking in a well-organized and developed written response and include textual evidence.



Bell Ringer:

On a sheet of paper or Google Document that you will be using to take notes and write for the remainder of this lesson, respond to the the following quote:

“If you love someone you’ve got to let them go.”

What does this quote mean to you? How may it apply to your life? Have you had to let someone go? Could letting go be positive?



Poetry Lesson

The purpose of this lesson is to encourage you to reflect on your high school experiences and ponder your future as you say goodbye to friends, teachers, and parents and moving on while thinking about the changes you are about to face and how to make good choices.

You will be asked to engage thoughtfully with the text using figurative language techniques and critical thinking skills.

If you need to review figurative language, click on this link:

[30 Literary Devices You Should Know](#)

Walking Away by C Day-Lewis

Day-Lewis's poem is almost like a letter to his son expressing the melancholy bitter sweetness of having raised him to fly but feeling the sadness of seeing him go.

The purpose of this lesson is for you to recognize how difficult this time of graduating and moving on might be for the people in your life who have either raised you or come to depend on you, such as parents, siblings, grandparents or whomever you spent the last 18 years calling family.

Words to Define:

Write the definitions to the following words. You may use [dictionary.com](https://www.dictionary.com).

1. Pathos
2. fledged
3. irresolute
4. Eddying
5. Gait

Words to Define Answer Key:

1. Pathos- emotion
2. Fledge – to take care of young bird with feathers
3. Irresolute- unsure
4. Eddying -(of water, air, or smoke) move in a circular way:
5. Gait - a person's manner of walking

Learn:

- Read the poem below, take notes over the basics such as figurative language, setting, etc.
- Watch the video; this time take notes over the tone and any connections you make with the poem.

→ Read: [Walking Away by C Day-Lewis](#)

→ Watch: [Walking Away by Cecil Day-Lewis](#)

Poetry Practice:

Answer the following questions using evidence from the poem with complete sentences.

1. By reflecting on his feelings in this moment, what truth does the speaker discover?
2. Reconsider the last line. Reflecting on his feelings in that moment helps the father discover a truth. Does this truth just apply to father and son relationships? Is that epiphany he has also just linked to this moment? Can you provide a personal example?
3. What strong figurative language does the speaker use? How do these choices add to the imagery and mood of the poem? Pay particularly close attention to the metaphors.
4. What is the significance of the point of view being told from the parent's point of view rather than the child's?
5. The speaker repeats the phrase "walking away" twice. Describe how it means something different each time.

Poetry Practice Answer Key: (Answers will vary)

1. He is going to have to let his son go in order for him to find happiness.
2. It could, though, apply in many situations. If you love someone, you must let them go in order for them to make it in the real world. They have learned everything they could and they must now put it all to the test. The person letting go shows love by letting the ones they held do what they want to do.
3. Several metaphors, like the one with the bird to paint the picture of the innocence of a child cared for by its parent. Also there's the plant metaphor again, likening the parent/child relationship to one that the parent cared for the child and nurtured it as it grew. The mood, then, is melancholy.
4. Children are often thrilled to grow up and move, but this shows the parents are bittersweet about the experience.
5. In the first stanza it is a physical walking away. In the last stanza it is

Poetry Practice Constructed Response:

Use the information from your notes (refer back to the text and re-watch the video if needed) to answer the following prompt on your notebook paper:

- **Retell or paraphrase the poem in your own words.**

Practice Answer Key:

(Answers will Vary)

- Check your answer to make sure it meets the following criteria:
 - Did you write in complete sentences and use standard conventions (spelling, punctuation, grammar)?
 - Did you support and explain your answer using details from the source text?

Sample Proficient Answer:

In the poem, "Walking Away," the speaker narrates an event that took place eighteen years ago. He describes how he has watched his son play his first game of football and then walk away. At that moment he realized that his son is no longer dependent on him. As he observed his son, he was reminded of a young, immature son that was compelled to leave his father's care before his time. This is not the worst parting the father experienced; however, this parting had persisted in his memory for many years. The speaker had learned that the true parental love and care for a child is not holding a child, but rather letting the child go. Similarly, knowing yourself truly begins when the child is capable of parting with its parental care.

Your Turn:

Complete this activity in your notes or Google Document:

Day-Lewis's poem is almost like a letter to his son expressing the melancholy bitter sweetness of having raised him to fly but feeling the sadness of seeing him go. Find a significant moment from the poem that relates to your relationship with your parent/guardian – one that resonates with you. Put yourself in your parent's/guardian's shoes for just a moment. What would they say, think, or feel as they watch you walk away to fulfill your dreams and achieve your goals this year? Now, write a poem or letter to them. Consider the following starters: "I know watching me walk away is hard..." "As I walk away I remember..." "As I walk away I want you to remember..." Or come up with your own approach. The idea is that you will eventually give this letter to your parents or guardians to perhaps ease the pain of saying goodbye. While it is certainly hard for you to find that "selfhood," it is equally, if not more, difficult for your parents/guardians to let you go.

Poetry Reflection:

Watch this music video from Kenny Chesney, “There Goes My Life.”

In your notes or Google Document answer the following questions:

The title has a double meaning once you listen to the entire song. What are both meanings?

How does this song use [irony](#)?

What lesson did this video resonate with you about life and letting go?



Inspirational song about moving on...

