**Group -**

**Oh, Oh, You Will Be Sorry**

Oh, oh, you will be sorry for that word!  
Give me back my book and take my kiss instead.  
Was it my enemy or my friend I heard,  
"What a big book for such a little head!"  
Come, I will show you now my newest hat, 5   
And you may watch me purse1 my mouth and prink2!  
Oh, I shall love you still, and all of that.  
I never again shall tell you what I think.  
I shall be sweet and crafty, soft and sly;  
You will not catch me reading any more: 10  
I shall be called a wife to pattern by;  
And some day when you knock and push the door,  
Some sane day, not too bright and not too stormy,  
I shall be gone, and you may whistle for me.   
 --Edna St. Vincent Millay

1purse = pucker

2prink = to primp; to wear makeup and clothes that are showy

**Questions**

1. What is the theme of the poem?

2. What word(s) would you use to sum up the attitude toward his/her subject that the author communicates in this poem?

3. What words and/or images does the author use in the selection to communicate his/her attitude?

4. Is there any other aspect of the poem that contributes to the tone?

**Group-**

**Love Is Not All**

Love is not all: it is not meat nor drink  
Nor slumber nor a roof against the rain;   
Nor yet a floating spar1 to men that sink   
And rise and sink and rise and sink again;   
Love can not fill the thickened lung with breath, 5  
Nor clean the blood, nor set the fractured bone;   
Yet many a man is making friends with death   
Even as I speak, for lack of love alone.   
It well may be that in a difficult hour,   
Pinned down by pain and moaning for release, 10  
Or nagged by want2 past resolution's3 power,   
I might be driven to sell your love for peace,   
Or trade the memory of this night for food.   
It well may be. I do not think I would.

--Edna St. Vincent Millay

1spar = a wooden or metal pole used on a ship

2want = desperate need

3resolution = the will to accomplish something

**Questions**

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**Group –**

**True Love**   
True love. Is it normal   
is it serious, is it practical?   
What does the world get from two people   
who exist in a world of their own?   
  
Placed on the same pedestal for no good reason, 5  
drawn randomly from millions but convinced   
it had to happen this way - in reward for what?   
For nothing.   
The light descends from nowhere.   
Why on these two and not on others? 10  
Doesn't this outrage justice? Yes it does.   
Doesn't it disrupt our painstakingly erected principles,   
and cast the moral from the peak? Yes on both accounts.   
  
Look at the happy couple.   
Couldn't they at least try to hide it, 15  
fake a little depression for their friends' sake?   
Listen to them laughing – it’s an insult.   
The language they use - deceptively clear.   
And their little celebrations, rituals,   
the elaborate mutual routines - 20  
it's obviously a plot behind the human race's back!   
  
It's hard even to guess how far things might go   
if people start to follow their example.   
What could religion and poetry count on?   
What would be remembered? What renounced? 25  
Who'd want to stay within bounds?   
  
True love. Is it really necessary?   
Tact and common sense tell us to pass over it in silence,   
like a scandal in Life's highest circles.   
Perfectly good children are born without its help. 30  
It couldn't populate the planet in a million years,   
it comes along so rarely.   
  
Let the people who never find true love   
keep saying that there's no such thing.

**--**Wislawa Szymborska

**Questions**

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