

ICE Samples

Question to answer: In the novel, *Bud Not Buddy*, explain how Christopher Paul Curtis uses figurative language to convey what Buddy is experiencing.

Note: These samples are imbedded within a longer essay or paragraph.

Green = Introduce the source and context of the quote

Red = Cite exact quote with punctuation and page

Blue = Explain the quote's significance/connection to the prompt

In the very first paragraph of *Bud, Not Buddy*, Christopher Paul Curtis describes a caseworker walking down the hall, “Her high shoes sounding like little firecrackers going off on the wooden floor.” (Page 1) This image captures the tension in the children as they await adoption news. The tapping firecracker signifies little explosions designed to startle children not soothe them.

In chapter two, Curtis describes what it felt like for Buddy to awake with a pencil being shoved up his nose. He writes that it felt, “like a steam locomotive had jumped the tracks and chug-chug-chugged its way straight up my nose.” (Page 12) This chugging engine is a perfect analogy because the reader can feel Buddy's pain. It gives one the sense that the train would keep on going, increasing the suffering with every inch.

It is not just Curtis' use of similes but his ability to choose the right simile for each situation. For example, in chapter two, when Bud gets into a fight with the bully, Todd, Curtis writes that Todd could “hit like a mule.” (page 28) And when Bud returned from the shed to exact his revenge he “crouched like a cat burglar.” (page 30) These are effective examples of similes because they fit the situation. Todd does seem like a mule (big, strong, but not too bright), and the cat-like Budd is clearly bent on doing something illegal when he reenters the house.

Rate It!

Evaluate each sample, and be prepared to justify your score with specific examples from the passage.

In Bud, Not Buddy, explain how Christopher Paul Curtis uses figurative language to show the experience of his main character.

Introduce the source and context of the quote (who, what, when, where)	4 pts.
Cite exact quote with punctuation and page	2 pts.
Explain the quote's significance/connection to the prompt	4 pts.

1. In Chapter One it says, "one of the caseworkers came in and tap-tap tapped down the line." This shows that there is good language.

Intro	___/4	Total	___/10
Cite "Exact quote"	___/2		
Explain	___/4		

2. A great example of this vivid language comes from Chapter One. In this scene, Bud is in an orphanage and is nervous about being adopted. He hears one of the caseworkers tapping down the line. Curtis combines onomatopoeia and a vivid verb to write tapping down the line. It is a perfect image because the reader can hear the caseworker's shoes and feels the suspense, *tap tap tapping down the line*.

Intro	___/4	Total	___/10
Cite "Exact quote"	___/2		
Explain	___/4		

3. Curtis uses onomatopoeia and similes very effectively. In the very first chapter, Bud is in the orphanage waiting for the arrival of the caseworker. "One of the caseworkers came in and *tap-tap tapped* down the line . . . her high shoes sounding like little firecrackers going off on the wooden floor." (page 1).

Intro	___/4	Total	___/10
Cite "Exact quote"	___/2		
Explain	___/4		

Choose one of the above samples and revise it to get a perfect score of 10.

Answer Key—*Bud, Not Buddy*

In Bud, Not Buddy, explain how Christopher Paul Curtis uses figurative language to show the experience of his main character.

Introduce the source and context of the quote (who, what, when, where)	4 pts.
Cite exact quote with punctuation and source/page	2 pts.
Explain the quote's significance/connection to the prompt	4 pts.

1. In Chapter One it says, “one of the caseworkers came in and tap-tap tapped down the line.” This shows that there is good language.

Intro	1 /4	No who, when, where
Cite “Exact quote”	1 /2	Missing capital; no page number
Explain	1 /4	No specific analysis or elaboration
Total	3 /10	

2. A great example of this vivid language comes from Chapter One. In this scene, Bud is in an orphanage and is nervous about being adopted. He hears one of the caseworkers tapping down the line. Curtis combines onomatopoeia and a vivid verb to write tapping down the line. It is a perfect image because the reader can hear the caseworker's shoes and feels the suspense, *tap tap tapping down the line*.

