

Literary Element: Style

Name _____

Style as a literary element refers to *how* an author says something as opposed to *what* he says. The most typical element of style is a writer's use of specific devices of language.

Connotation refers to the associative or emotional meaning of a word. Camp Green Lake is not at all like the name suggests it may be. What images come to your mind when you hear the word "*camp*"? How about "*green lake*"? Contrast that with what Camp Green Lake is really like.

Mr. Sir often tells the boys, "You're not in girl scouts anymore." What comes to mind when you think of *girl scouts*? _____

Imagery refers to the way an author appeals to the senses. For example, when Stanley gets to take a cold shower on his hot and sore body he says it is like, "four minutes of heaven." What images do you get when you hear the word *heaven*? Why did the author use that word to describe what the shower felt like to Stanley? _____

A **symbol** is a person, object, situation, or action that operates on two levels of meaning; the literal and the figurative. To be a symbol, a term needs meaning beyond its literal self. Zero, as well as the other boys, are very guarded when it comes to personal information. However, when Zero and Stanley are trying to survive together, they become closer and divulge information they would normally keep to themselves. When Zero shares a story about his mother, Stanley feels like he has "peeled another layer of his onion." What is the onion a symbol for in this reference? What is the onion a general symbol for in the story as a whole? _____
