

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Tone Worksheet

**Directions:** Read each poem and then answer the following questions. (You may use the Tones and Meanings List at your table to help you identify different tones in the poems.)

### Ellis Park

By Helen Hoyt

Little park that I pass through,  
I carry off a piece of you  
Every morning hurrying down  
To my work-day in the town;  
Carry you for country there  
To make the city ways more fair.  
I take your trees,  
And your breeze,  
Your greenness,  
Your cleanness,  
Some of your shade, some of your sky,  
Some of your calm as I go by;  
Your flowers to trim  
The pavements grim;  
Your space for room in the jostled street  
And grass for carpet to my feet.

Your fountains take and sweet bird  
calls  
To sing me from my office walls.  
All that I can see  
I carry off with me.  
But you never miss my theft,  
So much treasure you have left.  
As I find you, fresh at morning,  
So I find you, home returning --  
Nothing lacking from your grace.  
All your riches wait in place  
For me to borrow  
On the morrow.  
  
Do you hear this praise of you,  
Little park that I pass through?

**What is this poem about?**

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**What is the speaker's tone?**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Explain your answer using textual evidence.**

**In Trouble and Shame**

By D.H. Lawrence

I look at the swaling<sup>1</sup> sunset  
And wish I could go also  
Through the red doors beyond the black-purple bar.

I wish that I could go  
Through the red doors where I could put off  
My shame like shoes in the porch  
My pain like garments,  
And leave my flesh discarded lying  
Like luggage of some departed traveller  
Gone one knows not where.

Then I would turn round  
And seeing my cast-off body  
lying like lumber,  
I would laugh with joy.

1. swaling: burning

**What is this poem about?**

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**What is the speaker's tone?**

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**Explain your answer using textual evidence.**

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**Noon**

By Kendall Banning

The bees are humming, humming in the clover;  
The bobolink<sup>1</sup> is singing in the rye;  
The brook is purling<sup>2</sup>, purling in the valley,  
And the river's laughing, radiant, to the sky!

The buttercups are nodding in the sunlight;  
The winds are whispering, whispering to the pine;  
The joy of June has found me; as an aureole<sup>3</sup> it's crowned me  
Because, oh best beloved, you are mine!

1. **bobolink:** a songbird.
2. **purling:** when a stream flows with a murmuring sound.
3. **aureole:** a golden circle of light, usually around the head of a god or a saint.

**What is this poem about?**

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**What is the speaker's tone?**

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**Explain your answer using textual evidence.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Little Things**

By Ebenezer Cobham Brewer

1. **eternity:** forever

Little drops of water,  
Little grains of sand,  
Make the mighty ocean  
And the pleasant land.

Thus the little minutes,  
Humble though they be,  
Make the mighty ages  
Of eternity<sup>1</sup>.

**What is this poem about?**

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**What is the speaker's tone?**

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**Explain your answer using textual evidence.**