

ONE SHEET REVISION

'Hawk Roosting' by Ted Hughes

Summarise what the poem is about in full sentences:

Annotate the poem with points you can remember from your initial study:

I sit in the top of the wood, my eyes closed.
Inaction, no falsifying dream
Between my hooked head and hooked feet:
Or in sleep rehearse perfect kills and eat.

5 The convenience of the high trees!
The air's buoyancy and the sun's ray
Are of advantage to me;
And the earth's face upward for my inspection.

10 My feet are locked upon the rough bark.
It took the whole of Creation
To produce my foot, my each feather:
Now I hold Creation in my foot

Or fly up, and revolve it all slowly –
I kill where I please because it is all mine.
15 There is no sophistry in my body:
My manners are tearing off heads –

The allotment of death.
For the one path of my flight is direct
Through the bones of the living.
20 No arguments assert my right:

The sun is behind me.
Nothing has changed since I began.
My eye has permitted no change.
I am going to keep things like this.

Complete the following questions on context:

- 1) Hughes wrote many poems about the natural world. Why is this important?
- 2) Why is it important to know Heaney wanted to show a hawk's 'natural way of thinking'?
- 3) How is this shown in the poem?

Complete each analytical verb with a different idea:

Hughes may have written the poem:

to criticise

to teach

to warn

to reveal the importance of

to celebrate

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Annotate the following quotations by answering the questions for each:



- 1) What does the line mean?
- 2) What does the line suggest?
- 3) How has Hughes used language to present power?

'no falsifying dream'

'I hold Creation in my foot'

'allotment of death'

'I am going to keep things like this'

How does Hughes present power?

Answer in full sentences.