

Directions: Reread “Dreamers.” Then, answer the questions below.

“Threats did not stop his mountain climb.”

1. In the above passage, what does the narrator mean by “his mountain climb”? This is a metaphor that implies what?

I was there on that stormy night Dr. King returned. Clouds blotted out stars in the Memphis sky. Wind whipped through the bending trees. My daddy beamed with hope when he told Mama, “Dr. King is gonna preach tonight at Mason Temple Church.”

2. In the above passage, the author employs figurative language to describe the weather. What type of figurative language is used? What impact does this language have on the passage?

As the crowd listened to speeches about the strike, I slept in Mama’s arms. KABOOM! A voice like the evening thunder shook me from my sleep. It was Dr. King. Like Moses on the mountain, he charged men, women, and children to make the world a promised land flowing with freedom and justice.

3. Identify one example of figurative language in the above passage and describe how it impacts the meaning and tone of the passage.

Like a man preaching his own funeral, Dr. King used vivid words to paint the story of his life. He described his challenges and triumphs during the civil rights movement.

4. What does the author mean by “like a man preaching his own funeral”?
 - A. Dr. King knew he would die on August 4, 1968.
 - B. Dr. King was giving details about his life as in a eulogy.
 - C. Dr. King was using the same voice one would use at a funeral.
 - D. The speaker is emphasizing King’s sadness
5. What does the speaker mean by “vivid”?
 - A. Colorful
 - B. Joyful
 - C. Detailed
 - D. Lively

Directions: Reread “Dreamers.” Then, answer the questions below.

“Threats did not stop his mountain climb.”

6. In the above passage, what does the narrator mean by “his mountain climb”? This is a metaphor that implies what?

The mountain climb was not an actual mountain. The mountain climb represents King’s struggles.

I was there on that stormy night Dr. King returned. Clouds blotted out stars in the Memphis sky. Wind whipped through the bending trees. My daddy beamed with hope when he told Mama, “Dr. King is gonna preach tonight at Mason Temple Church.”

7. In the above passage, the author uses figurative language to describe the Memphis weather. What figurative language does the author use? What impact does this language have on the passage?

The author uses personification to describe the stormy the weather. The author uses this figurative language to emphasize the idea that anger and excitement were brewing like a storm.

As the crowd listened to speeches about the strike, I slept in Mama’s arms. KABOOM! A voice like the evening thunder shook me from my sleep. It was Dr. King. Like Moses on the mountain, he charged men, women, and children to make the world a promised land flowing with freedom and justice.

8. Identify one example of figurative language in the above passage and describe how it impacts the meaning and tone of the passage.

One example of figurative language is “like Moses on the mountain.” This simile shows that, like Moses, Dr. King is giving commands or he is a prophet telling the future. The bible reference shows how Dr. King was also religious and a “man of God.” There is also onomatopoeia—KABOOM!

Like a man preaching his own funeral, Dr. King used vivid words to paint the story of his life. He described his challenges and triumphs during the civil rights movement.

9. What does the author mean by “like a man preaching his own funeral”?

- E. Dr. King knew he would die on August 4, 1968.
- F. Dr. King was giving details about his life as in a eulogy.
- G. Dr. King was using the same voice one would use at a funeral.
- H. The speaker is emphasizing King’s sadness.

10. What does the speaker mean by “vivid”?

- E. Colorful
- F. Joyful
- G. Detailed
- H. Lively

Writing Prompt: Use the book **MEMPHIS, MARTIN AND THE MOUNTAINTOP** to complete the writing task.

- Compose a personal narrative essay in which you write about the strike events portrayed in *Memphis, Martin, and the Mountaintop* from a character's perspective. You can write from the point of view of (1) Dr. King, (2) a sanitation worker, (3) Lorraine, (4) one of his parents (5) Mayor Loeb (6) Coretta Scott King or (7) anyone you choose. Your character can be based on a real life person or a fictional character.
- Your personal narrative should contain the following:
 - Figurative language (at least two types from the lesson)
 - A consistent point of view (1st person)
 - Details from the book (specific dates or activities from the timeline)
 - Dialogue (people talking)
 - Proper grammar and punctuation