



ANSWERS

1. Bathos is a literary device in which a writer begins a sentence or scene in a serious and poetic tone and then pivots to say something mundane and/or absurd. When done skillfully, the effect is comic.
2. When it is unintentional, bathos can undermine serious scenes.
3. When it is intentional, the juxtaposition between the serious and the silly heightens the comic effect.
4. Combining a serious tone with humor using bathos surprises the audience and makes them laugh.