

Hello, all,

In my absence on Monday, please complete The Caterpillar (see below) passage and questions for a CLASSWORK grade. I uploaded the questions on Google Forms, so don't forget to put in your answers!

Google Forms link: <https://forms.gle/mbwkgWXfge6ijvUSA>

See you Tuesday!

Ms. Rosales :)

BACKGROUND

Robert Graves (1895–1985) was a British poet and novelist. The son of an Irish poet, Graves started writing poetry as a teenager. At 19, he enlisted as an officer in World War I. He became known as a “war poet” for his realistic poetry about the war. Graves published 55 collections of poetry. “The Caterpillar” is one of his early poems.



SETTING A PURPOSE

Consider why the poet chose to write about a caterpillar. What might Graves have learned by seeing the world through the eyes of this particular creature?

Under this loop of honeysuckle,
A creeping, coloured caterpillar,
I gnaw the fresh green hawthorn spray,
I nibble it leaf by leaf away.

5 Down beneath grow dandelions,
Daisies, old-man’s-looking-glasses;
Rooks flap croaking across the lane.
I eat and swallow and eat again.

Here come raindrops helter-skelter;
10 I munch and nibble unregarding:
Hawthorn leaves are juicy and firm.
I’ll mind my business: I’m a good worm.

3 hawthorn spray: a small branch of a hawthorn tree.

7 rook: large, black bird in the crow family.

NOTICE & NOTE



When I’m old, tired, melancholy,
I’ll build a leaf-green mausoleum
15 Close by, here on this lovely spray,
And die and dream the ages away.

Some say worms win resurrection,
With white wings beating flutter-flutter,
But wings or a sound sleep, why should I care?
20 Either way I’ll miss my share.

Under this loop of honeysuckle,
A hungry, hairy caterpillar,
I crawl on my high and swinging seat,
And eat, eat, eat — as one ought to eat.

13 melancholy: sad; pensive.

14 mausoleum: a building that holds tombs for the dead.

17 resurrection: the condition of being restored to life.

1 The poet's use of sensory language in line 7 is intended to help the reader —

- A imagine the sound made by a rook's wings
 - B visualize how a rook crosses a lane
 - C understand what a rook does to move
 - D see a rook near the dandelions
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2 Which statement describes the use of meter and line breaks in the poem?

- F They change as the caterpillar mentions its transformation.
 - G They change as the caterpillar becomes more excited throughout the poem.
 - H They match the caterpillar's steady actions and tone.
 - J They accentuate the dramatic effects and climax of the poem.
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3 Which word does the poet use to describe what a caterpillar covers itself with as it transforms into a butterfly?

- A Hawthorn
 - B Honeysuckle
 - C Melancholy
 - D Mausoleum
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4 What does the caterpillar mean at the end of line 12? Explain why the caterpillar considers itself to be "good."

5 What can you infer about the caterpillar from the fifth stanza of the poem?

- A The caterpillar is excited about the future.
 - B The caterpillar does not think about the future.
 - C The caterpillar is afraid of the future.
 - D The caterpillar does not think it will become a butterfly in the future.
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6 From the speaker's experience, the reader can learn that —

- F many types of creatures hide under leaves
 - G caterpillars focus on eating leaves to grow
 - H older animals are too tired and sad to eat
 - J an animal's surroundings affect its eating habits
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7 For which **two** reasons does the author use imagery and figurative language throughout the poem?

- A To provide facts about a caterpillar's diet
 - B To share events from the life of a caterpillar
 - C To explain how a caterpillar moves on the ground
 - D To describe surroundings from a caterpillar's perspective
 - E To compare and contrast a caterpillar and worm
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8 Create a summary of "The Caterpillar." Label the events in the order in which they happened. The first event will be labeled 1, and the last will be labeled 5.

- ___ The caterpillar dreams about becoming a butterfly.
- ___ The caterpillar sits under honeysuckle and eats.
- ___ The caterpillar sees and hears birds flying.
- ___ The caterpillar starts to feel rain as it eats.
- ___ The caterpillar continues to sit under honeysuckle and eat.

Name _____ Date _____

**Selection
Test**

9 Which line from the poem best suggests that the caterpillar is satisfied with its current life situation?

- A** Line 4
- B** Line 16
- C** Line 20
- D** Line 24

10 Does the caterpillar undergo a transformation during the poem? Support your answer with evidence from the text.
