



Student Name: _____

Class: _____

Due Date: _____

Introduction

Welcome to this homework sheet on Percy Shelley's poem "Stanzas Written in Dejection near Naples". This poem is a beautiful example of Romantic literature, and through this activity, you will explore its themes, literary devices, and historical context.

Objective: To understand the poem's themes, literary devices, and historical context.

Read the poem "Stanzas Written in Dejection near Naples" by Percy Shelley:

"The sun is set; the stars are bright;
The moon, a glowing crescent, shines
With silvery light, and fills my mind
With thoughts of love, and peace, and rest."

Questions:

1. What is the main theme of the poem?

2. How does the speaker describe the natural world?

3. What literary devices does Shelley use to convey the speaker's emotions?

In this section, we will explore the literary devices used in the poem.

Definition and examples of literary devices:

- Metaphor: comparing two things without using "like" or "as"
- Simile: comparing two things using "like" or "as"
- Personification: giving human-like qualities to non-human things

Questions:

1. Identify and explain an example of metaphor in the poem.

2. How does Shelley use personification to describe the natural world?

3. What effect does the use of simile have on the reader?

Historical Context

In this section, we will explore the historical context of the poem.

The Romantic movement was a cultural and artistic movement that emerged in the late 18th century. It emphasized emotion, imagination, and individualism.

Background information on the Romantic movement and Percy Shelley's life:

- Percy Shelley was a key figure in the Romantic movement.
- He was known for his beautiful and expressive poetry.
- His life experiences, including his relationships and travels, influenced his writing.

Questions:

1. What was the Romantic movement, and how did it influence literature?

2. How did Shelley's life experiences influence his writing?

3. What historical events may have inspired the poem?

Creative Writing

In this section, you will write a poem or short story inspired by "Stanzas Written in Dejection near Naples".

Prompt: Imagine yourself in the Italian landscape that inspired the poem. Write a descriptive paragraph or poem about your experiences and emotions.

In this section, we will analyze the poem's structure and use of language.

Analysis of the poem's structure and use of language:

- The poem's structure contributes to its overall effect.
- Imagery plays a key role in the poem.
- Shelley uses language to convey the speaker's emotions.

Questions:

1. How does the poem's structure contribute to its overall effect?

2. What role does imagery play in the poem?

3. How does Shelley use language to convey the speaker's emotions?

Group Discussion

In this section, you will discuss the poem with your classmates.

Discussion questions:

1. How does the poem relate to your own experiences or emotions?

2. What themes or ideas does the poem explore?

3. How does the poem's use of literary devices contribute to its meaning?

In this section, we will explore key vocabulary words from the poem.

Definitions and examples of key vocabulary words:

- Melancholy: a feeling of sadness or depression
- Dejection: a feeling of sadness or rejection
- Contemplation: the act of thinking deeply and carefully about something

Questions:

1. What does the word "melancholy" mean, and how is it used in the poem?

2. How does the word "dejection" relate to the speaker's emotions?

3. What connotations does the word "contemplation" have in the poem?

Reflection

In this section, you will reflect on what you have learned about the poem and its themes.

Questions:

1. What did you learn about the poem's historical context?

2. How did the poem's use of literary devices contribute to its meaning?

3. What insights did you gain into the speaker's emotions and experiences?

Conclusion

In this final section, you will summarize what you have learned about the poem.

Summary: In this homework sheet, we explored Percy Shelley's poem "Stanzas Written in Dejection near Naples". We analyzed the poem's themes, literary devices, and historical context, and discussed its significance and relevance to our own lives.

Final thoughts and reflections: