

**TEACHER GUIDE TO STUDENT WORKSHEET 1 –
UNDERSTANDING POEMS ABOUT PAPERMAKING**

Student Names:

READER _____

VOCABULARY ENRICHER _____

SYNTAX SPECIALIST _____

DISCUSSION DIRECTOR _____

Directions: Each of you is assigned one of four different roles listed above. Do the tasks and answer the questions below according to your group role:

Part A: Excerpt of a Poem by Richard Frame (1692)

The READER should read aloud Part A: Excerpt of a Poem by Richard Frame (1692) from Student Handout 1: Poems about Papermaking all the way through one time.

1. This poem was written in 1692, so some of the words sound a little strange today. What words are unfamiliar to your group? The READER should read Part A from Student Handout 1 again, and this time the VOCABULARY ENRICHER should underline any words that are unfamiliar to your group. This includes words that you might know in another context, but seem to have a different meaning in this passage. The VOCABULARY ENRICHER should look the words up in a dictionary and pick the meaning that makes the most sense in this context. Write the words and the definitions you looked up in the space below.

Possible terms students look up include:

Trade (line 4) – occupation or job

Linen (line 4) – cloth made by weaving spun fibers of the flax plant

Flax (line 5) – plant used in the production of linen cloth

Tow (line 6) – waste from the flax plant after the fibers have been removed

Habitation (line 7) – dwelling place

Imployment (line 9) – old fashioned spelling for “employment”

Doth (lines 11 & 15) – old form of the verb “does”

Derive (line 11) – comes from a certain source

Nigh (line 15) – near

Appareth (line 25) – old form of the verb “appears”

Returneth (line 26) – old form of the verb “return”

2. Even after looking up some words you didn't know, your group still might not understand some of the phrases or lines of the poem. The SYNTAX SPECIALIST should write the phrases or lines of the poem in the space below. The class will discuss what these mean later in the period.

Possible phrases students will identify include:

Imployment (line 9) – old fashioned spelling for “employment”

“hard by” (line 16) – nearby

“waste and fade” (line 24) – fall apart

Appareth (line 25) – old form of the verb “appears”

Returneth (line 26) – old form of the verb “return”

3. Discuss the following questions. The DISCUSSION DIRECTOR should lead your group in talking about each one and also write down your answers.
- A. According to the author, what is an important business to the people of Germantown? (hint: see line 4 of the poem)

Weaving linen cloth

- B. According to the author, what is used to make “good paper”? (hint: see lines 11 and 23)

Linen rags

- C. The author calls linen weaving and papermaking “brother[s]” in line 10. How could they be like brothers?

They are closely interrelated. Papermaking is not possible without a supply of linen rags.

- D. Lines 12 and 13 of the poem read:

“The first trade keeps the second alive;
Without the first the second cannot be...”

- (1) Which trade (or business) does the author consider to be the first?

Linen weaving

- (2) Which is the second?

Paper making

- (3) Why couldn't the second business exist without the first one?

Papermaking requires linen rags for the pulp, so without a linen maker, there would be no raw materials for the paper maker.

- E. Why do you think Rittenhouse located his paper mill in Germantown, Pennsylvania? (Hint: think about think about what is needed to make paper.)

Flax grew in the countryside surrounding Germantown, and that supplied the linen weavers there. From the linen came rags, essential for making paper.

