



ONLINE
9.4

Prompt Typical of AP Literature and Composition Test

The naturalist and explorer John Muir has left us a journal of his life and thoughts that is brimming with insight and brilliance. Analyze the following passage for its diction, tone and syntax. Explain how these elements are well suited to the theme of this passage.

There is love of wild nature in everybody, an ancient mother-love ever showing itself whether recognized or not, and however covered by cares and duties.

In God's wildness lies the hope of the world—the great fresh unblighted, unredeemed wilderness. The galling harness of civilization drops off, and the wounds heal ere we are aware.

I am often asked if I am not lonesome on my solitary excursions. It seems so self-evident that one cannot be lonesome where everything is wild and beautiful and busy and steeped with God that the question is hard to answer—seems silly.

In the mountains, free, unimpeded, the imagination feeds on objects immense and eternal.

To the Indian mind all nature was instinct with deity. A spirit was embodied in every mountain, stream, and waterfall.
