

LESSON

18

RETEACHING WORKSHEET

Speaker

COPYMASTER

Review The speaker in a poem is the voice speaking to the reader. The speaker's attitude toward the subject affects the tone of the poem. It also reveals character.

A. Directions: Read each poem. Identify the speaker. Write who or what you think the "I" in the poem is. Then, describe the speaker based on the evidence in the poem.

My army marches, food in hand
back to the colony
As always, beware the giant's foot
The evil *stomp!* that fills our hearts with dread
5 though I toil hard all day, at night I dream:
of life in a serene and giant-free land.

1. Identify speaker: _____

Describe speaker: _____

"You can't stop me!"
The yell echoes through the empty house
I sigh and go back to my cooking
thinking of ancient snuggles and milk-scented baby skin
5 my mother's words surfacing through the din:
"They'll break your heart! They'll break your heart!"

2. Identify speaker: _____

Describe speaker: _____

B. Directions: Write a 6-line poem in which the speaker is an animal in a zoo.

3. _____

35**Dialogue and Dialect**

Review **Dialogue** is written conversation between two or more characters. It can help bring characters to life and move the plot forward. **Dialect** is language spoken in a certain place or by a certain group of people. It often features unique pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar.

Directions: First, read the passages below. Compare the two ways of telling the story. Then, answer the questions.

“Well, sir, if that ain't th' derndest thing. I never thought Fred Collins had the blood in him for that kind of business.”

“What's he goin' to do, anyhow?”

“He's goin' to that well there after water.”

“We ain't dyin' of thirst, are we? That's foolishness.”

“Well, somebody put him up to it an' he's doin' it.”

—Stephen Crane, “A Mystery of Heroism.”

The first man said he never would have thought that Fred Collins had the courage to do that sort of thing. The second man asked what Collins was doing anyway. The first man answered that he was going to get water. The second man responded that it was a foolish thing to do. The first man said that somebody put him up to it and so he was doing it.

1. Which line in the first passage tells you what Collins is doing? Underline it.
 2. Which line in the second passage tells you what Collins is doing? Underline that sentence.
 3. In the second passage, underline the passage that tells what the first speaker thinks about Fred Collins.
 4. Which section of dialogue in the first passage says the same thing? Circle it.
 5. How does the dialogue and dialect in the circled passage contribute to your knowledge of the person speaking?
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6. Which passage do you like better? Tell why on the back of this sheet.