Name _____

Whistler's Silent Portrait

Open-Ended Response Questions

1. How does Whistler's painting of his mother challenge traditional notions of portraiture, and what message does it convey about motherhood?

2. Why do you think Whistler chose to emphasize the grayscale tones and quiet atmosphere in the painting of his mother?

3. What emotions or thoughts do you think Whistler's mother may be experiencing in the painting, based on the poem?

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