

Read this poem, which shows 2 ways of looking at a city. Then answer the questions. Some questions may ask you about certain lines in this poem. The numbers are found on the left side of the poem.

## City, City

by Marci Ridlon

I

1 City, city,  
Wrong and bad,  
Looms above me  
When I'm sad,  
5 Throws its shadow  
On my care,  
Sheds its poison  
In my air,  
Pounds me with its  
10 Noisy fist,  
Sprays me with its  
Sooty mist.  
Till, with sadness  
On my face,  
15 I long to live  
Another place.

II

City, city,  
Golden-clad,  
Shines around me  
20 When I'm glad,  
Lifts me with its  
Strength and height,  
Fills me with its  
Sound and sight,

25 Takes me to its  
Crowded heart,  
Holds me so I  
Won't depart.  
Till, with gladness  
30 On my face,  
I wouldn't live  
Another place.

0618

"City, City" by Marci Ridlon. Copyright © 1969 By Marci Ridlon. Used by permission of the author.

1. In lines 1–16, why does the poet want to live in another place?
- Ⓐ The poet likes the calm of the country.
  - Ⓑ The city has many bright lights.
  - Ⓒ The poet has no friends or family there.
  - Ⓓ The city is loud and polluted.

1. Look at line 3 from the poem.

Looms above me

Which words mean the same as looms?

- Ⓐ Falls on
- Ⓑ Follows behind
- Ⓒ Hangs over
- Ⓓ Weaves through

1. Read lines 5 and 6 from the poem.

Throws its shadow  
On my care,

What do these lines mean?

- Ⓐ The city will get dark if I am out late.
- Ⓑ The city makes it hard for me to be healthy.
- Ⓒ When I am ill, it is difficult to find a doctor in the city.
- Ⓓ When I am having problems, the city makes me feel worse.

1. In line 7, what is the poet talking about when she says the city “sheds its poison”?
- Ⓐ The poet’s sadness
  - Ⓑ The city’s pollution
  - Ⓒ The poet’s anger
  - Ⓓ The city’s noise

130054-0618

1. In the poem, how do the poet's feelings about the city change?
- Ⓐ From happiness to sadness
  - Ⓑ From not liking to liking
  - Ⓒ From joy to fear
  - Ⓓ From uncertain to certain

1. Which words best describe the city in lines 1–16?
- Ⓐ Strong and uplifting
  - Ⓑ Neighborly and friendly
  - Ⓒ Shiny and bright
  - Ⓓ Messy and uncomfortable

130045-0618



1. Reread line 22 from verse 2.

Strength and height

What line below rhymes with line 22?

- Ⓐ "Fills me with its"
- Ⓑ "Sound and sight"
- Ⓒ "Crowded heart"
- Ⓓ "Till, with gladness"

1. Look at lines 27 and 28 from the poem.

Holds me so I  
Won't depart.

The word depart means

- Ⓐ leave the city.
- Ⓑ enjoy the city.
- Ⓒ poison the city.
- Ⓓ live in the city.

1. What is the main idea of the entire poem?
- Ⓐ It is easy to live in a large city.
  - Ⓑ The city makes people tired and scared.
  - Ⓒ The city has 2 different sides.
  - Ⓓ People who live in the city are busy.

130050-0618



## MCA-II Item Sampler Answer Key Grade 3 Reading

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Correct Answer</b>	<b>Item Type</b>	<b>Strand</b>	<b>Sub-Strand</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>Cognitive Level</b>
130046-0618	D	MC	I	D	2	B
130041-0618	C	MC	I	B	3	B
130051-0618	D	MC	I	C	3	C
130054-0618	B	MC	I	D	8	B
130049-0618	B	MC	I	D	8	C
130045-0618	D	MC	I	D	2	B
130055-0618	B	MC	I	D	3	A
130042-0618	A	MC	I	B	3	B
130050-0618	C	MC	I	C	3	B
130053-0618	See Annotation	CR	I	D	8	C

# MCA-II Item Sampler

## Rubric, Sample Responses and Answer Annotations

### Grade 3 Reading

#### Rubric:

Score	Description
3	Response clearly explains how the two verses are different, including three specific and relevant examples from the poem as support.
2	Response partially explains how the two verses are different, including one or two examples from the poem as support.
1	Response minimally explains how the two verses are different and/or includes one example or limited information from the poem as support.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.

#### Sample Answer:

The two verses are different because they show the different ways the speaker feels about the city. In the first verse the speaker feels bad and does not like the city. For example he says the city “pounds” him. In the second verse, the speaker feels good and likes the city. For example he says the city “shines around me” and “I wouldn’t live another place.”

