English Language Arts 10-2

Unit 2: Comprehend and respond to texts

Mood in a repeated word

Repetition of one word

- The gym lights were still on. The streamers were still taped to the rail. The speaker was still humming, and nobody was dancing.
- Repetition of “still” is the device. Three times is enough to feel a beat without becoming a joke.
- The sentences are straightforward. That plain shape lets the repeated word do the work.
- The mood is quiet and emptied. Lights, paper, and a hum remain. The people have gone. Nothing here is chasing anyone.

After the dance

The gym lights were **still** on.

The streamers were **still** taped to the rail.

The speaker was **still** humming,

and nobody was dancing.

Still is repeated so the room feels paused. The dance is over and the gear has not caught up.

Repetition and feeling

- Repetition here is still, used three times so the leftover gear shares one condition.
- Straightforward sentences are the stylistic choice that keeps the voice from shouting.
- Mood is quiet and emptied. Setting does a large share: lights, streamers, a speaker, no dancers.
- Word choice does the rest. Humming is small. Taped is ordinary. Together they avoid horror.

Key terms

repetition

Using a word or a shape again so a reader feels emphasis or a beat.

mood

The feeling a text builds in the reader through setting, sound, and word choice.

Word choice and feeling

- Replace still with already: the lights were already off in your head, the cleanup sounds planned.
- The original still says the room is waiting for someone to close it up.
- “Nobody was dancing” is the human absence. It is one clause beside the repeated word.
- Humming is a small sound. Small sound plus leftover paper is emptied and quiet.

Device, then mood

- Device: still, three times, in plain sentences.
- Emphasis: the lights, the streamers, and the speaker share one unfinished condition.
- Mood: quiet and emptied.
- Evidence: no dancers, tape still on the rail, a hum where the music used to be.

The pool after close

- The deck lights were off. The water kept slapping the tile. The water kept slapping the tile. A kickboard drifted.
- The repeat is kept slapping. Decide whether it is emphasis or a typing error.
- Name the mood and one detail that builds it.

Review

- Cover the gym and the pool.
- The saw was off. The sawdust was still on the line. The sawdust was still on the line. A pencil rolled and stopped.
- Name the device and the mood with evidence.