

“The Highwayman” Close Read

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1. Analyzing Visuals: What details suggest that the rider is experienced?
2. D. Reading A Narrative Poem: What is the setting of this poem?

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3. Comparing the descriptions given of Tim and the highwayman, what can you infer about each of their characters?*(Claim, Evidence, Elaboration)
4. What can you infer when the highwayman tells Bess on line 27, “Yet, if they press me sharply, and harry me through the day, Then look for me by moonlight”?

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5. E. Reading A Narrative Poem: How did the redcoats find out about Bess and the highwayman? Explain how you made this inference.* (Claim, Evidence, Elaboration)
6. Line 51 says, “ ‘Now keep good watch!’ and they kissed her.” What does this line reveal about the redcoats’ character?
7. F. Rhythm and Meter: How is the rhythm of the poem perfectly suited to the action that’s taking place?

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8. G. Reading A Narrative Poem: What just happened?
9. H. Mood: Reread lines 85-90. What images stand out to you? What mood, or feeling, do they help create?
10. What literary device is used in the last two stanzas of the poem, and how does this affect the plot?
11. Theme: Identify a theme present in this poem. Give specific examples of how you see this theme portrayed.