# Understanding Wislawa Szymborska’s Poem "Hatred"

Wislawa Szymborska’s poetry is noted for its irony and understated tone or mood. "Personification" is another technique used in this poem. The following questions deal with these ideas as they apply to the poem "Hatred."

**In a poem, "personification" means treating an object or an abstract idea is if it is human. List two examples of the use of personification in this poem.**

**1.**

**2.**

**An ironic statement expresses an attitude contrary to its real meaning, usually in a humorous or sarcastic way. List two examples of the use of irony in this poem.**

**1**

**2.**

**What central ideas about hatred does the poem express? Choose three stanzas as examples and explain your choices.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Stanza beginning with the line:  | What idea about hatred does this passage express? |
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**In general, what tone or emotional mood does the author express in this poem, and does this tone or mood express the poet's true feelings about Hatred? Explain your answer.**