

Project: Seminar and Essay: Analysis of Three Romantic Poems on One Theme

Write an expository essay analyzing three poems from the romantic period. **Specifically address how each of the three poems focuses on one theme.** Support your analysis with examples from the texts. Include literary devices that you believe add to the presentation of the theme.

First, you need to pick three poems that share the same theme.

1. Click [here](#) to listen to “She Dwelt Among the Untrodden Ways.”
2. Click [here](#) to listen to “Kubla Khan.”
3. Click [here](#) to listen to “Ode to the West Wind.”
4. Click [here](#) to listen to “She Walks in Beauty.”
5. Click [here](#) to listen to “When I Have Fears That I May Cease to Be.”

Notes on Romantic Themes

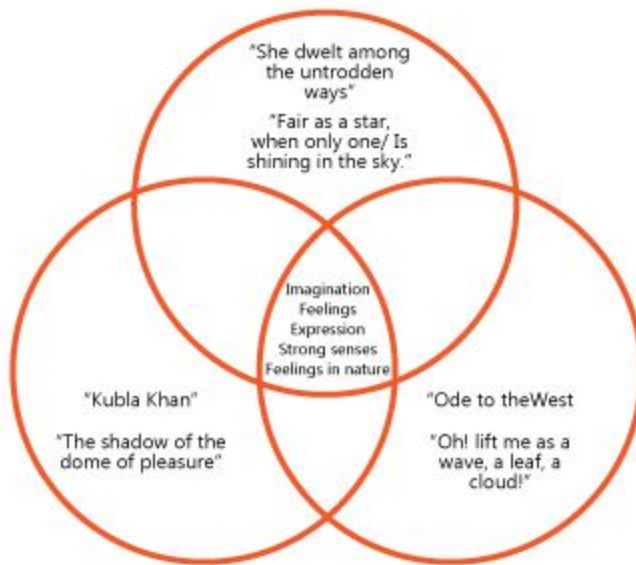
Poems	Themes	Sample Imagery/Quotes
1. “She Dwelt Among the Untrodden Ways”	Death	1. “Fair as a star, when only one/ Is shining in the sky.”
	Nature	2. “The shadow of the dome of pleasure/ Floated midway on the waves;”
2. “Kubla Khan”	Beauty	
3. “Ode to the West Wind”	Feelings	3. “As thus with thee in prayer in my sore need,/ Oh! lift me as a wave, a leaf, a cloud!/ I fall upon the thorns of life! I bleed!”
	Intuition	
4. “She Walks in Beauty”	Originality	4. “The smiles that win, the tints that glow, But tell of days in goodness spent,”
5. “When I Have Fears That I May Cease to Be”	Individuality	5. “Huge cloudy symbols of a high romance,/And think that I may never live to trace/Their shadows, with the magic hand of chance.”
	Primitive	

After you've picked the three poems you like that share a common theme, you'll want to start making notes about the content and literary devices that help each poem express that theme.

This sample Venn Diagram shows quotes from each poem that tie to the theme. You'll want to do this too.

Sample Venn Diagram

Take a look at this sample Venn diagram. Notice how all three poems share a common theme:



Theme: Powerful feelings expressed in nature

Quotes from your poems that tie to the theme _____.

Poem A

Poem B

Poem C

Literary Devices found in the Poems

What literary devices do you see in each of the poems? Look for things like: alliteration, rhyme scheme, metaphor, simile, imagery, personification, hyperbole, understatement, symbolism...

Poem A

Poem B

Poem C

Sample Outline

Introduction: Give the titles, authors and a brief summary of each poem.

Thesis: These poems all develop the theme of _____.

Body Paragraphs:

One- The poem _____ develops the theme by _____.

-Give three examples from the poem that show how the poet brings this theme to life. You could give quotes from the poem that directly express the theme, or you can talk about the literary devices used and explain how they bring out the theme.

Two- The poem _____ develops the theme by _____.

-Give three examples from the poem that show how the poet brings this theme to life. You could give quotes from the poem that directly express the theme, or you can talk about the literary devices used and explain how they bring out the theme.

Three- The poem _____ develops the theme by _____.

-Give three examples from the poem that show how the poet brings this theme to life. You could give quotes from the poem that directly express the theme, or you can talk about the literary devices used and explain how they bring out the theme.

Conclusion

Explain what you learned in these poems that you can connect to your life.