Intro	4 /4	
Cite “Exact quote”	0 /2	No quotation marks; no page number
Explain	4 /4	
Total	8 /10	

3. Curtis uses onomatopoeia and similes very effectively. In the very first chapter, Bud is in the orphanage waiting for the arrival of the caseworker. “One of the caseworkers came in and *tap-tap tapped* down the line . . . her high shoes sounding like little firecrackers going off on the wooden floor.” (page 1).

Intro	4 /4	
Cite “Exact quote”	2 /2	
Explain	0 /4	No explanation of quote's significance
Total	6 /10	

Rate It!

Evaluate each sample, and be prepared to justify your score with specific examples from the passage (*Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen).

Explain how the protagonist, Brian, changes in the story.

Introduce the source and context of the quote (who, what, when, where) 4 pts.

Cite exact quote with punctuation and source/page 2 pts.

Explain the quote's significance/connection to the prompt 4 pts.

1. Late in the book it says, "That was the difference now. He had changed, and he was tough. I'm tough where it counts—tough in the head . . ." This shows Brian is changed.

Intro	___/4	Total	___/10
Cite "Exact quote"	___/2		
Explain	___/4		

2. An example of the great change comes after Brian survives a hurricane. In this scene, Brian is on the verge of despair as everything he worked hard to create has been wiped out. You can tell he is different now because he is not depressed, he assesses his mental toughness and knows he has what it takes to rebuild his shelter, find food, and survive.

Intro	___/4	Total	___/10
Cite "Exact quote"	___/2		
Explain	___/4		

3. Brian's conflict with nature is never more vivid than after he experiences a hurricane in the late summer. The hurricane wipes out everything Brian has worked to create: his shelter, his fish-farm, and his hunting tools. But, the conflict has not defeated Brian. Paulson writes of Brian's thoughts, "That was the difference now. He had changed, and he was tough. I'm tough where it counts—tough in the head." (P. 100) This shows Brian has become a survivor. All he really needs is his spirit, his intelligence, his "head." The conflict with nature changed him; it made him tougher. He grew up.

Intro	___/4	Total	___/10
Cite "Exact quote"	___/2		
Explain	___/4		

Choose one of the above samples and revise it to get a perfect score of 10.

Answer Key--*Hatchet*

Explain how the protagonist, Brian, changes in the story.

Introduce the source and context of the quote (who, what, when, where)	4 pts.
Cite exact quote with punctuation and page	2 pts.
Explain the quote's significance/connection to the prompt	4 pts.

1. Late in the book it says, "That was the difference now. He had changed, and he was tough. I'm tough where it counts—tough in the head . . ." This shows Brian is changed.

Intro	1 / 4	No who or where
Cite "Exact quote"	1 / 2	No page number
Explain	1 / 4	Significance is weak and unelaborated
Total	3/10	

2. An example of the great change comes after Brian survives a hurricane. In this scene, Brian is on the verge of despair as everything he worked hard to create has been wiped out. You can tell he is different now because he is not depressed, he assesses his mental toughness and knows he has what it takes to rebuild his shelter, find food, and survive.

Intro	4 / 4	
Cite "Exact quote"	0 / 2	No quote or page number
Explain	3 / 4	No quote to analyze, but some elaboration on how Brian has changed
Total	7/10	

3. Brian's conflict with nature is never more vivid than after he experiences a hurricane in the late summer. The hurricane wipes out everything Brian has worked to create: his shelter, his fish-farm, and his hunting tools. But, the conflict has not defeated Brian. Paulson writes of Brian's thoughts, "That was the difference now. He had changed, and he was tough. I'm tough where it counts—tough in the head." (P. 100) This shows Brian has become a survivor. All he really needs is his spirit, his intelligence, his "head." The conflict with nature changed him; it made him tougher. He grew up.

Intro	4 / 4	
Cite "Exact quote"	2 / 2	
Explain	4 / 4	
Total	10/10	