# Lesson 6: ‘A Refusal to Mourn the Death, by Fire, of a Child in London

### Task 1

**In pairs,** consider the following questions:

1. What did you like about the poem? What did you dislike?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **We liked…** | **We disliked…** |
|  |  |

1. What are the poem’s strengths and weaknesses?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **The poem’s strengths** | **The poem’s weaknesses** |
|  |  |

1. Which images did you like most?

### Task 2

**As a class,** consider what are the **main themes** of this poem.

Which of these themes is the most important, in your opinion?

### Task 3

**In pairs**, complete this table by finding evidence from the poem to support each point and explaining it thoroughly.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Point** | **Evidence – a few quotations from the poem** | **Explanation** |
| 1. Dylan Thomas refuses to mourn the child’s death as people usually do. |  |  |
| 1. After the child is buried, the poet believes she will return to nature. |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. The poet sees the child’s death as something important, or even sacred. |  |  |
| 1. The poet views the child’s death as a tragedy. |  |  |
| 1. The child’s death represents the death of all mankind. |  |  |