

Grandmother poem - Review

In the poem, a young woman describes an encounter with her grandmother. She has not planned on having a long conversation with her. However, when she asks her grandmother how she felt, her grandmother's unexpected but honest answer causes the speaker to come to an important realization .She becomes emotional and filled with guilt because she realizes that she was going to walk away, depriving **לשלות** her grandmother of the opportunity to share her thoughts and feelings with someone. The speaker realizes that a routine greeting is not going to be sufficient and that elderly people, in this case her grandmother, may be lonely and need someone to listen. She realizes that she has to take the time to relate to her grandmother as a human being who deserves time, attention, respect and appreciation .

1. Who is the speaker in the poem? _____

2. Who is the speaker talking about? _____

3. What is the setting of the poem? _____

4. Why do the speaker's eyes fill with tears? What did she realize? _____

5. _____

5. Paraphrase the following words: "so many words would have been trapped inside her" _____

6. _____

6. Describe "the day" of the grandmother. What does she do? Name 2-3 things. _____

th _____

7. _____

7. Did the speaker intend to spend time with her grandmother? Quote the line supporting your answer. _____

8. _____

8. What would have happened if the speaker hadn't stayed? _____

9. Use one of the thinking skills to answer the question: distinguish different perspectives, inferring , cause and effect.

How does the speaker feel?

10. Bridging and Contexting

- a. Sameeneh Shirazie (1967) was born in Karachi, Pakistan, and grew up in a close knit family. Her own grandmother, who lived with the family, was an important figure in her childhood. The poem Grandmother was written out of love and admiration for her. How does this information help you understand the poem better?

The poem is written out of admiration to grandmother. She was a central figure in her life.

- b. "Most people never listen." (Ernest Hemingway) Make a connection between the above and your understanding of the story. Give information from the story to support your answer.
