Read the poem “The Trees” below. Read it once on its own, and then read it again to try and distinguish the theme and overall meaning of the text. Annotate the text to help with your understanding. On the back of the paper, do a TP-CASTT (Title, Paraphrase, Connotation, Attitude/Tone, Shift, Title, and Theme) where you analyze the meaning of the poem, ending with a theme or overall meaning of the poem.

**The Trees**

By Philip Larkin

The trees are coming into leaf

Like something almost being said;

The recent buds relax and spread,

Their greenness is a kind of grief.

Is it that they are born again

And we grow old? No, they die too,

Their yearly trick of looking new

Is written down in rings of grain.

Yet still the unresting castles thresh

In fullgrown thickness every May.

Last year is dead, they seem to say,

Begin afresh, afresh, afresh.

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