

## Grade 4 Poetry

Read the following passage and answer questions 1 through 6.

### My Writing Is an Awful Mess

1. My writing is an awful mess,
2. And my teacher asked me why.
3. "I zoom through my assignments,"
4. I told her with a sigh."
  
5. "I want to finish all this work
6. So I can yack with friends,
7. I simply cannot wait until
8. The school day finally ends."
  
9. "I never check my spelling and
10. Punctuation, I don't try
11. For if I spent my time on these,
12. My... social life would die."
  
13. "It's talking with my friends each day
14. That keeps my whole world bright,
15. And I don't want to give this up,
16. Just to get my schoolwork right"

1 **Read this line from the poem.**

I never check my spelling and

**Which meaning of the word check is being used?**

- A fabric with a pattern of squares
  - B look over for errors
  - C a mark indicating completion
  - D a written order to pay money
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- 2 **Which guide words would appear on a dictionary page containing the word "mess"?**
- A meow, merchant
  - B mesh, message
  - C mercury, mermaid
  - D messenger, messy

3 Which of these statements best describes the poet?

- A The poet would rather talk with friends than do the writing assignment.
- B The poet feels proud and satisfied about her writing.
- C The poet feels sad because she doesn't write very well.
- D The poet enjoys writing and works hard at it.

4 In line 6, what does the word yack mean?

- A talk
- B sleep
- C study
- D eat

5 Look at the dictionary entry.

**zoom (zoom)**  
**1. To move quickly.**  
**2. To increase suddenly.**  
**3. To bring a subject close up.**  
**4. To move suddenly with a loud buzzing sound.**

Which meaning of zoom is used in line 3?

- A Definition 1
- B Definition 2
- C Definition 3
- D Definition 4

6 Which word from the poem uses the suffix that means "process of"?

- A social
- B awful
- C punctuation
- D assignments