

NAME ID Number (Notes / Outline: 5 points) / 5

I. Notes and Outline (5 points): This paper.**II. Analysis of Poem** (15 points):

Read the poem "Forgetfulness." Make notes and an outline on this paper. Use the questions below to help you. You may NOT write sentences and paragraphs on this note paper. Bring this paper with your notes / outline written on it to class on the test day. Write one or two paragraphs about the poem. Describe the structure and discuss the meaning. Hand in this paper with your test paper. Use words and phrases from the poem to support your view. Indicate line numbers as follows:

line 3: "like a bird" (l. 3)**lines 5-6:** "Forgetfulness is rain at night, / Or an old house in a forest, -- or a child." (ll. 5-6)

"Forgetfulness" by Hart Crane

Forgetfulness is like a song
 That, freed from beat and measure, wanders.
 Forgetfulness is like a bird whose wings are reconciled,
 Outspread and motionless, --
 A bird that coasts the wind unwearyingly. 5

Forgetfulness is rain at night,
 Or an old house in a forest, -- or a child.
 Forgetfulness is white, -- white as a blasted tree,
 And it may stun the sybil into prophecy,
 Or bury the Gods. 10

I can remember much forgetfulness.

Questions to think about for "Forgetfulness":

1. Describe the structure of the poem: lines, stanzas, pattern of stress, rhyme and sound (consonance, assonance, alliteration).
2. Discuss the contents of each stanza.
3. Discuss some of the figures of speech in the poem (metaphor, simile, etc.) How is forgetfulness like "rain at night" (l. 6), for example? What associations (connotations) can you make with these images: happiness, loneliness, anger? Why do you think the poet has chosen these figures of speech? How do they develop the message of the poem?
4. What is a sybil (l. 9)? How does this reference contribute to the message of the poem?
5. What do you think of the last line, "I can remember much forgetfulness"?