

# Sylvia plath example flashcard



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

BACKGROUND INFO-1 was born on Oct. 17, 1932 Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts in Jamaica Plain, Mass, oldest child, had younger brother named Warren-mom= Auerelia Schober-dad= Otto Plath, professor and he died of diabetes mellitus on Nov. 5, 1940 was 8, which caused me to write my first poem, Electra on Azalea Path, which was published in the Boston Traveller-My family and I moved to Wellesley, a middle-class suburb of Boston, in 1942 after she mother job teaching-I went to Bradford Senior HS and was co-editor of our school newspaper, the Bradford-1950: published "And Summer Will Not Come Again" in 17 magazine, first story

BACKGROUND INFO 2-awarded a scholarship to Smith College & edited the Smith Review-junior year of college, given a position as guest editor at Mademoiselle magazine in NYC-received bipolar electroconvulsive shock treatments due to severe depression-that summer, tried to commit suicide by taking a multitude of sleeping pills-found 2 days later under the house (1953-breakdown)

BACKGROUND INFO 3-After graduated in 1955, won a Fulbright scholarship to study english at Newnham College, Cambridge where wrote for Varsity, the school newspaper-met Ted Hughes at Cambridge and got married on June 16, 1956-In 1957, became a teacher at Smith College and then became a receptionist in the psychiatric unit of the Mass Gen Hospital in 1958 after moved to Boston-went to Robert Lowell's seminars where met George Starbuck & Anne Sexton and all 3 influenced me to make writing style more unique by writing about subjects that were more personal

BACKGROUND INFO 4-1959: moved back to England, had daughter Freida on April 1-also published first collection of poetry, *The Colossus*-in 1961, miscarriage, inspired many poems like "Barren Woman"

BACKGROUND INFO 5-later began renting our flat out to Assia and David Wevill, which was a mistake because my husband fell in love with Assia-I had my son Nicholas in 1962 and tried to commit suicide in June by crashing my car-One month later I found out about Ted's affair with Assia and we separated-I began writing my second poetry book, *Ariel*, in October, which included famous poems such as *Daddy* and *Lady Lazarus*

BACKGROUND INFO 6-in 1962-63, there was an incredibly cold, difficult winter and I became depressed again-I completed my poetry collection, *Ariel* during this time period-1962: interview w/ Peter Orr from BBC-My friend Dr. John Horder gave me antidepressants, visited often, and tried to have admit me to a hospital-On Feb. 11, 1963, a live-in nurse was scheduled to come to my house, but when she arrived, she found me dead in the kitchen

BACKGROUND INFO (after death)-In 1963, published semi-autobiographical novel, *The Bell Jar*, under pseudonym "Victoria Lucas" (after death)-*Ariel* (book of poetry) published 1965, with high praise-1968: *Three Women: A Monologue of Three Voices*, long poem written for Radio, on BBC on August 19, 1962, published by Turret Books, London, in 1968-*The Collected Poems*-edited and introduced by Hughes-won Pulitzer prize in 1982 for the *Collected Poems*-became a martyr for the feminist movement after suicide

*Collected Poems'*: A Review-Essay by Majorie Perloff" Plath's carefully constructed persona, the mask she presented to her adoring mother as well

<https://assignbuster.com/sylvia-plathexample-flashcard/>

as to editors, professors, and friends, governed not only her domestic life but her poetry as well: until the summer of 1962, when Aurelia Plath [ Sylvia Plath's mother] became an inadvertent witness to the dissolution of the Plath-Hughes marriage, Sylvia Plath — or “ Sivvy” as she called herself in her letters home, never quite abandoned the carefully constructed voice that won her prizes and awards in all the right quarters, a voice her mother could and did approve of.”

Valparaiso Poetry Review Contemporary Poetry and Poetics Nature and the Self: Dickinson, Bishop, Plath, and Oliver (Jennifer Yarros)-Much of her work paints a dismal worldview and presents a speaker who is searching for the peace of death. Specifically, she uses nature as a metaphor for self that demonstrates the poet's struggle with her separation from nature due to her physical life-Throughout her writing, she presented an ambiguous view of life by depicting a metaphorical view of nature representing the self. By doing so, Plath depicts a physical existence that is not only separated from nature, but also rejected by nature.-Plath's poem, “ I Am Vertical,” with a final draft date of March 28, 1961, compares the speaker to other vertically standing elements of nature and imagines the desired joining happening only through death, feels ignored by the nature around her

Bitter Frame: A Life of Sylvia Plath“ Almost all Sylvia's childhood writings reflect the Horatio Alger ethic of the era: happiness is the right of everyone, to be achieved thru hard work; success is the reward for work; and fame and money are the measure of success” (p. 7)

Opinion on marriage“ So I began to think maybe it was true that when you were married and had children it was like being brainwashed, and afterward you went about as numb as a slave in a totalitarian state,” The Bell Jar Ch. 7

individual and society (The Self in the World: The Social Context of Sylvia Plath's Late Poems by Critic Pamela J. Annas)The dialectical tension between self and world is the location of meaning in Sylvia Plath's late poems.

Characterized by a conflict between stasis and movement, isolation and engagement, these poems are largely about what stands in the way of the possibility of rebirth for the self. The self can change and develop, transform and be reborn, only if the world in which it exists does; the possibilities of the self are intimately and inextricably bound up with those of the world.

entrapment, war themeDaddy-Oct. 12, 1962 (26-35)It stuck in a barb wire  
snare./ Ich, ich, ich, ich,/ I could hardly speak./ I thought every German was  
you./ And the language obscene/An engine, an engine/ Chuffing me off like a  
Jew./ A Jew to Dachau, Auschwitz, Belsen./ I began to talk like a Jew./ I think I  
may well be a Jew.

war themeThe Applicant (lines 21-25)Black and stiff, but not a bad fit./ Will  
you marry it?/It is waterproof, shatterproof, proof/ Against fire and bombs  
through the roof. /Believe me, they'll bury you in it.

themes (BBC)PLATH: Perhaps this is an American thing: I've been very  
excited by what I feel is the new breakthrough that came with, say, Robert  
Lowell's Life Studies, this intense breakthrough into very serious, very  
personal, emotional experience which I feel has been partly taboo. Robert  
Lowell's poems about his experience in a mental hospital, for example,

<https://assignbuster.com/sylvia-plathexample-flashcard/>

interested me very much. These peculiar, private and taboo subjects, I feel, have been explored in recent American poetry.

creative process (BBC interview w/ Peter Orr in 1962) I think my poems immediately come out of the sensuous and emotional experiences I have. I believe that one should be able to control and manipulate experiences, and one should be able to manipulate these experiences with an informed and an intelligent mind. I think that personal experience is very important, believe it should be relevant, and relevant to the larger things, the bigger things such as Hiroshima and Dachau and so on.