

NAME:

TITLE OF TEXT: "When the Lights Return" by Ben Okri

DIRECTIONS: Generate two paragraph length discussion questions about the reading. This is due on either Wednesday or Thursday March 20 or 21, depending on your class period.

Question One: Do NOT ask questions about correspondences to the Orpheus myth.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
unique insight; specific and detailed (includes citations); embraces complexity; clear understanding; evidence of abstract thought; engages big ideas	valuable insight; specific and detailed (includes citations); embraces complexity to some degree; clear understanding; evidence of abstract thought; engages big ideas	valuable insight; reasonably specific and detailed (includes citations); embraces complexity to some degree; clear understanding; evidence of abstract thought; engages something important	reasonably valuable insight; less specific and detailed; embraces complexity to some degree; (at least) mostly clear understanding; some evidence of abstract thought; engages something important; the best score a question can receive w/out citations	less insightful; less specific and detailed; less complex; (at least) mostly clear understanding; some evidence of abstract thought; engages something that is reasonably important; the highest score a question can receive without evidence from the text	honest attempt to do the above but is problematic in one or more of the following: insight, specificity, oversimplified, understanding, abstract thinking, focus on what is important	serious problems with one or more of the following: insight, specificity, oversimplified, understanding, abstract thinking, focus on what is important, OR factual questions	nonsensical question that nonetheless demonstrates some engagement with the text	no credit: garbage, cheating, etc.

Student example from Thomas Hardy's *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* (slightly edited for grammar):

After her rape by Alec, Tess asks her mother, "Why didn't you tell me there was danger in men-folk? Why didn't you warn me?" (84). Her mother replies that she did not want to spoil Tess' chances of marrying him. What is behind this reticence that Tess' mother values more than the safety of her own daughter, and how does this relate to the lack of consequences for Alec concerning his behavior toward Tess? Explain.

What I like about this question:

- It engages something that gets at the heart of the double standard between men and women, an important idea that Hardy critiques in the novel.
- The evidence is well-integrated and includes both quotation and parenthetical citation.
- The question focuses on a problem or paradox in the text (focused, in this case, on characterization). This is important because, first, it demonstrates active reading on the part of the questioner (in the sense that she was aware enough to recognize that there was a conflict), and second, unreconciled issues in the text that require interpretation are typically one of the most fruitful areas of potential analysis to understand the author's intent.

Question Two: Do NOT ask questions about correspondences to the Orpheus myth.

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on time

late, but turned in before next class period (-10)

late, turned in after the next class period (-20)

Ungraded comments or questions:

This is the place for confusions about the text, things you want me to clear up, or points you want to make sure are addressed in class. You don't have to worry about the formatting for these, and I would expect them to only be a single sentence or even a sentence fragment.