

Literary Analysis

THEME

The **theme** is the central message of a work. Matthew Arnold’s themes often reflect his concerns about Victorian society. The following elements can contribute to a poem’s theme.

- **Mood:** the atmosphere that the author creates for the reader. The mood can remain the same or change during a poem.
- **Imagery and figurative language:** details that create vivid mental pictures, appeal to the senses, and help readers understand ideas by making comparisons
- **Allusions:** references to people, places, or literary works

Directions: Record the key moods, imagery, figurative language, and allusions in each poem. Then use your notes to write a sentence stating the theme of each poem.

Mood

Imagery and Figurative Language

Allusions

Theme

Mood

Imagery and Figurative Language

Allusions

Theme

DOVER BEACH / TO MARGUERITE—CONTINUED

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Resource Manager

Unit 5181
British Literature