|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **T** | opic | \*Love\*freedom\*unity\*nature\*family\*hate\*faith\*rebellion |
| A | sk yourself | \*Is this topic portrayed positively or negatively?\*What scene does this come up in?\*What does the character learn about this topic? |
| P | olish it! | \*Not including the characters’ names, write the life lesson the author learns about the topic. |

**Directions:** Read the following poem. Then re-read the poem and complete the following checklist:

Did I?

* Read and RE-READ the poem
* Label the lines and stanzas
* Label figurative language
* Identify the poet and speaker
* Visualize each stanza (in your head)
* Summarize the poem
* Identify the theme **(fill in with graphic organizer)**

**Waiting**

By [Nikki Grimes](http://www.poetryfoundation.org/bio/nikki-grimes)

The orphanage

put my picture

on a postcard.

My smile says

“Pick me! Pick me!”

But mostly, people say

I’m too old to adopt,

like I’m a run-down clock

*(tick-tock, tick-tock)*

and the big hand says

Julie is half-past loving.

**1. Use the graphic organizer below to create a theme for the poem!**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Ask yourself** | **Polish it!** |
|  |  |  |

**2. Which of the following is the theme of the poem?**

1. The longer you are lonely, the more people will want to reach out and offer their love and support to you.
2. The older you get, the less love you have to offer people.
3. The older you get, the more you expect love from others.
4. The longer you are lonely, the less you feel like you deserve love and support.

**3. Which line(s) support(s) the overall message of the poem?**

**a.** My smile says/“Pick me! Pick me!”

b. and the big hand says/Julie is half-past loving

c. The orphanage/put my picture/on a postcard.

d. But mostly people say/I’m too old to adopt