

# An African Thunderstorm by David Rubadiri

Answers



# ANSWERS

1. The impression is that the wind is unpredictable/out of control and dangerous, bringing with it chaos and disruption.

***[Award 2 marks for one idea well discussed.]***

2. Sinister' has connotations of something that is evil, frightening and destructive.the mood is oppressive, ominous (*threatening*) and foreboding (*uneasiness*).

***[Award 2 marks only if mood is discussed.]***

dreamstime

# ANSWERS

3. The women's panicked state and anxiety reflect their fearful attitude toward the storm. Their rushing about gathering their possessions and their children creates a sense of urgency. The children's having to cling to their mothers' backs intensifies the agitation of the mothers and their determination to protect their children. They dread the havoc that the storm might cause.

*[Award 2 marks only if mood is discussed.]*

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4. The conclusion is **appropriate** because the title creates the expectation that the poem is about a thunderstorm. The poem's focus is on the build-up to the storm. By focusing on the elements of the wind and the clouds, the speaker gives them a significance and power of their own. They are the harbingers (*omens*) alerting people to the approach of the storm. The lightning flash and the rumbling thunder create tension as the reader anticipates the final eruption of the storm.

If thunderstorm is seen as an extended metaphor for destructive effects of colonialism. Responses with merit will be credited.

It can be suggested that the conclusion is **not appropriate** since the storm does not actually break, despite its build-up having been described throughout the poem. It ends anti-climatically.

***[Award 3 marks for two ideas well discussed OR three ideas.]***

