**Responding to a Literary Prompt**

Read the following literary prompt and poem. Analyze the prompt using the **PAST** strategy, and then write a response to the prompt.

Read "A Noiseless, Patient Spider" by American poet Walt Whitman. What comparison is he drawing? What points of comparison does he make? Write a literary analysis of this poem, reflecting on the comparison, poetic techniques used by Whitman, and the overall theme of the poem. Make the poem come alive for other readers.

**A Noiseless Patient Spider**

Walt Whitman

A noiseless, patient spider,
I mark’d, where, on a little promontory, it stood, isolated;
Mark’d how, to explore the vacant, vast surrounding,
It launch’d forth filament, filament, filament, out of itself;
Ever unreeling them—ever tirelessly speeding them.

And you, O my Soul, where you stand,
Surrounded, surrounded, in measureless oceans of space,
Ceaselessly musing, venturing, throwing,—seeking the spheres, to connect them;
Till the bridge you will need, be form’d—till the ductile anchor hold;
Till the gossamer thread you fling, catch somewhere, O my Soul.

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