

Questions on The Latin Deli: An Ars Poetica by Judith Ortiz Cofer:

1. What is the relationship between language and culture in this poem?
2. Is this poem a narrative? How much of the poem is descriptive?
3. What is the relationship between the woman who tends the deli and the deli itself? Do they represent different things? How do they create the culture that the poem describes?
4. Is it important that the shop is a deli? Would the sense of the poem change if the shop sold something other than food?
5. What is the “hunger”? of the old man in line 31?