

# An Autumn Act

By Ciara Carroll



As we wave farewell to Summer,  
We call Autumn up to the stage.  
She'll put on a show, as she does every year:  
An act that never will age.



She begins with a soft transition  
You barely notice at first.  
But slowly she starts to move and shake  
It's a show that is well-rehearsed.

Autumn isn't afraid of change  
Gentle at first, a slight nip in the air.  
The trees know she's coming:  
Their leaves must beware.

Listen out for her magical song.  
Her gentle whistle and delicate breeze.  
The leaves join in, to offer percussion.  
They rustle and scrunch at the base of the trees.

Let's take a moment to ask her fans,  
Why they admire her so.  
They say it's her vibrant colours,  
Red, brown and gold, a magnificent glow.



So give a round of applause for Autumn,  
Her show is about to start...  
Be sure to put on your jackets  
And feel her warm your heart.



# Questions

02

- 1** What is Autumn compared to in this poem? (tick)

- ☐ a season
- ☐ summer
- ☐ a performer
- ☐ old age

- 2** In this poem Autumn is a performer.  
What is the name of the language device used to give human characteristics to something that isn't human? (tick)

- ☐ simile
- ☐ personification
- ☐ metaphor
- ☐ alliteration

- 3** How many stanzas are there in the poem?
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- 4** Which lines in each stanza rhyme? (tick)

- ☐ lines 1 and 2
- ☐ lines 1 and 3
- ☐ lines 2 and 4
- ☐ lines 3 and 4

- 5** What is meant by 'a slight nip in the air'? (tick)

- ☐ The weather is stormy.
- ☐ The temperature is cold.
- ☐ The weather is slightly rainy.
- ☐ The air makes people feel sleepy.

6 Why must the tree's leaves beware? (tick)

- ☐ Leaves fall off trees in Autumn.
- ☐ The leaves might freeze.
- ☐ Autumn does not like trees.
- ☐ The leaves will turn green.

7 Which of these words from the fourth stanza is an example of onomatopoeia? (tick)

- ☐ leaves and percussion
- ☐ listen and song
- ☐ leaves and trees
- ☐ rustle and scrunch

8 What does the word 'admire' mean? (tick)

- ☐ to be curious
- ☐ to love and adore
- ☐ to dislike
- ☐ to appreciate and respect

9 Which word in this stanza means bold and bright?

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10 What overall impression are we given of Autumn? (tick)

- ☐ The narrator likes Autumn.
- ☐ The narrator does not like Autumn.
- ☐ The narrator thinks Autumn is scary.
- ☐ The narrator thinks Autumn is boring.

Score:

# Answers

A

- 1 What is Autumn compared to in this poem? ☒ a performer
- 2 In this poem Autumn is a performer.  
What is the name of the language device used to give human characteristics to something that isn't human? ☒ personification
- 3 How many stanzas are there in the poem? six
- 4 Which lines in each stanza rhyme? ☒ lines 2 and 4
- 5 What is meant by 'a slight nip in the air'? ☒ The temperature is cold.
- 6 Why must the tree's leaves beware? ☒ Leaves fall off trees in Autumn.
- 7 Which of these words from the fourth stanza is an example of onomatopoeia? ☒ rustle and scrunch
- 8 What does the word 'admire' mean? ☒ to appreciate and respect
- 9 Which word in this stanza means bold and bright? vibrant
- 10 What overall impression are we given of Autumn? ☒ The narrator likes Autumn.