What message is Gwendolyn Brooks giving us

about men like the ones in the poem?

**We Real Cool**

THE POOL PLAYERS.

SEVEN AT THE GOLDEN SHOVEL.

We real cool. We

Left school. We

Lurk late. We

Strike straight. We

Sing sin. We

Thin gin. We

Jazz June. We

Die soon.

A Model Answer:

* **Claim**: Brooks is criticizing the type of men she depicts in the poem.
* **Set-up**: She uses deliberately incorrect grammar and a poor outcome for the men to show that they are not as cool as they think they are.
* **Evidence**: For example, in the first line, the men declare “We real cool”, but in the final line they state “we die soon”.
* **Tie-In**: It is hard to argue that dying soon is a good—or cool—outcome, so it is clear that she believes that men who leave school to pursue partying are foolish.