

Jabberwocky

Lewis Carroll

How can invented words still create a precise story?

TOTAL TIME	TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION
30 minutes	Poem - complete poem

TEACHER SETUP

Open the work in the Enhanced Reader and cue the span using the START and END anchors below.

START	'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
END	And the mome raths outgrabe.
PASSAGE ID	sec-jab-01

THE MOVE

Infer meaning from syntax, repetition, sound, and narrative position

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Carroll withholds ordinary dictionary meaning but preserves grammar, action, repetition, and cause-and-effect. Readers can reconstruct what kind of creature, danger, action, and celebration the poem presents without translating every invented word.

MARK

Underline invented words whose role you can infer. Circle ordinary words that reveal action or relationship. Box the repeated opening stanza. Star one nonsense word whose meaning becomes clearer because of its position in the sentence.

NOTICE

- Which invented words behave like nouns, verbs, or adjectives?
- What actions can you follow even when individual words are unfamiliar?
- Why does the repeated first stanza feel different after the Jabberwock has been defeated?

THINK

Answer provisionally: How can invented words still create a precise story? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response. 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 say why.

STRONG ANSWER

Invented words remain understandable because Carroll gives them familiar grammatical jobs and surrounds them with ordinary narrative signals. Readers can infer danger, movement, combat, and celebration from syntax and context even when the vocabulary itself is new.

EVIDENCE

Use one invented word whose grammatical job is clear and one ordinary phrase that establishes the action around it.

WATCH FOR

Do not try to replace every nonsense word with one exact English synonym. The task is to infer function and effect from context.

SOLO

Read independently.

SUPPORTED

Narration + highlighting.

LISTENING

Listen; same evidence task.

STUDENT PAGE · GRADE 6 · LESSON 266

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WORK	Jabberwocky
TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION	Poem - complete poem

PASSAGE ID	sec-jab-01
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Your teacher will open or cue the work in the Enhanced Reader. Use the location and verbatim anchors below to confirm the assigned span.

START

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves

END

And the mome raths outgrabe.

READ / LISTEN TO THE ASSIGNED PASSAGE SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration and highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the assigned passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK Underline invented words whose role you can infer. Circle ordinary words that reveal action or relationship. Box the repeated opening stanza. Star one nonsense word whose meaning becomes clearer because of its position in the sentence.
2. NOTICE Which invented words behave like nouns, verbs, or adjectives? What actions can you follow even when individual words are unfamiliar? Why does the repeated first stanza feel different after the Jabberwock has been defeated?
3. THINK Answer provisionally: How can invented words still create a precise story?
4. WRITE Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.
5. CLOSE Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and say why.