Comparing Literary Structure and Style

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 10

Quick Review

Structure is part of meaning. Compare how the order, pacing, and form of two texts shape what readers notice and feel.

PART 1 — READ

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

Two Ways to Tell the Storm

Text 1: In the story version, the storm arrives slowly. First, the fishing boats turn toward shore. Then gulls flatten themselves against the wind, and shopkeepers carry signs indoors. By the time the first hard rain strikes the pier, Liana has already decided to search for her brother's missing radio.

Text 2: In the poem version, the storm speaks in fragments: Net. Nail. Tin roof. Bell. The lines are short, and each image lands like a separate drop. Liana is mentioned only once, near the end, running toward the pier with the radio strap across her shoulder.

Both versions tell the same event, but they make the reader wait in different ways. The story builds a chain of causes; the poem creates pressure through compressed images.

In both versions, Liana is brave. Yet the story explains her choice, while the poem makes the choice feel sudden and almost wordless.

PART 2 — PRACTICE

Use the passage to answer each question. Choose the best answer and support short responses with evidence.

1. Which sentence from the passage BEST supports the inference that The story version emphasizes cause and preparation more than the poem version does.?

A. Liana is brave.

B. The story builds a chain of causes; the poem creates pressure through compressed images.

C. The storm arrives slowly.

D. The poem version mentions Liana once.

2. Which statement BEST expresses the central idea or theme of the passage?

A. Different structures can make the same event feel reasoned, sudden, suspenseful, or intense.

B. Poems cannot tell complete stories.

C. Stories are always clearer than poems.

D. Storms should be described with long sentences.

3. What does the word 'compressed' most nearly mean as it is used in the passage?

   A. careless

   B. cheerful

   C. packed tightly into a small space

   D. scientific

4. How does the structure or key detail identified in the passage contribute to meaning?

   A. They slow the action by explaining every cause.

   B. They remove all sensory detail from the event.

   C. They make Liana less important than the setting.

   D. The short poem lines make the storm feel immediate because each image arrives separately and quickly.

5. Which conclusion is BEST supported by the whole passage?

   A. A reader would learn different endings in the two versions.

   B. A reader would likely understand Liana's reasons better in the story but feel the storm's force more sharply in the poem.

   C. A reader would know that Liana is not brave in the poem.

   D. A reader would see the poem has no setting.

6. Which choice is the BEST objective summary of the passage?

   A. The passage compares a story and poem about the same storm, showing how the story develops causes while the poem uses brief images to create intensity.

   B. The passage argues that writers should avoid poems about dangerous weather.

   C. The passage retells a complete adventure about a missing brother.

   D. The passage explains how to repair a fishing radio during a storm.

7. Which answer should be rejected because it goes beyond what the passage supports?

   A. Different structures can make the same event feel reasoned, sudden, suspenseful, or intense.

   B. A reader would likely understand Liana's reasons better in the story but feel the storm's force more sharply in the poem.

   C. Poems cannot tell complete stories.

   D. The short poem lines make the storm feel immediate because each image arrives separately and quickly.

8. Which detail would be MOST useful to quote in a written response about the passage?

   A. Liana is brave.

   B. The storm arrives slowly.

   C. The poem version mentions Liana once.

   D. The story builds a chain of causes; the poem creates pressure through compressed images.

9. In 2-3 sentences, explain how one quoted detail supports the idea that The story version emphasizes cause and preparation more than the poem version does..

_____

_____

10. Write a one-sentence analysis of the passage's message or main idea. Then name one detail that supports it.

_____

_____

Answer Keys

1	A	**B**	C	D	6	**A**	B	C	D
2	**A**	B	C	D	7	A	B	**C**	D
3	A	B	**C**	D	8	A	B	C	**D**
4	A	B	C	**D**	9	See below			
5	A	**B**	C	D	10	See below			

Explanations

1. B	The correct evidence directly proves the stated inference rather than merely mentioning the same topic.
2. A	The correct answer covers the whole passage, while the distractors are too narrow, too extreme, or unsupported.
3. C	The context around the word points to this meaning in this passage.
4. D	The correct answer explains the role the detail plays in the development of the text.
5. B	The correct conclusion follows from multiple details, not from a single isolated word.
6. A	A strong summary includes the main conflict or idea and the outcome without personal opinion.
7. C	This choice overstates or invents an idea that the passage does not prove.
8. D	This detail is specific enough to support analysis in a written response.
9.	**Answer:** A strong response quotes or closely paraphrases: The story builds a chain of causes; the poem creates pressure through compressed images. Then it explains how that detail proves the inference instead of only repeating it. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.
10.	**Answer:** A strong response states: Different structures can make the same event feel reasoned, sudden, suspenseful, or intense. It supports the statement with a precise detail such as: The story builds a chain of causes; the poem creates pressure through compressed images. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.

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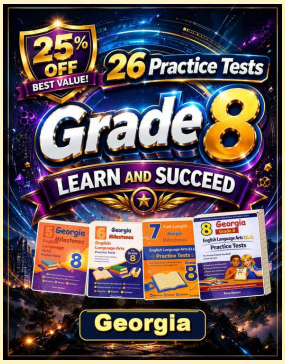

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