

The Highwayman

Alfred Noyes

How does the setting make an entrance feel inevitable before the rider appears?

TOTAL TIME	TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION
30 minutes	Part One - opening arrival at the inn

TEACHER SETUP

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

START	The wind was a torrent of darkness among the gusty trees,
END	The highwayman came riding, up to the old inn-door.
PASSAGE ID	sec-highwayman-01

THE MOVE

Analyze how figurative setting prepares a character entrance

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Before the highwayman is described as a person, the landscape is already moving like a dramatic machine. The comparisons turn darkness, moonlight, and road into forces that point toward the inn, while repeated riding builds momentum before the rider fully enters the scene.

MARK

Underline the three major comparisons in the landscape. Circle words of movement. Box the repeated word riding. Draw an arrow from each setting image toward the final destination at the inn-door.

NOTICE

- Which images make the setting feel larger than ordinary weather?
- How does repetition control the pace of the arrival?
- Why does the rider seem to belong to this landscape rather than simply travel through it?

THINK

Answer provisionally: How does the setting make an entrance feel inevitable before the rider appears? 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

The setting makes the entrance feel inevitable by turning the night into a moving path toward the inn. The torrent, galleon, and ribbon comparisons give the landscape direction and drama, while the repeated riding delays and intensifies the moment of arrival.

EVIDENCE

Use two setting comparisons and explain how the repeated riding changes the pacing.

WATCH FOR

Do not treat the metaphors as decorative description. Connect them to the structure of the entrance.

SOLO

Read independently.

SUPPORTED

Narration + highlighting.

LISTENING

Listen; same evidence task.

STUDENT PAGE · GRADE 7 · LESSON 270

The Highwayman

Alfred Noyes

How does the setting make an entrance feel inevitable before the rider appears?

WORK	The Highwayman
TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION	Part One - opening arrival at the inn

PASSAGE ID	sec-highwayman-01
------------	-------------------

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

The wind was a torrent of darkness among the gusty trees,

END

The highwayman came riding, up to the old inn-door.

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 the three major comparisons in the landscape. Circle words of movement. Box the repeated word riding. Draw an arrow from each setting image toward the final destination at the inn-door.
2. NOTICE Which images make the setting feel larger than ordinary weather? How does repetition control the pace of the arrival? Why does the rider seem to belong to this landscape rather than simply travel through it?
3. THINK Answer provisionally: How does the setting make an entrance feel inevitable before the rider appears?
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.