

Dreams

Langston Hughes

Dreams

Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.

Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.

RECALL:

1. What does "summarise" mean?
2. If you were going to create a blueprint of Dreams what pictures or words would you include?

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To end the poem (the story of dreams), "when" is more certain - dreams will vanish one day.

But the impact dreams have still made them worth cherishing in the first place (the beginning of the poem).

This suggests that once dreams escape, "life" loses meaning and potential, so we must continue to cherish new dreams. This makes the reader go back to the beginning of the poem and read it again, taking more meaning from the poem and belief that life can be positive.

LO: Summarise a whole poem.

- Some will even explain the difference between using "if" and "when".
- Some will compare the whole poem and identify differences.
- Most will write a concise summary.
- All will take a message from the poem.

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Dive Deeper:

1. What is this poem about?

This poem is about...

2. Look at what you wrote for question 1. Have a go at writing it again - do you need to write everything? Can you explain it more "concisely" (using fewer words)?

3. Do you notice anything different between the verses?

4. How do the words "if" and "when" change the messages in the two verses?