Reading the Sonnet

“The Onondaga Madonna” (1898). NBE3U, Behind the Image, Lesson 3

Name: _____ Date: _____

Part	Key images (quote)	What the images suggest
Lines 1–4: the mother		
Lines 5–8: her blood		
Lines 9–11: the turn to the baby		
Lines 12–14: the baby's future		

How does the sonnet's turn (line 9) make the future part of the myth?

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Myth vs Evidence

Test the story. NBE3U, Behind the Image, Lesson 3

Name: _____ Date: _____

The myth says…	The evidence says…	Who benefited from the myth?
Indigenous peoples are fading naturally.		
Their cultures belong to the past.		
Their children have no future as Nations.		

In 1898 Scott wrote this poem; by 1920 he led the department that made residential school compulsory. Should knowing this change how we read the poem? Explain.

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