

## The Friend

1 She had practiced for weeks, months and years,  
2 Now standing on the court hearing the cheers,  
3 This was her moment to fulfill a dream,  
4 She took a deep breath and looked at her team,

5 The whistle blew and the clock countdown begin,  
6 In thirty-two minutes the loss or the win,  
7 And like that, the crowd went away,  
8 Just her mind, her team and the ball as she began to  
play,

9 Breathe, dribble, shoot, pass, run and defend,  
10 That orange ball was her friend,  
11 Together they had always been,  
12 Together in this championship game they would lose or  
win.

## WORD RECOGNITION, STRUCTURE, AND VOCABULARY

•Knowledge of letter-sound relationships to say written words

•Use context clues to figure out what a word means.

•Recognize common word relationships and structures

1

What does **fulfill** mean in line 3?

1. To make a friend
2. Make the winning basket
3. Think about the past
4. To reach your goal

2

Read the sentence from **line 7** from the poem and the dictionary entry.

7. And like that, the **crowd** went away,

**(crowd) n.**

1. Two teams on a court
2. A large gathering of people
3. Noise from a group
4. Move to close to someone

Which definition of **crowd** is used in the sentence above?

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Definition 1 | 3. Definition 3 |
| 2. Definition 2 | 4. Definition 4 |

3

Read the sentence from lines 9 & 10 of the poem below.

9. Breathe, dribble, shoot, *pass*, run and defend,  
10. That orange ball was her friend,

What word is a synonym to **pass**?

- |         |              |
|---------|--------------|
| 1. move | 3. celebrate |
| 2. try  | 4. finish    |

## READING LITERATURE: KEY IDEAS, READING FOR UNDERSTANDING

•Read and understand fictional texts

•Make inferences and predictions and draw conclusions

•Summarize reading

•After reading the text, I can determine key ideas

•Analyze how different themes develop

4

After looking at the title, the reader knows this poem is about -

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. making friends        | 3. losing friends       |
| 2. things can be friends | 4. Talking with friends |

## READING LITERATURE: KEY IDEAS, READING FOR UNDERSTANDING

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- Make inferences and predictions and draw conclusions
- Summarize reading
- After reading the text, I can determine key ideas
- Analyze how different themes develop

5

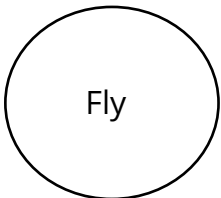
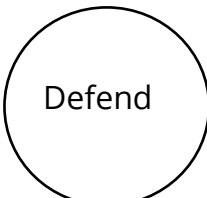
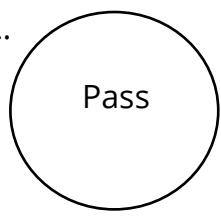
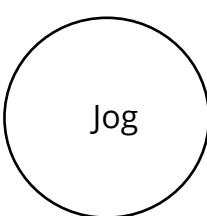
In lines 1-2, the speaker can best be described as -

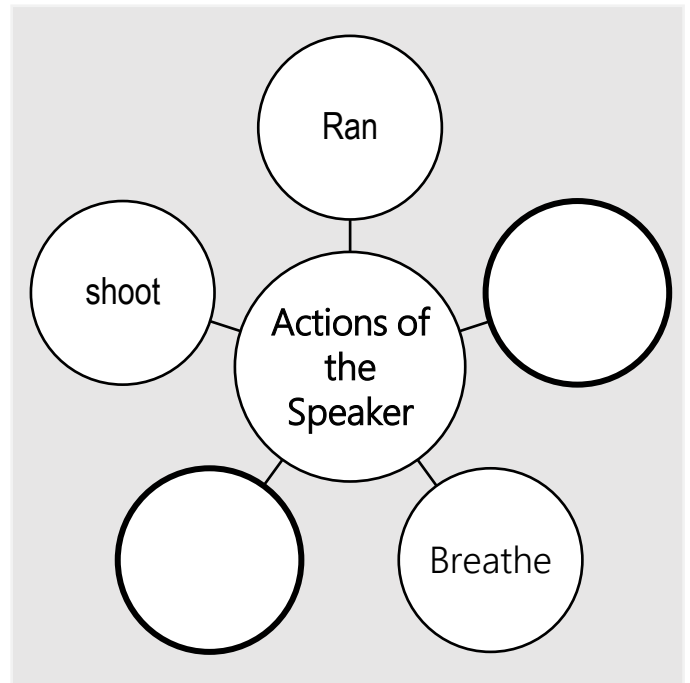
1. angry
2. excited
3. frightened
4. sad

6

Write the correct numbers in the blank bolded circles below.

Use the article to help you complete the web.

- |    |   |    |   |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1. |   | 3. |   |
| 2. |  | 3. |  |



7

Based on the events in the poem, the girl was playing in what type of game -

1. field hockey
2. track
3. volleyball
4. basketball

## READING LITERATURE: CRAFT, STRUCTURE, EVALUATION

•Analyze the structure of literary texts

•Analyze literary elements of a text, such as plot, character, theme, and setting

•Analyze different literary devices (allusion, etc.)

•Evaluate the author's tools and techniques used to craft a story.

**8**

**What is the rhyme scheme in the first stanza in the poem?**

1. ABCB
2. ABCD
3. ABAB
4. AABB

**9**

**Where does the story take place?**

1. In a park
2. On a field
3. In a gym
4. In a driveway

**10**

**How do readers learn about the speaker?**

1. From what other characters say
2. From what she says to others
3. From what she looks like
4. From what she is thinking

**FICTIONAL POEM “The Friend”  
Student Self-Evaluation Sheet**

NWEA MAP READING PRACTICE  
(RIT 181-190)

**STUDENT SELF EVALUATION SHEET**

?	STRAND/SKILL	CORRECT		I NEED MORE PRACTICE WITH...
1	Use context clues to figure out what a word means.	YES	NO	
2	Use context clues to figure out what a word means.	YES	NO	
3	Recognize common word relationships and structures	YES	NO	
4	Make inferences and predictions and draw conclusions	YES	NO	
5	Make inferences and predictions and draw conclusions	YES	NO	
6	Read and understand fictional texts	YES	NO	
7	Make inferences and predictions and draw conclusions	YES	NO	
8	Evaluate the author’s tools and techniques used to craft a story	YES	NO	
9	Analyze literary elements of a text, such as plot, character, theme, and setting	YES	NO	
10	Evaluate the author’s tools and techniques used to craft a story	YES	NO	

## FICTIONAL POEM "The Friend"

### Teacher Answer Key

NWEA MAP READING PRACTICE

(RIT 181-190)

?	STRAND/SKILL	ANSWERS	NOTES/COMMENTS
1	Use context clues to figure out what a word means.	4	
2	Use context clues to figure out what a word means.	2	
3	Recognize common word relationships and structures	1	
4	Make inferences and predictions and draw conclusions	2	
5	Make inferences and predictions and draw conclusions	2	
6	Read and understand fictional texts	2 & 3	
7	Make inferences and predictions and draw conclusions	4	
8	Evaluate the author's tools and techniques used to craft a story	4	
9	Analyze literary elements of a text, such as plot, character, theme, and setting	3	
10	Evaluate the author's tools and techniques used to craft a story	4	