

Thelma Rae. Back Question - Answers.

A1. (c) Mother and friend.

Ans. 2 'It' refers to spending their afternoons writing and playing at the beach.

A3. False.

A4. Like two kids Thelma and the narrator used to throw pieces of driftwood into the surf and waited for them to come back. Then they used to head off to visit the tide pools, located at the edge of the rock cliffs on the South side of the beach. Thelma loved to gently poke the tiny sea anemones with her fingers. Tisha seldom dared touch them, but it was fun for them to watch suck their long, sticky tentacles into a soft wad of color attached to a rock. Sometimes they also found starfish and tiny crabs, which they would hold for a moment before releasing them to return to their pool.

A5. Since Thelma and Tisha did everything together for example spending time at the beach, both loved to write and Chinese food exhilarated them both. They also used to play, sit and chat together from night till dawn, shared everything with each other about their lives just like best friends do. Hence, this shows they were more like best friends.

- A6. The two pieces of advice which Thelma gave the narrator when she began to look for her Soulmate were: firstly, to truly judge a man's character, which him around children and dogs. If he takes time to show them affection, he will do the same for you. It seemed silly back then, but it also made sense; and secondly, Thelma told Tisha that she will never find a perfect man, so find one with faults she can deal with.
- A7. The narrator put on a brave face when she entered the hospital room because Thelma was going to die and Tisha didn't want Thelma to see her all sad & broken because that would have made Thelma's condition even worse.
- A8. The narrator kept her mother's legacy alive by passing the stories, along with the words of wisdom — her friend/mother's legacy — to Teresa and her brothers. She also tried to write regularly, and to eat Chinese food and visit the Oregon coast as often as she could.
- A9. Nothing changed in Tisha and Thelma's relationship after she got married because even though Tisha got married, they stayed connected to each other. Tisha tried her best to convince Thelma to move closer to where Tisha stayed.

A10. No, cancer did not affect Thelma's outlook on life. The lines - 'There was Thelma, her usual vibrant self, sitting high in the bed and teasing the nurses. Next thing I knew, she was lecturing me about keeping positive.' This shows she continued having a positive attitude towards life.