

## RL.3.2

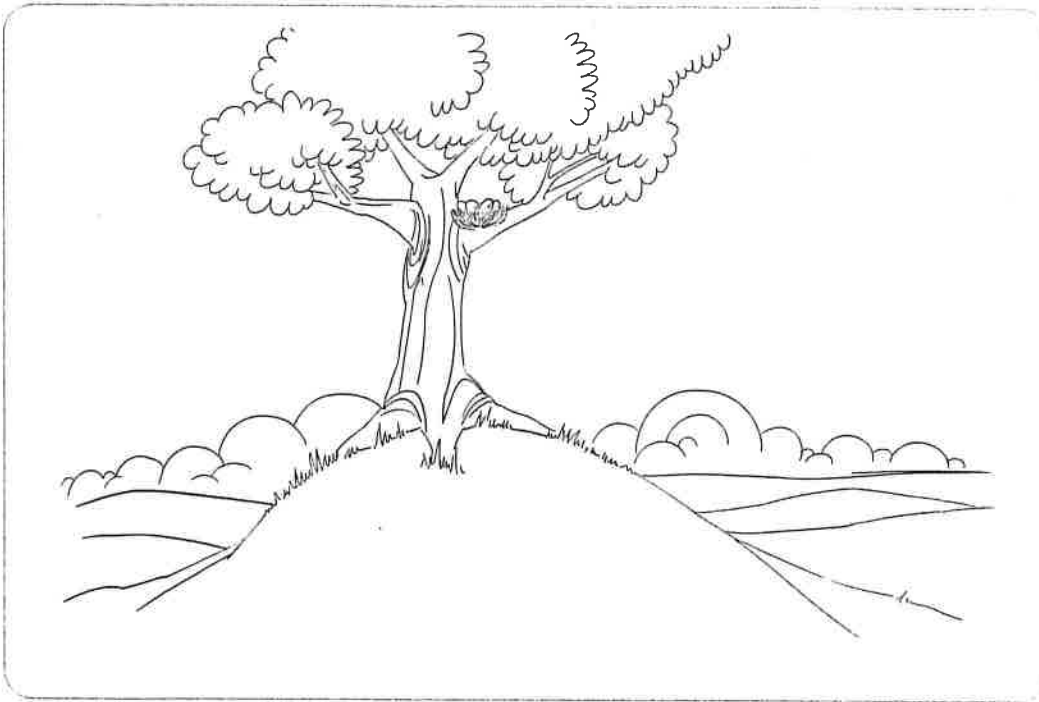
Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

## RL.3.4

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.

## RL.3.5

Refer to parts of stories, dramas, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as *chapter*, *scene*, and *stanza*; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.



Read this passage and then answer the questions that follow.

## Tree on the Hill

On yonder hill there stood a tree;  
Tree on the hill, and the hill stood still.

And on the tree there was a branch;  
Branch on the tree, tree on the hill, and the hill  
5 stood still.

And on the branch there was a nest;  
Nest on the branch, branch on the tree, tree on  
the hill, and the hill stood still.



And in the nest there was an egg;

10 Egg in the nest, nest on the branch, branch on  
the tree, tree on the hill, and the hill stood  
still.

And in the egg there was a bird;

Bird in the egg, egg in the nest, nest on the  
15 branch, branch on the tree, tree on the hill,  
and the hill stood still.

And on the bird there was a feather;

Feather on the bird, bird in the egg, egg in the  
nest, nest on the branch, branch on the tree,  
20 tree on the hill, and the hill stood still.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. This question has two parts. Answer Part A first. Then answer Part B.

**Part A** Which of the following best describes the poem's form?

- A Two of the stanzas are the same.
- B The poem uses rhyming in each stanza.
- C The stanzas get longer and build on ideas.
- D Each stanza in the poem has the same number of syllables.

**Part B** What line might the poet have used to begin a seventh stanza?

- A And in the nest there was a bird
- B And on the twig there was a leaf
- C And on the bird there was a raindrop
- D And on the feather there was a bug



### Question 1

Poems are divided into stanzas to make the poem easier to read and understand. Poets use stanzas to separate ideas and thoughts from each other the way authors use paragraphs in their writing.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Question 2**

Giving human traits to animals or objects is called personification. Which of these examples gives a human trait to an animal or an object?

**Question 3**

The central message is the big idea that the author is trying to get across. This poem is about a bird's nest in a tree, but there is a bigger idea that the poet wants to tell the reader.

2. In which phrase does the poet talk about an object as if it were a person?

- A Bird in the egg, egg in the nest
- B Feather on the bird, bird in the egg
- C Nest on the branch, branch on the tree
- D Tree on the hill, and the hill stood still

3. What is the central message in "Tree on the Hill"?

- A Birds build their nests in trees.
- B Animals with feathers lay eggs.
- C Everything in life is connected to something else.
- D People should treat trees and animals with respect.

