POETRY WORKSHEET

Passion

Kathleen Raine

TASKS

1. In Raine's poem 'On the Elements', she states:

'For I myself am clay that breathes and talks Articulated earth, I move and pray Alive at once to walk and be the way.'

How do the ideas in these lines reflect the themes and deeper messages of 'Passion'?

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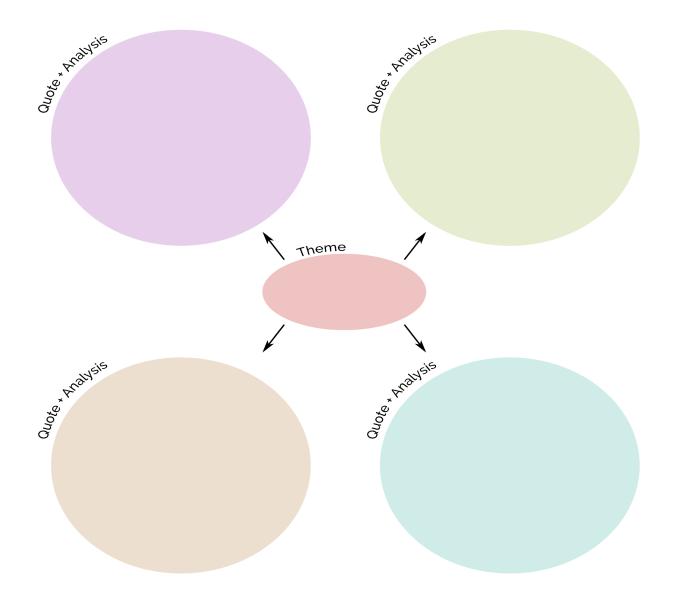
2. Do you think the speaker looks at life with an optimistic or pessimistic outlook? Explain your answer and give examples taken from the poem.

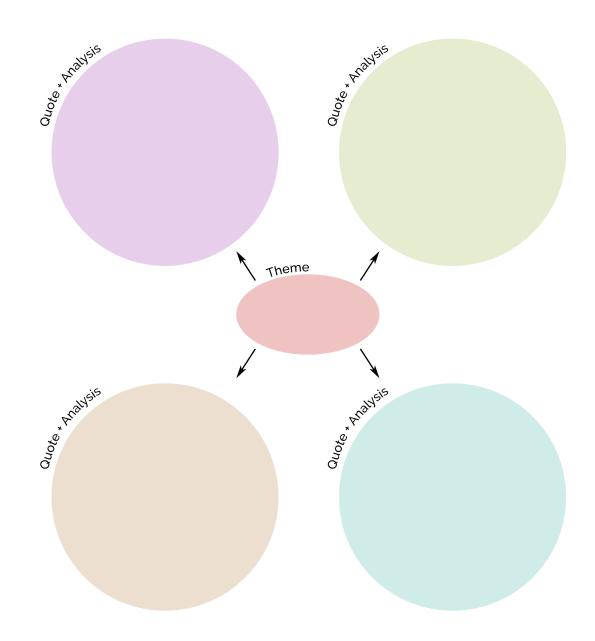
3. How does the poet draw on the theme of spirituality?

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4a. Pick two of these themes, then make a mind map for each by adding four separate quotations from the story that relates to them. Make short notes of analysis, explaining how and why each one relates to your theme.

- Heartbreak
- Nature
- Spirituality
- Life
- Death
- Hope
- Philosophy
- Mortality





4b. What, in your opinion, is the author's final message or statement about each theme that you chose?

EXERCISES

1. Identify where the poet uses imagery in the poem and which is most pertinent to how the speaker feels.

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PRACTICE ESSAY QUESTIONS

- 1. Discuss Raine's treatment of the theme of nature, focusing on its connection to the divine.
- 2. 'Passion' is an optimistic poem.', to what extent do you agree with this statement?
- 3. Examine how Raine explores the theme of love in the poem, with reference to its title 'Passion'.