

LESSON 83: MEMORY LESSON — KIND HEARTS

GRADE 2 • PART II



Moral Lyric • Botanical Metaphor

Commit this four-line allegorical hymn to memory. Discover how thoughts, words, and deeds blossom like living plants in a garden:

*Kind hearts are the gardens,
Kind thoughts are the roots,
Kind words are the blossoms,
Kind deeds are the fruits.*

1 ALLEGORICAL ANALYSIS: NATURE & MORAL CHARACTER

Explore how the poem compares botanical organs to character virtues. Fill in each blank accurately.

1. **Heart & Thoughts:** A kind heart is like a fruitful _____; kind thoughts are deep _____.
2. **Words & Deeds:** Kind words are pleasant _____; noble deeds are sweet _____.
3. **Growth Order:** Just as roots produce fruit, pure thoughts bear kind _____ and kind _____.

2 MECHANICS: PARALLEL SYNTAX & PUNCTUATION

Observe the repeated grammar pattern and punctuation marks across the four lines.

4. **Anaphora & Cap:** Every single line begins with a capital letter and the word _____.
5. **Plural Agreement:** All four subjects are plural, requiring the plural linking verb _____.
6. **Punctuation Rules:** Lines 1, 2, and 3 end with a _____ (,); line 4 ends with a _____ (.).

3 MEMORY LESSON: TRANSCRIBE ALL FOUR LINES FROM MEMORY

Recite the poem aloud from memory. Then transcribe all four lines with perfect capitalization, spelling, and punctuation:

- Line 1: _____
- Line 2: _____
- Line 3: _____
- Line 4: _____

Pedagogical Overview • Botanical Metaphor & The Classical Moral Tradition

Lesson 83 pairs naturally with Lesson 82: having mastered the physical botany of roots, stem, and leaves, the child now contemplates a poetic allegory. In four succinct lines, the poet crafts an enduring moral metaphor: the human heart is cultivated soil; inner thoughts are hidden roots; spoken words are delightful blossoms; and outward deeds are the ripe, nourishing fruit. Through recitation and exact transcription, the child absorbs syntactic balance and internalizes ethical character.

Section 1 & 2 Model Answers • Allegorical & Grammatical Mastery

- 1. **Heart & Thoughts:** "A kind heart is like a fruitful **garden**; kind thoughts are deep **roots**."
- 2. **Words & Deeds:** "Kind words are pleasant **blossoms**; noble deeds are sweet **fruits**."
- 3. **Growth Order:** "Just as roots produce fruit, pure thoughts bear kind **words** and kind **deeds**."
- 4. **Anaphora & Cap:** "Every line begins with a capital letter and the adjective **Kind**."
- 5. **Plural Agreement:** "All four subjects (*hearts, thoughts, words, deeds*) take the plural verb **are**."
- 6. **Punctuation Rules:** "Lines 1, 2, and 3 end with a **comma** (,); line 4 ends with a **period** (.)."

Section 3 Exact Text & Transcription Criteria

Original Stanza:

*Kind hearts are the gardens,
Kind thoughts are the roots,
Kind words are the blossoms,
Kind deeds are the fruits.*

Checklist: Capital 'K' on every line; exact plural spellings (-s); commas on lines 1–3; final period on line 4.

HOLISTIC EVALUATION RUBRIC (CHARLOTTE MASON & CCSS ALIGNED)

Evaluation Domain	Exemplary (4 pts)	Proficient (3 pts)	Developing (1–2 pts)
1. Allegorical Interpretation	Explains with clarity how botanical growth (roots → blossoms → fruit) mirrors character (thoughts → words → deeds).	Understands the metaphor with minor difficulty explaining the root/thought connection.	Interprets poem strictly literally; fails to recognize moral metaphor.
2. Syntactic & Grammatical Precision	Identifies parallel structure, subject-verb agreement (plural <i>are</i>), and anaphora without error.	Identifies plural verb and capitalization accurately with minor assistance.	Struggles with verb agreement; omits punctuation explanations.
3. Memory Recitation & Text	Recites all four lines fluently with expressive inflection; reproduces verbatim text from memory.	Recites with 1 minor hesitation or word substitution; near-perfect memory text.	Requires substantial prompting; omits lines or reverses stanza order.
4. Penmanship & Mechanics	Exemplary handwriting; flawless capitalization of 'Kind'; exact commas and final period.	Legible handwriting; 1 minor punctuation error (e.g. period substituted for comma).	Uneven alignment; multiple punctuation omissions or missing initial capitals.