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### Short Story Unit Theme Analysis

One theme that was very impactful throughout the short story unit is silence. This theme can connect to the short story *Hills Like White Elephants* by Ernest Hemingway, and the short story *Children of the Sea* by Edwidge Danticat. In these two short stories, the theme of silence is very important and impactful throughout each piece. This can be illustrated with examples of the characters within these two short stories.

In the short story *Hills Like White Elephants*, there is a theme of silence within the relationship of the American and Jig. An example that can demonstrate this is “I realize, the girl said. Can’t we maybe stop talking?” (Hemingway 3). This example shows how Jig wants silence instead of conversation with the American about the abortion. Another example that can illustrate this is “I feel fine, she said. There’s nothing wrong with me. I feel fine” (Hemingway 4). This example further shows how Jig says that she is fine, but in reality just wants silence from the American because of his persistence. Finally, another example to support this is “I know you wouldn’t mind it, Jig. It’s really not anything. It’s just to let the air in. The girl did not say anything” (Hemingway 2). This last example illustrates further that Jig didn’t even say anything to the American after talking about the operation. The theme of silence is impactful within *Hills Like White Elephants* since both characters are also drinking while having this conversation.

The short story *Children of the Sea* is even more impactful with the theme of silence. An example to support this is “a group of students got shot in front of fort dimanche prison today. they were demonstrating for the bodies of the radio six, that is what they are calling you all...” (Danticat 7). This example demonstrates how the demonstration of these students were silenced with death. Another example to illustrate this is “manman whispers to papa, you can’t just let them kill her. go and give them some money like you gave them for your daughter. papa says, the only money i have left is to get us out of here tomorrow” (Danticat 16). This example demonstrates how the female narrator’s parents had to stay silent in order to leave to ville rose tomorrow. This short story has a very significant connection to the theme of silence with several more examples within the story.

The theme of silence in the short story unit was significant and important throughout. The theme of silence was present in all the short stories, but these two short stories had the most powerful representation of silence. In *Hills Like White Elephants*, the relationship between the American and Jig was a representation of silence. In *Children of the Sea*, the female narrator’s examples throughout the story powerfully portrayed the theme of silence.