

Part 1: Read and paraphrase the poem.

Street Painting

Ann Turner



I watched him a long time
and this is how he did it:
Stand in front of the wall
like it's a bad dream.
Make faces.
Jam your hat down.
Pull it off.
Pop your fingers—walk
around the block and come back,
start up like you surprised
the wall's still there.

Then sigh.
Take out your paints.
Doodle around with them,
stirring and humming.
Dip a brush in,
stare at it,
take a rush forward
and dab-dab-dab
at the wall.
Soon's you know,
you got faces
and bodies and trees
like they were locked up
in that old brush
and all you had to do
was stare at it.
to get a picture.

Part 2: Answer the CLOSE READING questions.

SPEAKER

1) The **speaker** of the poem sees the painter and notes how he approaches his art. Look at the poem from the standpoint of the speaker. What is she learning about character and personality of the painter?

2) Give two examples of **dialect** in the poem. Why did the poet choose to use dialect? What does the reader learn about the speaker from the dialect?

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

3) Give an example of a **simile** and explain the comparison.

THEMES, ISSUES, CONCEPTS

- creativity
- graffiti: art or vandalism?
- risk taking

LITERARY TERMS

- images
- alliteration
- assonance
- line break

ASSONANCE and ALLITERATION

4) The poet uses **alliteration**—repetition of initial consonant sounds and **assonance**—repetition of internal vowel sounds in the poem.

Examples of Alliteration:

Examples of Assonance:

LINE BREAKS

5) A poet chooses where to place **line breaks** carefully and with purpose. Notice the line breaks in the poem and the use of punctuation. What is the effect of all these short lines ending with punctuation? Give an example and explain.

Part 3: Complete the two **WRITING ACTIVITIES** on a separate sheet of paper.

- Make a list of five words that describe how you feel when you are undecided about whether you should take a chance on something. Then make a list of five words that describe how you feel when you take a chance and you get the results you hoped for.

How you feel when you're undecided about taking a chance....	How you feel when you take a chance and get the results you hoped for...
1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.

- Write about something you do that is creative. It could be writing a poem or taking good photographs. But it can also be making up excuses for not doing your chores or homework, creating plays on the basketball court, or finding ways to have fun with your friends. We are creative in many ways.

Warm-up: Discuss the questions with your partner and fill in the boxes with your ideas. Save the final box for the video, "Graffiti: Art or Vandalism" video we are going to watch.

Who is Creative?

Who is the Person?	What Does He/She Do?	What is Creative About It?

Warm-up: Draw the following table on a separate sheet of paper. Discuss the questions with your partner and fill in the boxes with your ideas. Save the final box for the video, "Graffiti: Art or Vandalism" video we are going to watch.

Who is Creative?

Who is the Person?	What Does He/She Do?	What is Creative About It?

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