



## Year 9 Poetry 3: The Broken Clock

Read the following poem and answer the questions below:

### The Broken Clock

Time's hands are fractured,  
Torn from their steady track,  
In the room where silence dwells,  
And echoes never turn back.

The clock's face is cracked,  
A web of lost hours and days,  
Its pendulum hangs still,  
In the shadows it sways.

Moments once fleeting,  
Now heavy with regret,  
Mark the passage of a life,  
In the silence of sunset.

Yet in the broken glass,  
Glimmers a hopeful light,  
As time's fragments forge a path,  
Through the darkness of the night.



## Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the main subject of the poem?
  - A) A broken clock
  - B) A passing storm
  - C) A dying city
  - D) A lost love
  
2. What does the “cracked face” of the clock symbolize?
  - A) The passage of time
  - B) The loss of time
  - C) The beauty of time
  - D) The predictability of time
  
3. How does the poet describe the clock’s pendulum?
  - A) As swinging rhythmically
  - B) As hanging still
  - C) As moving rapidly
  - D) As broken completely
  
4. What literary device is used in “In the room where silence dwells”?
  - A) Personification
  - B) Hyperbole
  - C) Simile
  - D) Alliteration



5. What does “Moments once fleeting” refer to in the poem?
- A) The urgency of life
  - B) The passing of time
  - C) Memories of the past
  - D) The inevitability of change
6. What is suggested by the “hopeful light” in the broken glass?
- A) A sense of despair
  - B) An opportunity for renewal
  - C) The inevitability of decay
  - D) The finality of time
7. How does the poet use imagery to convey the theme of regret?
- A) Through descriptions of a broken clock
  - B) Through a vibrant sunset
  - C) Through the ticking of time
  - D) Through a bustling city
8. What mood is conveyed by the line “Mark the passage of a life”?
- A) Joyful
  - B) Reflective
  - C) Anxious
  - D) Excited



9. What does the “web of lost hours and days” suggest about the clock’s condition?

- A) It is new and functional
- B) It is old and rusty
- C) It is a symbol of time’s passage
- D) It is a representation of chaos

10. Which technique is used in “Fragments forge a path”?

- A) Metaphor
- B) Simile
- C) Alliteration
- D) Hyperbole



## Short Answer Questions

1. What is the significance of the broken clock in the poem?

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2. How does the poet use the clock to represent the passage of time?

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3. Describe the imagery used to convey the theme of regret.

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4. What does the “hopeful light” in the broken clock represent?

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5. How does the poet create a sense of stillness and silence in the poem?

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6. Explain the metaphorical meaning of "Time's hands are fractured."

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7. How does the broken clock symbolize the concept of regret?

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8. Discuss the effect of the phrase "In the shadows it sways" on the poem's mood.

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9. How does the poet convey a sense of the inevitability of change?

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10. What emotions are evoked by the description of the clock's condition and its symbolism?

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## Answer Key

### Multiple Choice Answers:

1. A) A broken clock
2. B) The loss of time
3. B) As hanging still
4. A) Personification
5. B) The passing of time
6. B) An opportunity for renewal
7. A) Through descriptions of a broken clock
8. B) Reflective
9. C) It is a symbol of time's passage
10. A) Metaphor

### Short Answer Key:

1. The broken clock symbolizes the passage of time and the regret associated with lost moments.
2. The clock represents time's passage through its fractured face and still pendulum, suggesting how time has been interrupted or halted.
3. Imagery such as "cracked face" and "web of lost hours and days" conveys a sense of regret and lost opportunities.
4. The "hopeful light" suggests that despite the brokenness, there is still a chance for renewal or redemption.
5. The stillness and silence are created through descriptions like "hanging still" and "room where silence dwells."
6. "Time's hands are fractured" metaphorically means that time has been disrupted or broken, affecting its regular passage.
7. The broken clock symbolizes regret by showing how time, once constant and reliable, is now fragmented and lost.
8. "In the shadows it sways" contributes to a mood of melancholy and stillness, emphasizing the clock's broken state.
9. The poet conveys inevitability through the imagery of a broken clock and the sense of time slipping away.
10. Emotions such as regret, melancholy, and hope are evoked by the depiction of the clock's damaged condition and its symbolic meaning.





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