



SUSTAINABLE BIOECONOMY
FOR ARID REGIONS

Birth: A Poem Note-taker Sheet

Student name: _____

Date: _____

Class period: _____

Read the poem titled “Birth” by the author Ramson Lomatewama, and answer the questions below.

1. Identify the factors mentioned in the poem that affect the growth of corn.
2. Why do you think the poet knows the corn “grows in happiness”?
3. Why do you think the poet refers to the sun as “uncle”?
4. Who are the “elders”? Why do you think the poet refers to them as “elders”?

Birth

By: Ramson Lomatewama

Young corn breaks ground
showered by rays of the rising sun.

They grow in happiness,
become filled with warmth.

Silky tassels grow long,
like my hair,
in search of new beginnings.

Tomorrow,
itaha taawa*
travels the longest day.

With pipe in hand,
we await our elders
who bring rain.