

Lake Isle of Innisfree

Possible Midterm Paper: Question for Critical Inquiry/ Comparative Analysis

What role does Nature play in the following poems: “Innisfree,” “Stolen Child,” “Swans of Coole,” & “Fisherman” (Choose 2-4.)

Explication Worksheet

In your reading response journal, record at least two examples of each of the following:

- Rhyme scheme
- Alliteration
- Imagery
- Repetitions
- Sensory details
- Place names

What are the central *themes* of the poem?

Develop a *comparative analysis* of *Innisfree* and *The Stolen Child*. What do they have in common? Recurring use of the same aesthetic devices? Recurring themes?

Analyze/assess Yeats’ use of *alliteration*.

What is significant and/or effective regarding Yeats’ use of *repeating phrases*?

How do Yeats’ *alliterations and repeating phrases* reinforce one another?

Explicate the line, “and I shall have some peace there.”

What is significant about his desire for a “small cabin, nine bean rows, a hive for the honey bee [and] “to live alone in the bee-loud glade.”

Explicate/develop the meaning of the line “I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements grey.”

Explicate/Develop the meaning of the final line, “I hear it in the deep heart’s core.” How does this line reinforce the poem’s central themes? How does it reinforce his use of sensory detail? How does it relate to the desire for the two-in-one? What two things is he seeking to merge?

Though he is on a London street, how does the absent Isle of Innisfree become present? Though sounds, images, visions.

How, where does this poem invoke the same tension between the natural and the man-made, as *The Stolen Child*?