

## English 12: Stand-Alone Text

**Scale: 3**

**Comment:**

This response was awarded a 3. While it recognizes the contrast, the understanding of the poem is partially flawed. “...patients were treated wherever possible, ie. Table tops.”

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To help the reader understand the significance and value of the parents life now, the author uses contrast – with the parents past emotional events. One of the most drastic changes this couple went through was living their lives in a time of warfare to the point where they could sit, peacefully and quietly, at home and listen to music without any worries. The parents seemed to be, initially, poor because there were, “...children on pillows and a pal gauze over mantles and table tops.” This shows that patients were treated wherever possible, ie table tops. Now the parents had their own home and could afford, “a new piano with its mahogany gleam like pond of ice at dawn.” The description of how the colour of the sky changed from green to amber to “normal” signifies how the parents when from The Great Depression to a time of war and death to a “normal”, peaceful life. By using great amounts of description not only does the author allow the reader to understand the appreciation of life now, but, also, helps to connect with the characters of the story and know hwy they are the way they are.