

Name: _____

Date: _____

Class / Grade: _____

Score: _____

LESSON 25. POETRY • VOWEL O STUDY (Ō & Ō̄)

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Phonological Study: Discriminate short ō (nōt, stōp, drōp, frōst) and long ō (cōld, gōld) in poetic selections by Jean Ingelow & Emily Huntington Miller.

POETRY • VOWEL O (Ō & Ō̄)

1

1. Copy the following carefully.

Read each poem aloud with expressive rhythm, then transcribe neatly on the guidelines:

They sang, and would not stop
While drop, and drop, and drop,
I heard the melted frost in the sunshine fall.

— JEAN INGELOW

Sweet little violets hid from the cold,
Put on your mantles of purple and gold.

— EMILY HUNTINGTON MILLER

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2. Put the proper mark over each o.

Determine whether each vowel o has the short sound (breve ˘) or long sound (macron ̄):

SHORT SOUND OF O • BREVE (˘)

not → n ˘ t

stop → st ˘ p

drop → dr ˘ p

frost → fr ˘ st

on → ˘ n

LONG SOUND OF O • MACRON (̄)

cold → c ̄ ld

gold → g ̄ ld

(Hint: Both cold and gold make long ō before -ld!)

3

3. Write from dictation.

Listen carefully as your teacher dictates selected lines from the poems. Transcribe accurately:

Line 1: _____

Line 2: _____

PHONICS & SPELLING RULES TO REMEMBER

1. Short ō Rhyme (-op)

In closed syllables, o makes the short sound /ɒ/ (not, stop, drop, frost). In Jean Ingelow's poem, stop and drop create a playful short ō rhyme!

2. Long ō Rhyme (-old)

Before consonant cluster -ld, vowel o breaks the closed rule and becomes long /ou/ (cold, gold). In Miller's poem, cold and gold rhyme on long ō!

3. Silent Letters in Context

Notice silent letters across both selections: silent l in would, silent final e in sunshine (magic e), and silent e in purple (consonant-le)!

LESSON 25: POETRY • VOWEL O STUDY — MASTER KEY

Phonetic Scansion, Diacritical Marking of O (ō & ȏ) & Science of Reading Guide

Official Solution

1. COMPLETE POETRY ANNOTATION & SCANSION

SELECTION 1 • JEAN INGELOW (ONOMATOPOEIC SPRING THAW):

They sang, and would not stop
While drop, and drop, and drop,
I heard the melted frost in the sunshine fall.

/stɒp/ • Short ȏ (closed syllable -op); silent l in would

/drɒp/ • Rhyme with stop; 3× repetition creates dripping rhythm

/frɒst/ • Short ȏ; sunshine has long ī via magic e

SELECTION 2 • EMILY HUNTINGTON MILLER (SPRING AWAKENING):

Sweet little violets hid from the cold,
Put on your mantles of purple and gold.

/kəʊld/ • Long ȏ (pre-cluster lengthening before -ld)

/ɡəʊld/ • Long ȏ; rhymes with cold; on has short ȏ

2. MASTER ANSWERS: DIACRITICAL CLASSIFICATION OF VOWEL O

Short Sound of o (Breve ȏ, /ɒ/ or /ɑː/):

- nȏt (/nɒt/ • closed syllable -ot)
- stȏp (/stɒp/ • closed syllable -op)
- drȏp (/drɒp/ • closed syllable -op, repeated 3×)
- frȏst (/frɒst/ • closed syllable before -st)
- ȏn (/ɒn/ • closed syllable preposition)
- frȏm (/frɒm/ or /frɑːm/ • short ȏ in stressed citation form).

Long Sound of o (Macron ȏ, /oʊ/):

- cȏld (/kəʊld/ • closed syllable exception before voiced sonorant cluster -ld)
- gȏld (/ɡəʊld/ • closed syllable exception before voiced sonorant cluster -ld).

Silent Letters & Advanced Orthographic Analysis:

- would (/wəʊd/): Contains silent letter l (historical modal auxiliary).
- sunshine: Contains silent final e signaling long ī in split digraph i_e.
- purple: Contains silent final e in consonant-le syllable.

PHONETIC DIRECT APPLICATION OF LESSON 24

Notice Wheeler's flawless pedagogical continuity: Lesson 24 taught the target word columns (drop, stop in Col 1; cold, gold in Col 2). Lesson 25 immediately anchors these words in authentic children's literature. Children experience the functional reality of phonics: decoding isolated spelling words directly unlocks the aesthetic beauty of rhyming verse.

LITERARY HERITAGE OF INGELOW & MILLER

- Jean Ingelow (1820–1897) captures auditory onomatopoeia: "drop, and drop, and drop" mimics the exact tempo of thawing winter icicles.
- Emily Huntington Miller (1833–1913) personifies nature: early spring violets throw off the chill of winter to put on royal "mantles of purple and gold".

4. ASSESSMENT RUBRIC (25 POINTS TOTAL)

Task Focus	Instructional Standard & Criteria	Scoring
1. Copywork Precision	Flawless transcription of all 5 poetic lines with neat baseline alignment and punctuation.	6 pts (1.2 pts / line)
2. Short ȏ Marking	Accurately placing breves (˘) over short ȏ words (not, stop, drop, frost, on).	5 pts (1 pt / word)
3. Long ȏ Marking	Accurately placing macrons (¯) over long ȏ words (cold, gold) before -ld.	4 pts (2 pts / word)
4. Dictation Accuracy	Accurate transcription under oral dictation, preserving tricky spelling patterns (would, sunshine).	6 pts (3 pts / line)
5. Oral Recitation	Expressive, rhythmic oral recitation with distinct short /ɒ/ and long /oʊ/ contrast.	4 pts (mastery standard)