

Trees

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in Summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

- *Joyce Kilmer*

Questions:

Research and Discussion Questions

What are the roles of trees in the ecosystem?

What is the tallest tree in the world? Can you describe that tree?

QUESTIONS

1. Complete the passage below.

List: branches complexity loveliness, raised, roots, stretch, wonder,

Joyce Kilmer, in her poem "Trees" believe that no poem can compare to the _____ of a tree. He hints at the inherent _____ and _____ of trees. Trees have _____ that are firmly grounded in the earth and _____ that _____ towards the heavens, like arms _____ in prayer.

2. What is the theme of this poem?

3. What is the purpose of the poem?

4. What is the tone of this poem?

5. Which animal in the natural world inhabits "Trees"?

6. How does the poet show the strength nature of "Trees"?

7. Why does the poet reflect the creation of “trees” and “poetry”?

8. What figure of speech is most used in this poem? Give an example.

9. Visualization Activity: Draw and paint a tree.