Apply It

Read the poem. Identify what type of poem it is by its characteristics. Answer the questions that follow.
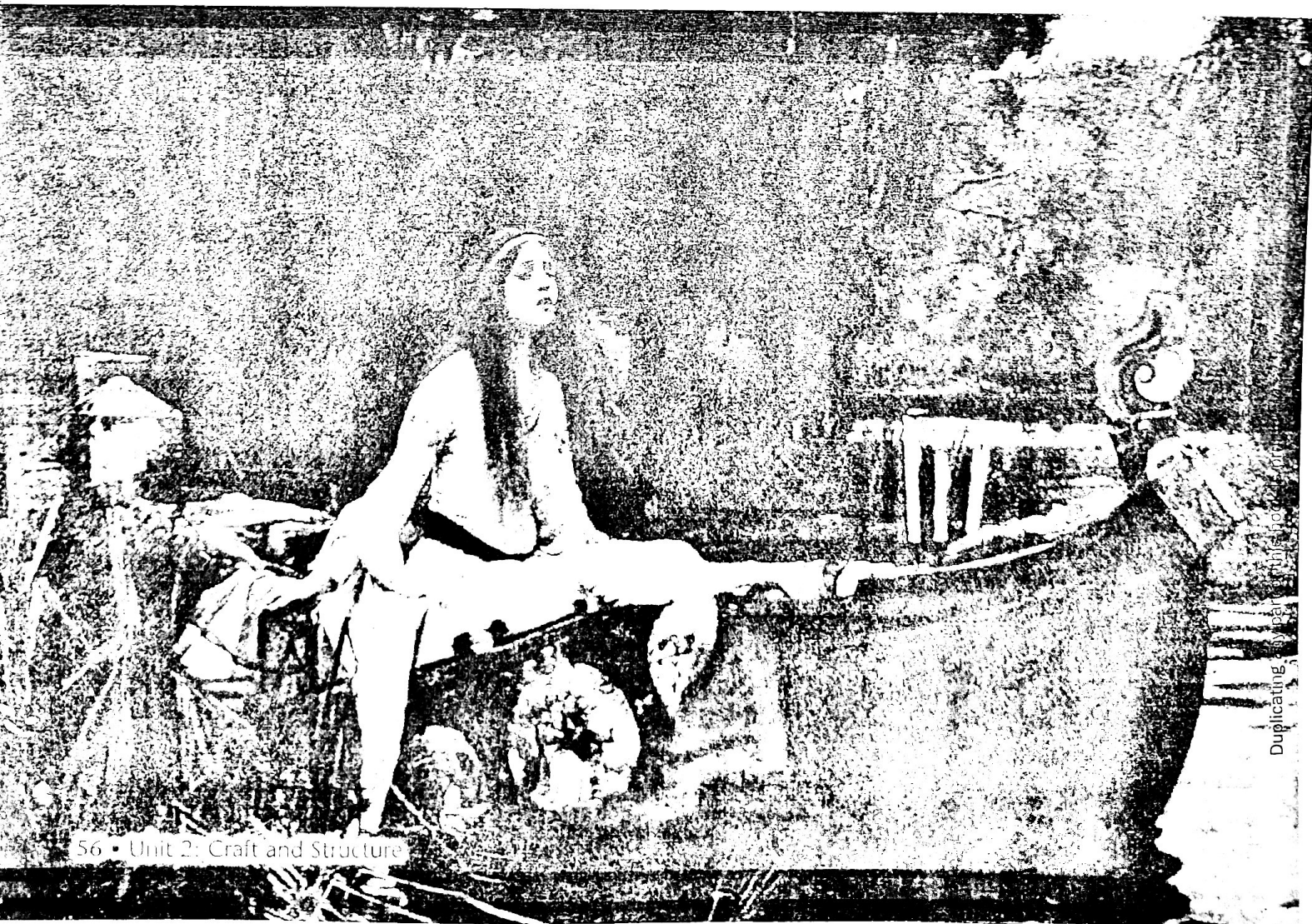
excerpted and adapted from

The Lady of Shalott
by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

On either side the river lie
Long fields of barley and of rye,
That clothe the world and meet the sky;
And through the field the road runs by
5   To many-towered Camelot;
And up and down the people go,
Gazing where the lilies blow
Round an island there below,
The island of Shalott.

10   Only reapers, reaping early
In among the bearded barley,
Hear a song that echoes cheerly
From the river winding clearly,
Down to towered Camelot:
15   And by the moon the reaper weary,
Piling sheaves in uplands airy,
Listening, whispers "'Tis the fairy
Lady of Shalott."

There she weaves by night and day
20   A magic web with colors gay.
She has heard a whisper say,
A curse is on her if she stay
To look down to Camelot.
She knows not what the curse may be,
25   And so she weaves it steadily,
And little other care hath she,
The Lady of Shalott.

A bow-shot from her bower-eaves,
He rode between the barley-sheaves,
30   The sun came dazzling through the leaves,
And flamed upon the brazen greaves
Of bold Sir Lancelot.
A red-cross knight for ever kneeled
To a lady in his shield,
35   That sparkled on the yellow field,
Beside remote Shalott.

She left the web, she left the loom,
She made three paces through the room,
She saw the water-lily bloom,
40   She saw the helmet and the plume,
She looked down to Camelot.
Out flew the web and floated wide;
The mirror cracked from side to side;
"The curse is come upon me," cried
45   The Lady of Shalott.

Answer these questions about "The Lady of Shalott." Write your answers in complete sentences.

1. How is the poem similar to a story?

_____

_____

_____

2. What do the first two stanzas of the poem describe?

_____

3. Who are the characters in the poem?

_____

_____

4. What is the rhyming pattern in the poem?

_____

_____

5. What kind of poem is "The Lady of Shalott"? How do you know?

_____

_____

_____

_____