

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Rose That Grew from Concrete

By Tupac Shakur  
1989

*Tupac Shakur (1971-1996) was an African American rapper, actor, poet, and activist. Shakur continues to be considered an influential rapper today and has been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. As you read, take notes on how the speaker feels about the rose.*

- [1] Did u hear about the rose that grew from a crack  
in the concrete  
Proving nature's laws wrong it learned 2 walk  
without having feet
- [5] Funny it seems but by keeping its dreams  
it learned 2 breathe fresh air  
Long live the rose that grew from concrete  
when no one else even cared!



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## Text-Dependent Questions

**Directions:** For the following questions, choose the best answer or respond in complete sentences.

1. PART A: Which of the following identifies a main theme of the text?
  - A. All living things need support from others in order to grow.
  - B. We must learn and grow from our failures.
  - C. People can overcome difficulties and succeed.
  - D. Nature can overcome problems better than people.
  
2. PART B: Which detail from the poem best supports the answer to Part A?
  - A. "Did u hear about the rose that grew" (Lines 1)
  - B. "learned 2 walk without having feet" (Lines 3-4)
  - C. "Long live the rose that grew from concrete" (Line 7)
  - D. "when no one else even cared!" (Line 8)
  
3. How does the speaker's point of view influence how the rose is described?
  - A. Curious about the rose, the speaker asks several questions about it.
  - B. Believing that the rose is not real, the speaker exaggerates its qualities.
  - C. Feeling pity for the rose, the speaker lists all of the hardships it has faced.
  - D. Impressed by the rose, the speaker explains what makes it so admirable.
  
4. What does the phrase "the rose that grew from concrete" mean figuratively as used in this poem?  

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