Name:

Date:

School:

Facilitator:

5.08 Noh *Atsumori*

Total Points: 49

**Read the play *Atsumori* linked on the Task page and answer the questions below.**

# Part 1: Characters

1. After reading the play *Atsumori*, complete the chart below. Refer back to the lesson for the proper character names and to the play for elements of conflict and resolution.

| **Character** | **Character’s Role or Conflict in the Play** (Use the Japanese names from the lesson to identify the characters. Then, discuss the conflict) | **Resolution / Outcome for the Character at the End of the Play** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Rensei the Priest** |       |       |
| **The Young Reaper** |       |       |
| **The Reapers** |       |       |
| **Atsumori** |       |       |
| **The Chorus** |       |       |

# Part 2: Setting, Conflict, and Theme

1. Describe the setting of this play.

1. What is the main conflict in the plot of the play, and whose conflict is it?

1. How is the plot conflict resolved?

1. What would you say is the theme of this play? (Theme is not one word; it is an idea.)

1. What adjectives would you use to describe the style in which the play is written?

# Part 3: Structure

1. Complete the chart below. Refer back to the lesson to review the structural components of the Noh play.

| **Structure** | **Events in the Play** |
| --- | --- |
| **Jo** |       |
| **Ha** |       |
| **Kyu** |       |

**For the following questions, you may want to refer back to the conventions of the Noh play discussed in the lesson.**

1. Which of the five “types” of Noh plays does Atsumori exemplify? Explain your answer.

1. What is the mysterious fact about the reaper’s past, revealed in the Ha?

1. What realization does Atsumori have at the end of the play?

# Part 4: Japanese Culture and *Atsumori*

1. Think about the cast of characters in the play. Do any of the characters in Atsumori seem to be directly connected to Buddhism?

1. Do any of the characters make references to Buddhism or to Buddhist beliefs in their exchanges? Be sure to cite examples from the text of the play.