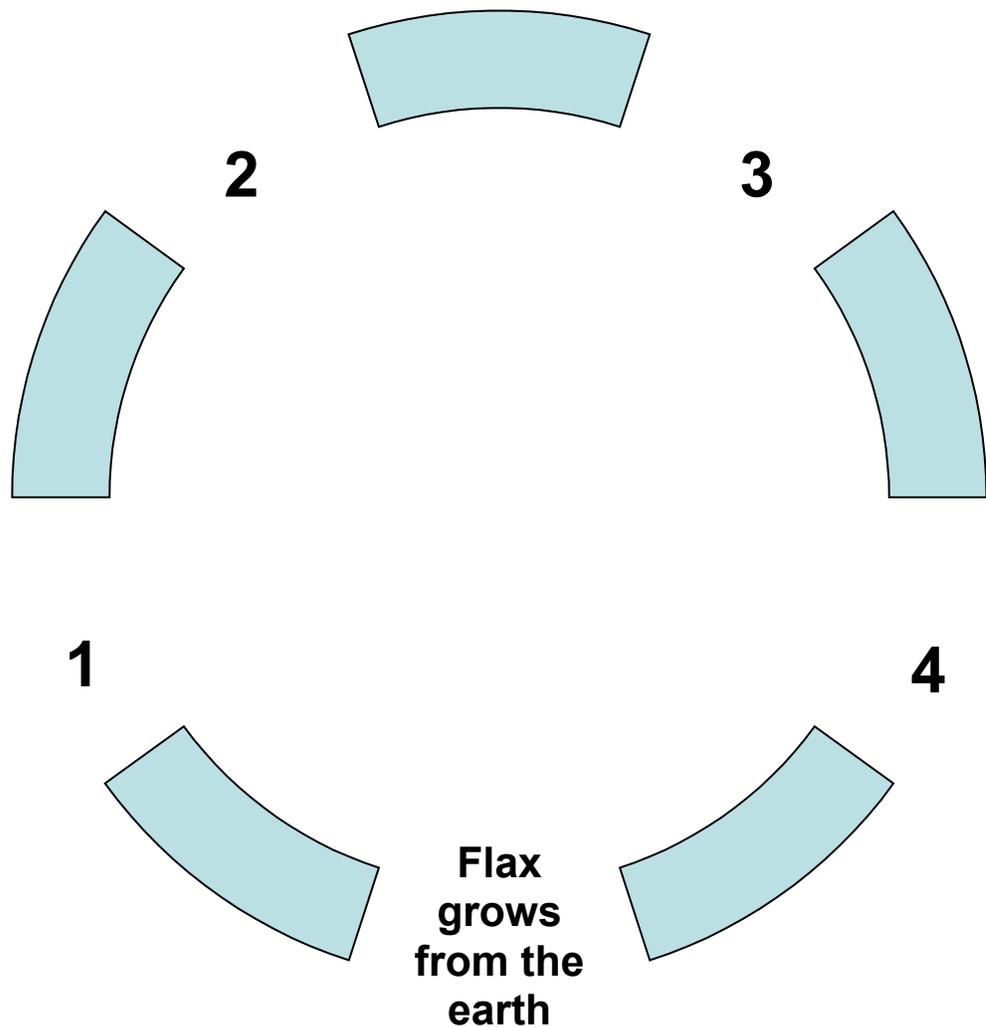
- F. Lines 18 to 26 describe the cycle of the materials used in papermaking. Read the descriptions below. Then, write the number beside each statement that shows where it belongs in the cycle illustrated below.

 4 Paper is used, gets old, and returns to the earth

 2 Yarn is woven to cloth or clothes

 1 Flax is spun into yarn

 3 Cloth is worn to rags which are used to make paper



Part B: Excerpt of a Poem by John Holme (1696)

4. The READER should read aloud the following background of the poem:

In the year 1696, William Bradford, a printer and one of the business partners of William Rittenhouse, decided to leave Philadelphia and move to New York. In exchange for his share of the paper making company, he arranged to get several reams of printing and writing paper from the mill each year (a “ream” is about 500 sheets of paper). The excerpt of a poem on STUDENT HANDOUT 2 is about Bradford.

Now the READER should read aloud Part B: Excerpt of a Poem by John Holme (1696) from Student Handout 1: Poems about Papermaking all the way through one time.

5. Like the previous poem, this one has some words that sound a little strange today. What words are unfamiliar to your group? The READER should read Part B from Student Handout 1 again, and this time the VOCABULARY ENRICHER should underline any words that are unfamiliar to your group. This includes words that you might know in another context, but seem to have a different meaning in this passage. The VOCABULARY ENRICHER should look the words up in a dictionary and pick the meaning that makes the most sense in this context. Write the words and the definitions you looked up in the space below.

Possible terms students look up include:

Dwell (line 8) – live

Shift (line 11) – loose fitting shirt

Rent (line 11) – past tense of “rend,” meaning to tear or rip

6. Even after looking up some words you didn't know, your group still might not understand some of the phrases or lines of the poem. The SYNTAX SPECIALIST should write the phrases or lines of the poem in the space below. The class will discuss what these mean later in the period.

Possible phrases students will identify include:

“he wants not of paper, ink nor skill”(line 3) – he doesn't need paper, ink, or skill, because he already has each of them

“hard by” (line 5) – nearby

“No doubt but he will lay up bags” (line 9) – perhaps he will acquire lots of money (“bags” of it)

“If he can get good store of rags.” (line 10) – if he can find a supply of linen rags for making pulp

“Kind friend, when thy old shift is rent” (line 11) – when your old shirt is ripped or torn

7. Discuss the following questions. The DISCUSSION DIRECTOR should lead your group in talking about each one and also write down your answers.

A. According to the author, the printer "...wants not of paper..." Why is this? (hint: see line 4 of the poem)

"He's owner of a paper mill."

B. Which line of the poem refers to the printer (Bradford) leaving Philadelphia?

Line 8

C. What do you think the line "No doubt but he will lay up bags" (line 9) means?

Possible response: He will acquire lots of money ("bags" of it) from his printing business (which relies on papermaking).