

Name: _____ Date: _____

The following is an excerpt from the poem Two Women, written by a working-class Chilean woman in 1973, shortly after Chile's socialist president, Salvador Allende, took office. This is to be read by two people, one reading the **bold** type and one reading the regular type.

I am a woman.

I am a woman.

I am a woman born of a woman whose man owned a factory.

I am a woman born of a woman whose man labored in a factory.

I am a woman whose man wore silk suits, who constantly watched his weight.

I am a woman whose man wore tattered clothing, whose heart was constantly strangled by hunger.

I am a woman who watched two babies grow into beautiful children.

I am a woman who watched two babies die because there was no milk.

I am a woman who watched twins grow into popular college students with summers abroad.

I am a woman who watched three children grow, but with bellies stretched from no food.

But then there was a man;

But then there was a man;

And he talked about peasants getting richer by my family getting poorer.

And he told me of days that would be better, and he made the days better.

We had to eat rice.

We had rice.

And beans!

And beans.

My children were no longer given summer visas to Europe.

My children no longer cried themselves to sleep.

And I felt like a peasant.

And I felt like a woman.

A peasant with a dull, hard, unexciting life.

Like a woman that sometimes allowed a song.

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Complete the following activities.

1. List five words that describe the woman in the **bold** typeface. Woman #1

2. List five words that describe the woman in the regular typeface. Woman #2

3. Compare. How are they alike?

Woman #1 Aristocrat	Women #2 Pesant
A woman	A woman

4. Contrast. How are they different?

Woman #1 Aristocrat	Women #2 Pesant
Rich	Poor

5. Which woman benefitted from Salvadore Allende taking office as President of Chile?