**Echoes 12 Unit - Illusions and Reality***Can we trust appearances?*

This is a Photograph of Me – Margaret Atwood

Paraphrase the literal details (What the text actually says) in ‘This is a Photograph of Me’ – Margaret Atwood. Use the 4W’s chart below.

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|  | Literal Evidence from the text |
| Who are the characters? |  |
| Where does the poem take place? |  |
| When does the poem take place? |  |
| What events occur in the poem? |  |

2. Consider the subtext – or what is not said but implied in the poem. What does Atwood leave out? What key questions are unanswered in your mind? (as the reader)

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3. Identify key elements and techniques (Setting, mood, tone, punctuation) used in Atwood’s ‘This is a Photograph of Me’ and analyze their effects.



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4. Write a thematic statement for *This is a Photograph of Me* – Margaret Atwood that answers the question “Why did she write this poem?”

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5. Describe your impressions of this painting “All things Fall.” What thoughts and emotions does the image evoke?

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6. Describe the human figures in this painting. How do they relate to the background landscape of the image?

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7. How does the title connect with images in the painting?

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8. Choose a line from the poem “This is a photograph of me,” and Eleanor Wachtel’s interview that you feel best related to this painting. Analyze your choices. How do they relate to the theme of illusion s. reality?

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9. Satire is a mode of writing that exposes the failings of individuals, institutions, or societies to ridicule and scorn. What is Atwood satirizing in “There Was Once”? How do the devices and techniques she uses make her satire effective?

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10. Compare Atwood’s satire to King’s Satire in *Truth and Bright Water, Borders* or *Coyote Celebrates Columbus Day.*

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11. Atwood uses dialogue to demonstrate an argument rather than simply tell it. On what support does Atwood base her argument? What are her conclusions?

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12. What ideas does Atwood develop in “There Was Once” about fiction and reality? How do attitudes and ideas about appearances and reality in this selection compare with the tone and theme in “This is a Photograph of Me” and “Morning in the burned House”?

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