

Walden

Henry David Thoreau

Why does Thoreau defend moving at a different pace rather than simply choosing a different destination?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	The different drummer
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION Conclusion

START Why should we be in such desperate haste to succeed, and in such desperate enterprises?
END as if the former were not?

PASSAGE ID	sec-wal-04
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THE MOVE

Turn nonconformity into an argument about timing

WHY THIS PASSAGE

The different-drummer passage defends nonconformity as a matter of pace and timing, not simply choosing a different goal. Thoreau suggests that a person may be responding to a rhythm others cannot hear yet.

MARK

Underline every word related to pace, rhythm, walking, music, or timing. Circle the line that rejects haste as the standard for success. Star the image that makes difference sound purposeful rather than defective.

NOTICE

- Why does Thoreau focus on how fast someone moves rather than where that person is going?

- What does the unheard drummer suggest about judging another person’s timing from the outside?
- How does the metaphor challenge the assumption that everyone should progress on the same schedule?

THINK

Answer provisionally: Why does Thoreau defend moving at a different pace rather than simply choosing a different destination? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: Why does Thoreau defend moving at a different pace rather than simply choosing a different destination? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Thoreau defends pace because people may be responding to different inner rhythms even when they are not headed toward obviously different goals. Judging everyone by the same timetable mistakes difference in timing for failure.
EVIDENCE	Use the drummer, walking, pace, or timing language and explain what the unheard rhythm suggests about judging another person's progress.
WATCH FOR	Do not reduce the passage to 'be yourself.' Its sharper claim is that timing and development need not be synchronized with other people's schedules.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

STUDENT PAGE · SAME PASSAGE, SAME THINKING

Walden

Henry David Thoreau

Why does Thoreau defend moving at a different pace rather than simply choosing a different destination?

START ANCHOR	Why should we be in such desperate haste to succeed, and in such desperate enterprises?
END ANCHOR	as if the former were not?

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline every word related to pace, rhythm, walking, music, or timing. Circle the line that rejects haste as the standard for success. Star the image that makes difference sound purposeful rather than defective.
2. NOTICE - Why does Thoreau focus on how fast someone moves rather than where that person is going? What does the unheard drummer suggest about judging another person's timing from the outside? How does the metaphor challenge the assumption that everyone should progress on the same schedule?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: Why does Thoreau defend moving at a different pace rather than simply choosing a different destination?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.