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| |  | | --- | | **Dreams**  Langston Hughes | |  |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | Hold fast to dreams For if dreams die Life is a broken-winged bird That cannot fly. Hold fast to dreams For when dreams go Life is a barren field barren: empty and dead Frozen with snow. | |

1. What is the subject of this poem?
2. Who do you think the speaker is? If you get stuck, try finishing the thought below.

The speaker is someone who….

1. Underline or all the metaphors. What two things is the speaker comparing in each metaphor? Choose at least two to analyze further.
   1. The speaker is comparing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. These two things are alike because…
   2. The speaker also compares \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. These two things are alike because
2. What is the tone? In other words, how does the poet want us to feel about the subject? How do you know?
3. What is the poet’s theme (message)?
4. What similarities to you see in these poems?

**A Dream Deferred**

***by Langston Hughes***

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| What happens to a dream deferred?  Does it dry up  like a raisin in the sun?  Or fester like a sore--  And then run?  Does it stink like rotten meat?  Or crust and sugar over--  like a syrupy sweet?  Maybe it just sags  like a heavy load.  Or does it explode? | Deferred: to put something off for a later time.  Fester: to grow worse; a festering sore becomes infected and may ooze pus. |

1. Title: What could it mean to defer a dream?
2. What is the poem about? What is the subject?
3. Who do you think the speaker is? Use the phrase below if you get stuck.

The speaker is a person who…

1. What do you think the genre is? Why?
2. Mark the rhyme scheme.
3. Underline all the similes you can find. Choose two to explain below.
   1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is like \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because
   2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is like \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because
4. How could a dream deferred explode?
5. What is the tone? In other words, how does the poet want us to feel about the subject?
6. What is the poet’s theme (message)?