



# Analyse Poetry with NotebookLM

**We will use Tracy K.  
Smith's "It's Not" as  
our example**

# Poem to Podcast

1

Upload the text of the poem to Notebook LM

2

Click on "Notebook Guide" in the lower right-hand corner.

3

Choose "Load" under the "audio overview".

# The result?

A podcast style  
discussion between two  
(generated) voices  
discussing the poem

# You can also try these features...

## \* Notebook guide

Help me create



FAQ



Study Guide



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# Let's look at FAQ

- The AI generates a series of FAQ style questions on the poem- a great starting point for students to test their own understanding, and can also be used for classroom questioning!

## FAQ on "It's Not" (Poem Excerpt)

**What is the main theme of the poem?**

This poem grapples with the experience of loss and the difficulty of accepting death. It challenges the traditional view of death as a complete vanishing, instead suggesting a more complex and ongoing transformation.

**Who is "Jean" in the poem?**

While the poem doesn't explicitly state Jean's relationship to the speaker, the lines "It's Not/For Jean/That death was thinking of you or me/Of our family" suggest Jean is likely someone close to both the speaker and the deceased.

# Now try 'briefing document'

This feature gives you a general overview/summary about the poem

## Briefing Document: Exploring Themes of Death and Loss

This document analyzes the poem "It's Not" to examine its portrayal of death, loss, and the grieving process. The poem utilizes vivid imagery and metaphor to challenge conventional perspectives on death, offering a more nuanced understanding of absence and remembrance.

### Key Themes:

- **Death as a Journey, Not an Ending:** The poem rejects the finality often associated with death, instead presenting it as a transition or a continuation. The speaker suggests the deceased hasn't vanished but rather embarked on a journey "beyond the body, its garments." This journey is depicted through imagery of liberation from earthly concerns – "taxes," "car and its fuel injection," "television saying...Seek and ye shall find."



# Have fun with it!

This is an excellent tool to  
have fun with in the  
classroom!