

Says - Means - Matters

In the essay, "Nature," Ralph Waldo Emerson relies on imagery in order to convey his belief that			
	What does the text... SAY?	What does the author... MEAN?	Why does it... MATTER?
Imagery	The author states, <u>"If the stars should appear one night in a thousand years, how would men believe and adore; and preserve for many generations the remembrance of the city of God which had been shown!" (p. 182)</u>	The statement <u>means that if the stars would come out only one night every thousand years, people would be filled with faith in and love for God, and they would remember the experience of the sublime for many generations.</u>	This is important because <u>the statement captures Emerson's belief that the divine can be easily found in nature if one stops taking it for granted and begins to appreciate it for all the majesty it truly represents.</u>
Word Choice and Tone	When Emerson states, <u>"When we speak of nature in this manner, we have a distinct but most poetical sense in the mind. We mean the integrity of impression made by manifold natural objects" (p. 182)</u> he develops a _____ tone.	This helps the reader <u>understand that he believes that the poet can look at nature as an organic whole rather than just a group of objects.</u>	An examination of this line reveals _____ _____ _____ _____.
The Transparent Eyeball	Emerson describes himself as a <u>transparent eyeball</u> .	In this statement, the author describes _____ _____ _____ _____ _____.	This description communicates that _____ _____ _____ _____ _____.
Views of nature	At the end of the essay, the author states, <u>"Nature always wear the colors of the spirit" (p. 183)</u>	In this statement, Emerson means that _____ _____ _____ _____ _____.	This resolution reminds the reader that _____ _____ _____ _____ _____.

REFLECTION: Implicit in the fourth paragraph is an assumption that city life can't help us feel the "currents of the Universal Being." Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why or why not?
