

STUDENT NAME: _____

DATE: _____

CLASS: _____

SCORE: _____

LESSON 151 • THE CLOCK LYRIC, ONOMATOPOEIA & CONTRACTIONS

TICK, TOCK! • IT'S • THAT'S

Wheeler's Elementary Speller • Page 81

Classic Moral Poetry • The Conscience Clock Lyric

“Tick, tock! tick, tock!” / Strikes the great hall clock: / ‘It’s time to work! It’s time to play! / Make good use of every day!’”

Wheeler's Linguistic Focus: 1. **Onomatopoeia:** Words that echo sounds in nature (*tick, tock*). 2. **Contractions:** *It's* (short for *It is*) and *That's* (short for *That is*).

CONCEPT

1

Poetic Recitation Copywork • 26px Standard Track

Copy the clock stanza neatly, observing all punctuation and quotation marks:

“Tick, tock! tick, tock!” strikes the great hall clock:

“It’s time to work! It’s time to play! Make good use of every day!”

2

Contraction Studio • Full Words → Apostrophe Contractions

Form the contractions on the 26px line:

it is → it's that is → that's there is → there's

clock's face (possessive) vs. it's time (contraction = it is)

3

Onomatopoeia & Sound Word Exploration

Write two sound words matching each object:

Clock: tick, tock Duck: quack, quack Bell: ding, dong

WHEELER'S ORTHOEPIC RULES • CONTRACTIONS & SOUND WORDS

1. 1. **The Contraction Apostrophe:** An apostrophe in a contraction marks where letters were omitted: **it's** = *it is* (the letter *i* is dropped).

2. 2. **Contrast It's vs. Its:** **It's** with an apostrophe always means *it is*. The possessive pronoun **its** (as in *the clock* and *its hands*) never has an apostrophe!

3. 3. **Onomatopoeic Reduplication:** English frequently forms sound words by pairing a high-front vowel (/ɪ/) with a low-back vowel (/ɒ/): *tick-tock, ding-dong, ping-pong*.

LESSON 151 TEACHER GUIDE & ANSWER KEY

POETRY • CONTRACTIONS • ONOMATOPOEIA

Wheeler's Elementary Speller • Page 81

WORD	IPA	LINGUISTIC FEATURE	PEDAGOGICAL PRESCRIPTION
tick	/tɪk/	Onomatopoeia	High vowel /ɪ/ mimicking sharp escapement click.
tock	/tɒk/	Onomatopoeia	Lower vowel /ɒ/ mimicking resonant swing of pendulum.
it's	/ɪts/	Contraction	Apostrophe replaces letter <i>i</i> of <i>is</i> .
clock	/klɒk/	Noun	Old English <i>clucge</i> (bell). Terminal -ck after short o.

COMPLETE ANSWER KEY & SOLUTIONS

WHEELER'S EXERCISES

Exercise 2 Contractions:

- it is* → *it's*.
- that is* → *that's*.
- there is* → *there's*.
- Apostrophe Check:** Ensure students understand the difference between *it's* (it is) and possessive *its*.

Recitation Drill:

Have students tap desks in rhythm with 'tick, tock' while reciting the moral stanza.

Enforce crisp articulation of the final /k/ sound in *clock*, *work*.

SOCRATIC GUIDING PROMPTS & PEDAGOGICAL INSIGHTS

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

- What sound does a grandfather clock make? Why does the second sound have an 'o' instead of an 'i'?
- What two words are squeezed together to make 'it's'? What does the apostrophe take the place of?
- How can we make good use of every day in school?

DICTATION & ORAL APPLICATION SENTENCES (READ SLOWLY AT NORMAL SPEAKING PACE):

- “Tick, tock! tick, tock!” strikes the great hall clock.
- It's time to work and make good use of our precious hours.
- The old clock strikes twelve with loud iron beats.
- That's the finest clock in the whole town.