

Name \_\_\_\_\_

gobble

mist

individuality

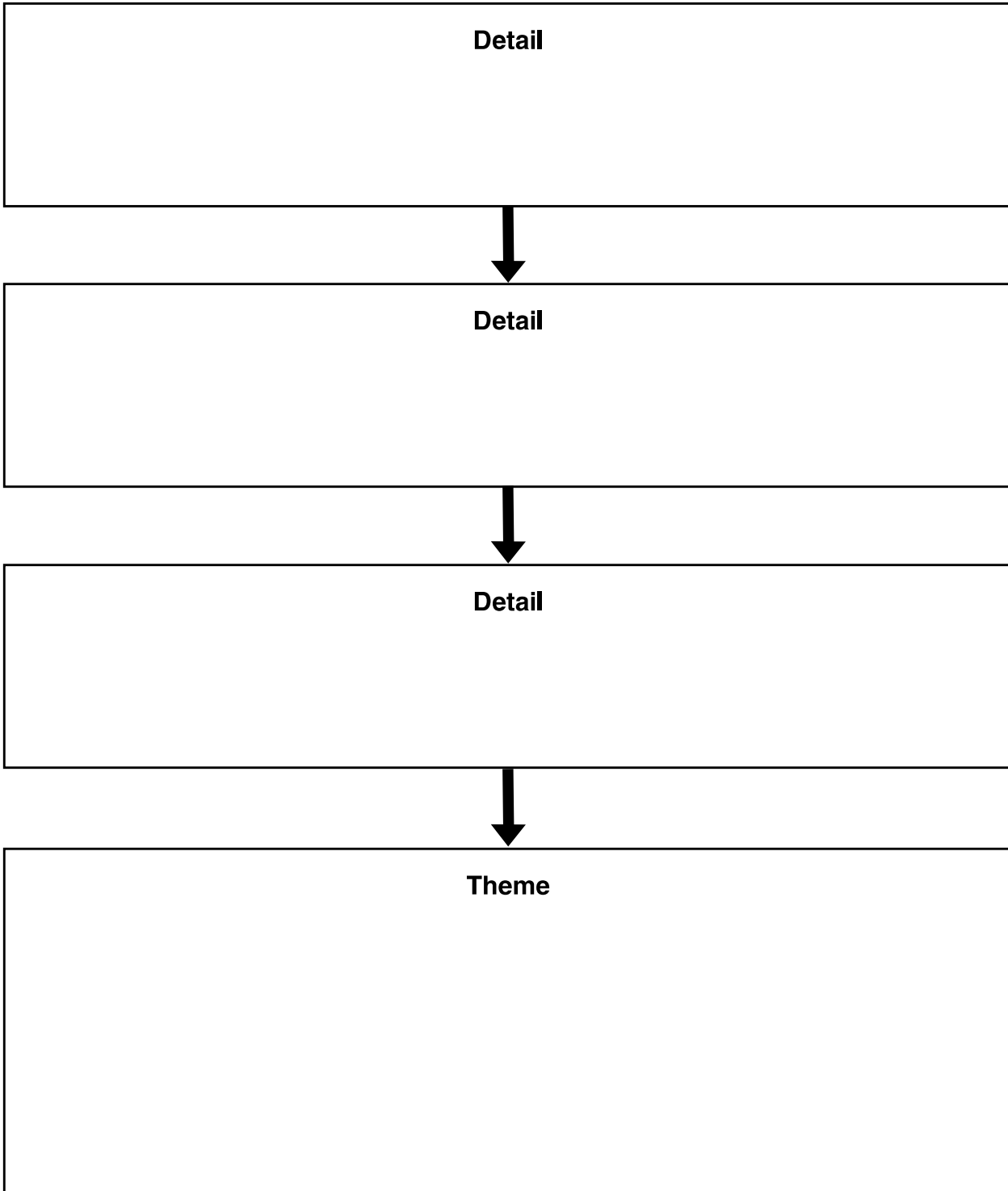
roots

Use a word from the box to answer each question. Then use the word in a sentence. **Possible responses provided.**

1. What do both your family and a tree have in common? **roots; I spent an afternoon talking with my grandmother about my family's roots.**
2. What is another word for "eat very quickly"? **gobble; We watched the ducks gobble up all the bread we threw into the pond.**
3. What is created when you spray a bottle of glass cleaner? **mist; My grandmother's hairspray made a mist in the air.**
4. When you show how you are different from others, what do you show? **individuality; He showed his individuality by never wearing socks that matched.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Read the selection. Complete the theme graphic organizer.**



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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read the poem. Pay attention to details that help you understand the author's message.

## Me, As a Mountain

I am not an island.  
 5 On my worst day, I am  
 11 Florida, the ocean tempting me away from the mainland  
 20 states that are my parents.  
 25 On the days I feel best,  
 31 I am the Rocky Mountains,  
 36 broad as the landscape, filling a window.  
 43 I command any attention to the horizon.  
 50 I rise into the air, my hair a  
 58 mist against the blue of the sky.  
 65 I rest on the Great Plains.  
 71 Plateaus and pine forests lift me.  
 77 They are my parents'  
 81 broad shoulders I stand on.  
 86 I try to use them wisely to build  
 94 myself  
 95 into a tower of rock, strong and  
 102 impossibly tall.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

**A. Reread the passage and answer the questions.**

**Possible responses provided.**

**1. What is this poem about?**

**The author is imagining himself as a mountain.**

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**2. What is the theme of this poem?**

**A lot of what you are as a person comes from the way your parents raise you.**

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**3. What in the poem lets you know what the theme is?**

**The narrator writes that the things that he stands on are his parents' shoulders. This makes me think that they are not their real shoulders, but the way he was raised.**

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**B. Work with a partner. Read the passage aloud. Pay attention to phrasing. Stop after one minute. Fill out the chart.**

	Words Read	–	Number of Errors	=	Words Correct Score
First Read		–		=	
Second Read		–		=	

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Quiet Room**

I love the quiet of my room,  
 silent but for the slightest sound of a breeze that stirs the curtains.

