 Do not say we have nothing

Resource 2 - exploring the Narrative Layers

Task

Identify at least three key themes conveyed through each plot line. For each theme, you must find evidence from the text that represents this theme, and make links with the module and elective rubric. The first theme has been identified with one piece of evidence explained and linked to the rubric as an example. You should record a range of evidence for each theme.

Narrative plot line: Big Mother Knife and Ba Lute

| Significant Themes | Evidence from the text | Links to the rubric |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Theme 1: The conflict between individual beliefs and authority/ political regimes | Big Mother Knife’s ideals and desires are repressed by the authoritative regime of the Party. Thien conveys the stifling impact this suppression has her sense of individuality by personifying the propaganda: “Her body was growing old and useless… The party propaganda was muffling her thoughts, wrapping her in a thick dough of imbecility”. | Thien represents Big Mother Knife’s predicament as a result of the political upheaval she is experiencing which is at odds with her previous ways of living. The injustices she is witnessing, along with her sense of “imbecility” due to her feelings of helplessness encourage audiences to reflect on both the dangers of complacency, yet the difficulties of speaking out in such a rigid political environment. |
| Theme 2:      |       |       |
| Theme 3:      |       |       |

Narrative plot lines: Marie and Ai-ming

| Significant Themes | Evidence from the text | Links to the rubric |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Theme 1:      |       |       |
| Theme 2:      |       |       |
| Theme 3:      |       |       |

Narrative plot line: Swirl and Wen the Dreamer

| Significant Themes | Evidence from the text | Links to the rubric |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Theme 1:      |       |       |
| Theme 2:      |       |       |
| Theme 3:      |       |       |

Narrative plot line: Sparrow, Kai and Zhuli

| Significant Themes | Evidence from the text | Links to the rubric |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Theme 1:      |       |       |
| Theme 2:      |       |       |
| Theme 3:      |       |       |