

Answer the following questions about “Jabberwocky.”

1. What is the poem about?
 - a. a boy having a strange dream
 - b. a boy playing a childish game
 - c. a boy slaying a fearsome monster**
 - d. a boy taking a dangerous journey

2. What type of poem is “Jabberwocky”?
 - a. free verse
 - b. ballad**
 - c. sonnet
 - d. acrostic

3. In order to help readers comprehend the nonsense language in the poem, Lewis Carroll used the timeless theme of a heroic quest. What other stories do you know that feature this theme? **Possible answers:**
Alice in Wonderland, the Harry Potter series,
The Hobbit, The Chronicles of Narnia

4. Read the line from the poem.
 “He took his vorpal sword in hand”
 What might the adjective “vorpal” mean? Write four possible adjectives that could stand in for “vorpal” in this sentence. **Answers will vary, but might include:**

sharp	large
enchanted	shining

5. Which of these made-up adjectives means that something is wonderful?
 - a. frumious (line 8)
 - b. frabjous (line 23)**
 - c. manxome (line 10)
 - d. tulgey (line 15)

6. Which of the following is an example of onomatopoeia used in the poem?
 - a. snicker-snack (line 17)**
 - b. Beware (lines 5 and 7)
 - c. Bandersnatch (line 7)
 - d. outgrabe (lines 4 and 27)

7. What is the tone of this poem?
 - a. sympathetic
 - b. distressed
 - c. whimsical**
 - d. sentimental

8. How does Carroll’s use of rhyme affect the tone of the poem? **Sample answer:**
The general ABAB rhyme scheme makes the poem feel more rhythmic and predictable. The end rhyme and internal rhyme help create a lighthearted tone.

9. How does the alliteration in the second stanza impact the meaning and tone of the stanza? **Sample answer:**
The repetition of hard beginning consonant sounds like B, J, and C gives a more harsh, threatening tone to the warning about the fearsome beasts.

10. Why does Carroll repeat the first stanza at the end of the poem? **Sample answer:**
It reinforces the setting and indicates that the wider world is unchanged, implying that the battle between good and evil is never completely over.

11. What does the Jabberwock look like? Using details from the poem, draw a picture of the Jabberwock below.

