

Ode on a Grecian Urn

John Keats

How does Keats make permanence both attractive and limiting in the scenes on the urn?

TOTAL TIME	TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION
30 minutes	Ode - complete poem

TEACHER SETUP

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

START	Thou still unravish'd bride of quietness,
END	Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know.
PASSAGE ID	sec-grecianurn-01

THE MOVE

Analyze how an extended address develops a tension rather than a single judgment

WHY THIS PASSAGE

The urn preserves beauty, desire, music, and youth from decay, but preservation also freezes action before fulfillment and leaves human scenes permanently unresolved. The ode repeatedly praises what cannot fade while noticing what cannot change, creating a genuine tension between permanence and lived experience.

MARK

Underline statements celebrating what will never fade. Circle moments when an action can never be completed. Box lines where the speaker directly addresses the urn as an object that outlasts people.

NOTICE

- What advantages do the figures gain by being frozen in art?
- What experiences do they lose because the scene cannot move forward?
- Why does the speaker keep shifting between praise and uneasiness?

THINK

Answer provisionally: How does Keats make permanence both attractive and limiting in the scenes on the urn? 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

Keats makes permanence attractive because art protects beauty, music, and desire from aging, but limiting because those same figures can never complete their actions or enter ordinary time. The urns power is therefore inseparable from the stillness that makes it less than lived experience.

EVIDENCE

Use one line celebrating permanence and one detail showing an action or desire permanently suspended.

WATCH FOR

Do not reduce the ode to a simple claim that art is immortal. Track the poems simultaneous attraction to and discomfort with timelessness.

SOLO

Read independently.

SUPPORTED

Narration + highlighting.

LISTENING

Listen; same evidence task.

STUDENT PAGE · GRADE 12 · LESSON 326

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WORK	Ode on a Grecian Urn
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TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION	Ode - complete poem
PASSAGE ID	sec-grecianurn-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

Thou still unravish'd bride of quietness,

END

Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know.

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 statements celebrating what will never fade. Circle moments when an action can never be completed. Box lines where the speaker directly addresses the urn as an object that outlasts people.
2. NOTICE What advantages do the figures gain by being frozen in art? What experiences do they lose because the scene cannot move forward? Why does the speaker keep shifting between praise and uneasiness?
3. THINK Answer provisionally: How does Keats make permanence both attractive and limiting in the scenes on the urn?
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.