

Name _____

The Snow Queen

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The theme of friendship is central to the story, as Gerda's unwavering love and determination to rescue Kai ultimately save him from the Snow Queen's spell. Gerda's love and the power of friendship drive her actions and influence the outcome of the tale.
2. The Snow Queen's palace and the frozen landscape symbolize the emotional and physical barriers that Kai and Gerda must overcome. They represent Kai's emotional coldness and detachment and the challenging journey that Gerda must embark on to rescue him. As Gerda progresses through the icy landscape, it reflects her determination and unwavering love, while the palace symbolizes the Snow Queen's power and the final obstacle Gerda must overcome.
3. Gerda's character development is marked by her growth from a young, innocent girl into a determined and courageous young woman. Her qualities of love, persistence, and kindness help her succeed on her journey to rescue Kai. Throughout the story, she faces numerous challenges, demonstrating her resilience and growth as a character.
4. The Snow Queen's kiss on Kai's forehead represents her control over him and her ability to freeze his heart with her coldness. It serves as the initial catalyst for Kai's transformation and his subsequent capture by the Snow Queen. This act contributes to the story's message about the power of love and warmth to overcome even the coldest of hearts.

