Take Home Essay

Connecting Poetry to *The Handmaid’s Tale*

**Prompt:**

The following poem is concerned with the theme of power that is similarly portrayed in *THT*. Read the poem and annotate carefully. Then in a well-organized essay analyze how the speaker in the poem uses imagery to reveal their attitude toward power.

|  |
| --- |
| **A Work of Artifice**Marge Piercy |
| 1234567891011121314151617181920212223 | The bonsai treein the attractive potcould have grown eighty feet tallon the side of the mountaintill split by lighting.But a gardenercarefully pruned it.It is nine inches high.Every day as he whiddles back the branchesthe gardener croons,It is your natureto be small and cozy,domestic and weak;how lucky, little tree,to have a pot to grow in. With living creaturesone must begin very earlyto dwarf their growth:the bound feet,the crippled brain,the hair in curlers,the hands you love to touch. |