

### Questions on Dying is an Art by George Steiner:

1. What does Steiner mean when he says that Plath's poems "are too honest, they have cost too much, to be yielded to myth"? What kind of reading strategy is he advocating in this statement? What kind of reading strategy is he criticizing?
2. What claims does Steiner make about the peculiarly feminine qualities and woman-centeredness of Plath's poetry? What claims does he make about the significance of both particularly in terms of historical and cultural context?
3. What does Steiner mean when he says that, unlike Dickinson, Plath "fully assumed her own condition"? How, exactly, is he characterizing the poem in this statement?
4. What does Steiner suggest about why Plath was so attracted to images of the Holocaust? About why she could write about it so effectively? About the potential problems with Plath's use of such images?
5. What does Steiner mean when he says that "Daddy" "achieves the classic act of generalization"? What does he suggest about the poem by comparing it to *Guernica*?