

Wendy Cope: The Concerned Adolescent

Pre-reading

1. Match the following words with the definitions below:

abundant – adolescent – bedecked – concerned – disco – doomed – galaxy –
light bulb – meadows – orbit – pollute – reject

Definition	Word
a young person who is developing into an adult	
the Milky Way	
a path described by one body in its revolution around another	
decorated	
the glass part that fits into an electric lamp to give light	
refuse to accept, consider, submit to, take for some purpose, or use	
marked by great plenty	
condemned	
worried	
grassland	
nightclub for dancing to live and recorded music	
contaminate, make unclean	

Post-reading

1. a. The speaker in the poem was called a concerned adolescent. What would you call Greta Thunberg if you had one adjective and one noun at your disposal? Why? Here are some suggestions, feel free to add words of your own.

Adjective	Noun
angry	alarmist
compassionate	being
condemning	child
confrontational	climate activist
critical	fanatic
disappointed	female
idealistic	girl
insistent	human
judgemental	idealist
livid	person
moralizing	romantic
perseverant	teenager
patronizing	visionary
responsible	young woman