1. Think about the differences between verse 1 and verse 2.

**Part A** Explain how the 2 verses in the poem "City, City" are different.

**Part B** Give at least 3 examples from the poem to support your answer.

In the first verse the speaker thought that the city was bad. And in the second verse the speaker liked the city.

Verse 1

Verse 2

city is bad

city is good

city is polluted

city has sounds

city is dark

city has sights

city fills her

with gladness

130053-0618

**Score Point: 3**

Response clearly explains how the two verses are different (...first verse the speaker thought that the city was bad) (...second verse the speaker liked the city) including three specific and relevant examples from the poem as support. (...city is polluted...) ...(city has sounds... city has sights... city fills her with gladness).

1. Think about the differences between verse 1 and verse 2.

**Part A** Explain how the 2 verses in the poem "City, City" are different.

**Part B** Give at least 3 examples from the poem to support your answer.

How City is different to City.  
One part of the poem is the  
sadness and the last city is happiness  
Some examples of the sadness is when  
the auther sees the polution in the  
air and looms above her when  
shes sad. Two happy examples  
about the city is it shines around  
her when shes glad and when  
it fills her whith its sound  
and sights.

130053-0618

**Score Point: 3**

Response clearly explains how the two verses are different (*One part of the poem is the sadness...*) (*...the last city is happiness*) including three specific and relevant examples from the poem as support. (*...pollution in the air...looms over her when shes sad*) (*shines around her...fills her whith its sound and sight.*).



1. Think about the differences between verse 1 and verse 2.

**Part A** Explain how the 2 verses in the poem "City, City" are different.

**Part B** Give at least 3 examples from the poem to support your answer.

The first verse was all about the poet not liking the city. The second was the completely different. The first verse said, "Pounds me with its noisy fist." the other verse said shines around me when im glad  
And that's how the two verses are different

130053-0618

**Score Point: 2**

Response partially explains how the two verses are different (*The first verse was all about the poet not liking the city.*) (*The second was completely different.*) including one or two examples from the poem as support (*Pounds me with its noisy fist...*) (*...Shines around me when im glad.*)

1. Think about the differences between verse 1 and verse 2.

**Part A** Explain how the 2 verses in the poem "City, City" are different.

**Part B** Give at least 3 examples from the poem to support your answer.

A. The first verse is very sad, but The second verse is happy.

B. In the poem the poet said, "with sadness on my face," which is sad. In the second verse she explains happy stuff. Like, on my face I wouldn't live another place.

130053-0618

**Score Point: 2**

Response partially explains how the two verses are different (*The first verse is very sad.*) (*The second verse is very happy.*) including one or two examples from the poem as support (*...with sadness on my face...*) (*...I wouldnt live another place.*).

1. Think about the differences between verse 1 and verse 2.

**Part A** Explain how the 2 verses in the poem "City, City" are different.

**Part B** Give at least 3 examples from the poem to support your answer.

The two verses are different because the first verse the city is bad cause the person is feeling bad. And the next verse she is feeling good so the city gives her good feelings.

130053-0618

**Score Point: 1**

Response minimally explains how the two verses are different (...the first verse the city is bad...the next verse she is feeling very good...) with limited information from the poem as support.

1. Think about the differences between verse 1 and verse 2.

**Part A** Explain how the 2 verses in the poem "City, City" are different.

**Part B** Give at least 3 examples from the poem to support your answer.

Part

① The first verse says the city is a bad place.

Part ①

① Sheds its poison, in my air.

② Pounds me with its fists.

③ Throws its shadow on my care.

130053-0618

**Score Point: 1**

Response includes one example (...the city is a bad place.) with limited information from the poem as support (...Sheds it's poison, in my air. Pounds me with it's fists. Throws it's shadow on my care.).

1. Think about the differences between verse 1 and verse 2.

**Part A** Explain how the 2 verses in the poem "City, City" are different.

**Part B** Give at least 3 examples from the poem to support your answer.

Part A Are cities are more nice,  
we normally live closer to  
friends and family.

Part B To get seperated from  
your family, To live in a  
mean citys. To have a crowd  
heart.

130053-0618

**Score Point: 0**

Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.

1. Think about the differences between verse 1 and verse 2.

**Part A** Explain how the 2 verses in the poem "City, City" are different.

**Part B** Give at least 3 examples from the poem to support your answer.

Part A: they are different, because in one story they talk about someone who have a cold and the other story talks about a city.

Part B, help we someone have a cold and live in a city

130053-0618

**Score Point: 0**

Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.