English Language Arts

Two songs imagine saints entering heaven. In the 1896 hymn “When the Saints Are Marching In,” Katharine E. Purvis writes, “Through the shining gate, Where the angels wait.” In the traditional spiritual “When the Saints Go Marching In,” the singer asks, “O Lord, I want to be in that number.”

Read closely Give each student the two lines above. Underline the words that describe a place. Circle the pronoun and verb that tell what the second speaker wants. In a sentence for each line, explain what the reader can picture or learn about the speaker.

Write Using your evidence, finish this comparison in your own words: “Purvis helps me see ____. The singer of the spiritual helps me understand ____.”

Read the 1896 hymn · Find Boatner’s 1927 arrangement · No. 33