

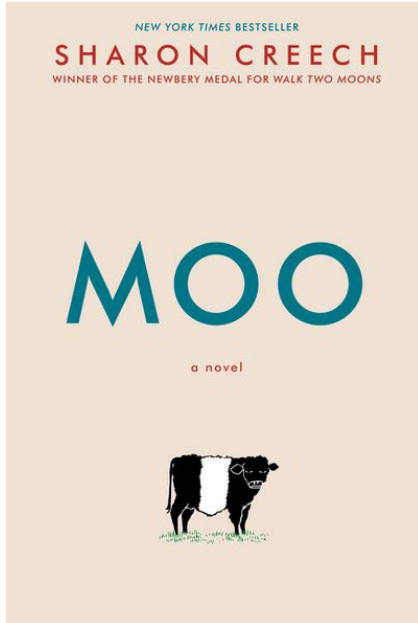


The Book Planter



Ag in the Classroom

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September Chapter Book 2024

Moo

Written by: Sharon Creech

When Reena, her little brother, Luke, and their parents first move to Maine, Reena doesn't know what to expect. She's ready for beaches, blueberries, and all the lobster she can eat. Instead, her parents "volunteer" Reena and Luke to work for an eccentric neighbor named Mrs. Falala, who has a pig named Paulie, a cat named China, a snake named Edna—and that stubborn cow, Zora.

This heartwarming story, told in a blend of poetry and prose, reveals the bonds that emerge when we let others into our lives.

Discussion Questions:¹

1. How do Reena's friends react to the news that she is moving to Maine? What is Reena's response to her friends?
2. How does Luke's drawing help him communicate? How do his drawings express his emotions?
3. Why does the author use the spacing and shape of the letters in a word? Find an example to share with the class.
4. What character traits does Mrs. Falala exhibit that make her seem mean? How does Mrs. Falala's past continue to affect her future?
5. Why do Reena and Luke's parents volunteer them to help Mrs. Falala? What are Reena's and Luke's reactions to their parents' idea?
6. How does Reena react to Zora when she begins to work with her? How and why does her relationship with Zora change?
7. Zora is a Beltie cow. What is unique about Beltie cows and special about Zora's bloodlines?
8. What is Luke's reaction when he learns that the meat he eats comes from animals like Zora and Paulie? How does Mrs. Falala reassure him?
9. What role does Zep play in helping Reena understand Zora? How does Zep's cow, Yolanda, help Zora?
10. How does Reena's experience at the fair help build her confidence? How do her parents react to all that she has accomplished?
11. Why is it ironic that Mrs. Falala is found in her "remembering room"? What is Luke's reaction to Mrs. Falala's drawings?

12. What does Reena suggest to Mr. Colley that helps her family, Mr. Colley, and Mrs. Falala's animals?

Poetic Elements – Question Sheet attached.

Moo Project Board – Attached.

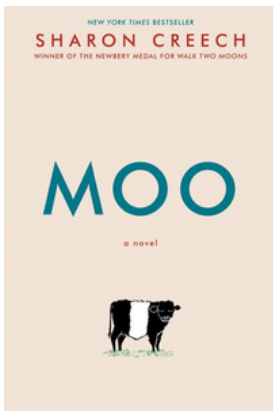
Sources

1. <https://www.sharoncreech.com/assets/TG-9780062570741.pdf>

3-5 Subject Areas: English Language Arts

English Language Arts

- RL.3.1 Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
- RL.3.2 Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.
- RL.3.4 Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area.
- RL.3.5 Use text features and search tools to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently.
- RL.4.1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- RL.4.2 Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.
- RL.4.3 Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.
- RL.4.4 Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area.
- RL.4.5 Describe the overall structure of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text.
- RL.4.7 Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.
- RL.5.1 Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- RL.5.4 Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 5 topic or subject area.



Name: _____

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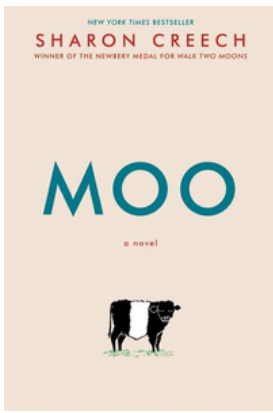
Poetic Elements

Answer the following questions about the poetic elements found in the book **Moo**.

1. Read the following line from the book "zzzooooooooommmmming" What type of figurative language is this?
 - a. Simile
 - b. Hyperbole
 - c. Onomatopoeia
 - d. Alliteration
2. Read the following line from the book "a n y b o d y." The extra space in this word creates a sense of what?
 - a. feeling rushed
 - b. happiness
 - c. mystery
 - d. slowing down
3. Read the following line from the book "*I don't think Zora likes us.*" The author uses italics in the story to represent what?
 - a. characters talking
 - b. the character is confused
 - c. characters' thoughts
 - d. characters having fun
4. Read the following line from the book "Gonna ride, ride, gonna fly, fly, gonna zip, zip." What type of figurative language is this?
 - a. Idiom
 - b. Repetition
 - c. Line break
 - d. Metaphor
5. Read the following line from the book "BIT" "SCRAAAAAAAAAATCHED." The author uses capital letters in the story to:
 - a. create suspense
 - b. show a character speaking
 - c. show rhyming
 - d. emphasize the word
6. Read the following line from the book "a boat-bobbing sea salty harbor town." What type of figurative language is this?
 - a. Onomatopoeia
 - b. Repetition
 - c. Alliteration
 - d. Imagery



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Poetic Elements

ANSWER KEY

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- a. Simile
- b. Hyperbole
- c. **Onomatopoeia**
- d. Alliteration

2. Read the following line from the book “a n y b o d y.” The extra space in this word creates a sense of what?

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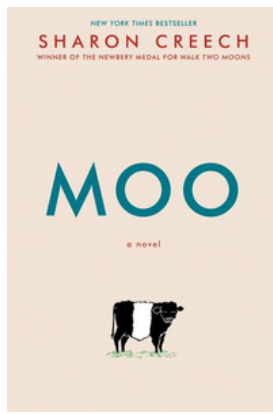
- a. create suspense
- b. show a character speaking
- c. show rhyming
- d. **emphasize the word**

6. Read the following line from the book “a boat-bobbing sea salty harbor town.” What type of figurative language is this?

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- b. Repetition
- c. **Alliteration**
- d. **Imagery**



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Moo by Sharon Creech Project Board

<p>Create a new book jacket for <i>Moo</i>. Don't forget the summary on the back!</p>	<p>Sharon Creech uses many poetic elements in her writing. Write a poem using different poetic elements.</p>	<p>What if Reena and her family moved to North Carolina? How would the descriptions be different throughout the book? Create a brochure about NC. Include attractions, major cities, and activities.</p>
<p>Mrs. Falala passes away suddenly. Pretend you are Reena and write Mrs. Falala a thank you letter.</p>	<p>Create a game based on the book. Be sure to have a game board, game pieces, cards, dice, etc.</p>	<p>Draw a picture of the setting of the story. Include details and descriptions of the setting.</p>
<p>Create a 10 question quiz with an answer key.</p>	<p>Create a Venn Diagram comparing New York City to Maine. Then write a paragraph explaining where you would want to live and why.</p>	<p>Select a situation in the book and create a comic strip. Include characters, setting, dialogue, and thought bubbles.</p>

