

## Beyond The Price Answer Key

### 1. Article's Critique

- Model Answer: The article criticizes fast fashion for exploiting workers and harming the environment, showing that cheap prices hide deeper costs.
- *Teacher Note:* Look for recognition of labor and environmental focus.

### 2. Poem's Critique

- Model Answer: The poem criticizes materialism for leaving people spiritually empty, showing that endless consumption brings only temporary satisfaction.
- *Teacher Note:* Students should see the critique as emotional emptiness and hollowness.

### 3. Hidden Costs

- Model Answer: Both texts show that materialism has consequences beyond what is visible. The article highlights hidden economic and environmental costs, while the poem highlights hidden emotional and spiritual emptiness.
- *Teacher Note:* Encourage students to see parallels across different "costs."

### 4. Tone Comparison

- Model Answer: The article's tone is serious, informative, and cautionary, focusing on facts and consequences. The poem's tone is critical and somber, using imagery to show emptiness. Together, they reinforce the critique through logic and emotion.
- *Teacher Note:* Accept variations if tone is well supported.

### 5. Synthesis Paragraph

- Model Answer: Both texts criticize materialism by showing that it has costs hidden beneath surface appeal. The article emphasizes the exploitation of workers and damage to the environment caused by fast fashion, while the poem stresses the emotional emptiness of endless consumption. Together, they argue that materialism not only harms people and the planet but also fails to provide lasting happiness. Reading them side by side highlights both practical and personal consequences of consumerism.
- *Teacher Note:* Strong answers weave both passages together, not just summarize separately.