

Name: _____

Date: _____

Poetry Worksheet

Read the poem below before answering the following questions.

About Ben Adhem

BY LEIGH HUNT (1834)

About Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase!)
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,
And saw, within the moonlight in his room,
Making it rich, and like a lily in bloom,
An angel writing in a book of gold:—
Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold,
And to the presence in the room he said,
"What writest thou?"—The vision raised its head,
And with a look made of all sweet accord,
Answered, "The names of those who love the Lord."
"And is mine one?" said Abou. "Nay, not so,"
Replied the angel. Abou spoke more low,
But cheerly still; and said, "I pray thee, then,
Write me as one that loves his fellow men."

The angel wrote, and vanished. The next night
It came again with a great wakening light,
And showed the names whom love of God had blest,
And lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.

Questions:

A. Read to understand

Write a summary of the poem "About Ben Adhem"?

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B. Literal questions

1. Who wrote the poem “Abou Ben Adhem”?

2. When was the poem written?

3. What is the theme of this poem?

4. What does the word “tribe” means?

5. Why did the poet write this poem?

6. What did Abou see in his room when he awoke?

7. What was the angel doing?

8. How many times did the Abou see the angel?

9. What was Abou’s request to the angel in his room?

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Discuss

1. What is an angel? Do you believe angels exist?
2. Which religions teach the existence of angels?
3. What does it mean to have love for God?
4. What does it mean to have love for fellow men?

Inferential questions

1. Where do you think Abou lives?

2. According to the poem, what did the poet compared the moonlight to?

3. What is meant by:

“Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold”

“... a deep dream of peace”

“...may his tribe increase”

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4. How did Abou feel when he found out the angel did not write his name as one who loves the Lord? Quote a line from the poem.

5. Describe the angel in the poem?

6. What does the following words mean:

a. Bloom _____

b. Vision _____

c. Accord _____

7. What lesson can you learn from this poem?

8. Do you think Abou was a religious man? Support your answer from the poem.

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9. How do you know the book the angel is writing in is important?

Read to appreciate

10. What is a sonnet?

11. List the rhyming words from the poem.

12. What is the rhyming scheme for this poem?

13. Why does the phrase “*great wakening light*” means?

14. What is the tone of this poem?

15. What type of figure of speech is demonstrated in line 4, “*like a lily in bloom*”?

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Character Worksheet

Name

Personality

Beliefs

Evidence for personality

Evidence for beliefs