

## MAKING MEANINGS

### First Thoughts

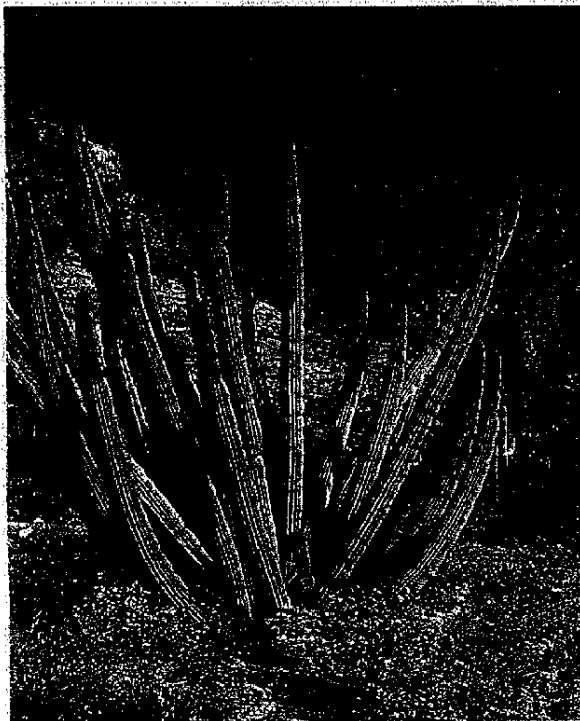
1. Which passage in the poem had the strongest effect on you? Why?

### Shaping Interpretations

2. Who do you think is the **speaker** of "Remember"? Whom is the speaker addressing?
3. How would you state the main **theme** of the poem in your own words?
4. "Remember" includes several instances of **personification** (a figure of speech in which an object or animal is given human attributes). Identify two such instances, and explain what they add to the poem.
5. Identify the **refrain** of the poem. What does it contribute to the poem's message?

### Connecting with the Text

6. The speaker asks the reader to talk to and listen to plants, trees, and animal life. Does this request make sense to you? Explain, referring to your Quickwrite notes.



David L. Brown/The Stock Market

## CHOICES: Building Your Portfolio

### Writer's Notebook

#### 1. Collecting Ideas for an Evaluation



When writing an evaluation, you can cite your own experience to support your judgment of a text. Jot down experiences you can recall that relate to Harjo's "Remember." Do any match the speaker's? Based on your own experience, which of the speaker's requests could you follow easily? Which would be more difficult or even impossible to follow? Save your notes for possible use in the Writer's Workshop on page 1181.

### Comparing Texts

#### 2. The American Tradition

Ralph Waldo Emerson, born in a very different era, almost 150 years before Joy Harjo, shares with her a keen appreciation of the natural world. In a short essay, compare the messages of Harjo's "Remember" and the excerpt from Emerson's *Nature* (page 219). How are they similar and different?

### Creative Writing / Speaking and Listening

#### 3. All Your Yesterdays

Write a "Remember" poem in which you relate some of your own memories and experiences. Start each line or stanza with "Remember" or "I remember."

### Oral Interpretation

#### 4. Joy's Dance

Prepare the poem for an oral reading. You will have to decide if you will read the poem alone, or use solo voices and a chorus. Decide how you will pace your reading and how you will vary the tone of your voice. Be sure to ask your audience for evaluations.