Figurative Language Poem 3

*From The Grave*
By Robert Blair

Dull Grave!—thou spoil'st the dance of youthful blood,
Strik'st out the dimple from the cheek of mirth,
And every smirking feature from the face;
Branding our laughter with the name of madness.
Where are the jesters now? the men of health
Complexionally pleasant? Where the droll,
Whose every look and gesture was a joke
To clapping theatres and shouting crowds,
And made even thick-lipp'd musing Melancholy
To gather up her face into a smile
Before she was aware? Ah! sullen now,
And dumb as the green turf that covers them.

Review Questions

**Directions:** Respond to these questions to the best of your ability. Answer the questions completely. If you need more space, use the back or a separate sheet.

1. Identify two examples of **personification**: explain what is being personified & how in each example.

2. Identify an example of **hyperbole**: explain how it is exaggerated.

3. Identify an example of **metaphor**: explain which two things are being compared.

4. Identify an example of **simile**: explain which two things are being compared.

5. What is the **tone** of this poem? How does the speaker feel about the subject(s) of the poem? Use evidence from the text to explain your answer.

6. In line four of the poem, the speaker says that “[the Dull Grave brands] our laughter with the name of madness.” What does the speaker mean by this line? Explain your answer.

7. What is the **thematic message** of the poem? In other words, what lesson is the author attempting to express with this poem?