Some friends I have would scoff and say,  
 “Come on, this place is boring!  
 Where’s the music? Where’s the fun?”

But me, I like a place to think—  
 a place where I can share my thoughts with only me  
 and let my mind wander out the window to the wide, wide world beyond.

**Answer the questions about the text.**

**1. What makes this text a free verse poem?**

**It has no rhyme scheme or metrical pattern.**

**2. Are the lines in this poem regular or irregular?**

**irregular**

**3. What does the speaker of the text like about the bedroom? What do the speaker’s friends not like about it?**

**Possible response: The speaker likes the windows and the sound of the breeze. The speaker’s friends think the bedroom is boring and too quiet.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Imagery** is the use of specific language to create a picture in a reader's mind. **Personification** is giving human qualities to a non-human thing.

Read the lines of the free verse poem below. Then answer the questions.

***Me, As a Mountain***

*I am not an island.*

*On my worst day, I am*

*Florida, the ocean tempting me away from the mainland  
states that are my parents.*

*On the days I feel best,*

*I am the Rocky Mountains*

*broad as the landscape, filling a window.*

*I command any attention to the horizon.*

1. What is an example of imagery in this poem?

**The writer says that he is a mountain that is as broad as a landscape,  
filling a window.**

2. Point out an example of personification in this poem.

**The ocean tempting the speaker away from the mainland is an example  
of personification; the ocean is not human and cannot tempt anyone.**

3. Write another stanza that includes imagery and personification.

**Answers will vary, but should include use of imagery and personification.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Read each passage. Underline the metaphor in the passage. Then write the two things that are being compared on the lines.**

1. On the days I feel best, I am the Rocky Mountains,

**the speaker and the Rocky Mountains**

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2. On my worst day, I am Florida, the ocean tempting me away from the mainland

**the speaker and Florida**

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3. I rise into the air, my hair a mist against the blue of the sky.

**hair and mist**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

**A. Read each sentence. Circle any words that have prefixes or suffixes.**

1. I happily prepaid for the new book that will arrive in the store next month.
2. Do not prejudge the witness and reverse your ideas about what went on.
3. This establishment has been unchanged in its appearance for years.
4. The driver became fearful when she saw the two roads begin to intersect.
5. My semiweekly visits to the doctor were finally over.

**B. Read the words from English in the box below. Then read each word from another language in bold. Write the word from the box next to its similar word from another language.**

waffle      iceberg      lagoon      pretzel      macaroni      canyon

- |                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. <b>brezel</b> (German)     | <u>pretzel</u>  |
| 2. <b>ijsberg</b> (Dutch)     | <u>iceberg</u>  |
| 3. <b>cañon</b> (Spanish)     | <u>canyon</u>   |
| 4. <b>laguna</b> (Italian)    | <u>lagoon</u>   |
| 5. <b>makkaroni</b> (Italian) | <u>macaroni</u> |
| 6. <b>wafel</b> (Dutch)       | <u>waffle</u>   |



Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Evidence* is details and examples from a text that support a writer’s ideas. The student who wrote the paragraph below cited evidence to support his or her opinion about how well two poets used precise language.

<b>Topic sentence</b>	→	I think the poet of “Quiet Room” did a better job of using precise language than the poet of “Me, As a Mountain.”
<b>Evidence</b>	→	In “Quiet Room,” the poet writes, “silent but for the slightest sound of a breeze that stirs the curtains.” These sensory details create a picture in my mind.
<b>Concluding statement</b>	→	In “Me, As a Mountain,” the poet writes, “I command any attention to the horizon.” I find the meaning of these words confusing. The poet’s use of precise language in “Quiet Room” creates a clearer picture in my mind than the words the poet used in “Me, As a Mountain.”

**Write a paragraph about two poems. Compare how well the poets use precise language. Tell which poet did a better job. Cite details that created a picture in your mind. Remember to use prepositions correctly.**

Write a topic sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

Cite evidence from the text: \_\_\_\_\_

**Answers will vary but should compare two poets’ use of precise language and include an opinion in the topic sentence,**

**evidence from the text, and a concluding statement.**

End with a concluding statement: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**A. Read the draft model. Use the questions that follow the draft to help you think about what concrete and descriptive details you can add.**

### Draft Model

I'm not very TALL at all  
 My hair is a MESS when I get out of bed  
 I like to display my collections  
 I always SING in the back seat of our car  
 My family is the BEST

1. What descriptive detail would tell how tall the speaker is?
2. What descriptive details would show how the speaker's hair is messy?
3. What concrete details would tell what the speaker collects?
4. What concrete details would tell what kinds of songs the speaker sings?

**B. Now revise the draft by adding concrete supporting details that help build a clearer picture for readers.**

**Answers will vary but should include concrete supporting details that help readers picture the speaker.**