

Powerful Poetry



Poems

Form

Vocabulary

Sonnet 130- William Shakespeare.

- It is a kind of inverted love poem that mocks the conventional polite sonnets.
- It implies that the woman is very beautiful indeed, but suggests that it is important for this poet to view the woman he loves realistically.
- This use of irony allows the reader to better understand the sarcastic message.

The Manhunt- Simon Armitage.

- The poem is about a soldier who has become seriously injured whilst fighting in a conflict-zone.
- It's written from the perspective of the soldier's wife, is actually based on a real woman: Laura who is attempting to come to terms with what happened.
- Laura is the wife of a peace-keeper in Bosnia in the 1990s, called Eddie Beddoes.
- He was discharged from service due to his injuries, both physical and mental

Dulce et Decorum Est- Wilfred Owen.

- It was written between August 1917 and September 1918, while he was fighting in World War 1.
- The poem explores the reality of the war and the government's portrayal of war.
- He illustrates the brutal everyday struggle of a company of soldiers, focuses on the story of one soldier's agonizing death, and discusses the trauma that this event left behind.
- The poem takes its title from a poem by Roman poet Horace, and means "it is sweet and fitting to die for one's country".

No Problem- Benjamin Zephaniah

- The poem describes how the poet faced racial discrimination in his early life.
- It is a powerful and defiant response to racial prejudice, showcasing Zephaniah's ability to blend personal experience with social commentary in his poetry
- The poem challenges stereotypes, asserts individuality, and promotes unity and understanding across racial divides

Living Space- Imtiaz Dharker

- Dharker was born in Pakistan and grew up in Scotland.
- It describes the slums of Mumbai, where people migrate from all over India in the hope of a better life.
- The poem expresses physical poverty in the form of a poorly constructed home.

Half Caste- John Agard

- The poem looks at people's ideas and usage of the term "half-caste".
- 'Half-caste' is a derogatory term for a person who is of mixed race.
- The majority of the poem is filled with the speaker responding to being called half-caste.
- He explores a range of issues affecting black and mixed-race identity in the UK.

Petrarchan Sonnet- divides the 14 lines into two sections: an eight-line stanza (octave) rhyming ABBAABBA, and a six-line stanza (sestet) rhyming CDCDCD or CDECDE.

Shakespearean Sonnet- divides the sonnet into three quatrains and a concluding couplet, rhyming ABAB CDCD EFEF GG.

Lyric- is a formal type of poetry which expresses personal emotions or feelings, typically spoken in the first person.

Haiku- a three line Japanese poem of seventeen syllables. The lines have a set structure of five, seven, and five syllables, traditionally evoking images of the natural world.

Limerick- a humorous five-line poem with a rhyme scheme AABBA.

Narrative- tells a story. Epic poems tell about conflicts or history and ballads tell a story about a particular person.

Dramatic- a form of poetry that is written in verse and meant to be recited in public or acted out.

Stanza- a set of lines grouped together in a poem.

Quatrain- a series of four-lines that make one verse of a poem.

Rhyme- a repetition of similar sounds (often these sounds are exactly the same) in the final syllable of two or more words.

Rhyming Couplet- A rhyming couplet is a pair of successive lines that rhyme.

Persona- a narrative voice that speaks in the first person and appears to define a particular character.

Empathy- the ability to understand and share the feelings of another.

Allusion- a passing, reference to a person, place, thing or idea - often containing historical or cultural significance.

Intertextuality- the shaping of a text's meaning by another text.

Imagery- language that creates pictures in our minds and appeals to the senses.

Caesura- a pause that occurs within a line of poetry, usually marked by some form of punctuation such as a full-stop, comma, ellipsis, or dash.

Epistrophe- when a certain phrase or word is repeated at the end of sentences or clauses that follow each other.

End-stopping- a pause that occurs at the end of a line of poetry

Enjambment- the continuation of a sentence or phrase from one line of poetry to the next.

Semantic field- a group of words, all of which share a similar concept, theme or subject

Volta: a change in tone, thought or emotion in a poem

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Sonnet 130

- How does the poem mock conventional love poems?
- Who wrote it?
- What type of sonnet is the form of the poem?
- What is the poem about?

The Manhunt

- Who wrote the poem?
- What is the poem about?
- Whose perspective is it written from?
- How has the speaker been affected by the events of war?

Dulce et Decorum Est

- Who wrote the poem? What was his job? When did he write it?
- What does the title of the poem translate to?
- What is the poem about?
- How does the poem show the power of war and its effects?

No Problem- Benjamin Zephaniah

- Based on the poem, who does he think is the real "problem" —the person experiencing racism, or the society that practices it?
- How does this show he is standing up for himself against people who judge him?
- What is the main message the poet wants the reader to take away? Is he angry, or is he trying to teach us something about how we treat one another?

Living Space

- Who wrote the poem? Where was she born? Where did she grow up?
- What is the poem about?
- Where in India did people migrate to and why?
- How does the poem express poverty?

Half Caste

- Who wrote the poem?
- What is the poem about?
- How does the speaker respond to issues being raised in the poem?
- How does this poem explore the power of identity?

How many lines does a sonnet have?

What is the difference between a Shakespearean sonnet and a Petrarchan Sonnet?

What is the rhyme scheme of a limerick?

How many syllables does a haiku have?

What images does a Haiku traditionally evoke?

How does a narrative poem do?

How is dramatic poetry meant to be read?

What does lyric poetry express?

What person is a lyric poem typically written in?

A set of lines grouped together in a poem is called ...

How many lines does a quatrain have?

A Rhyming Couplet is ...

What is a persona?

The ability to understand and share the feelings of another is called ...

What does allusion reference?

Define intertextuality...

Language that creates pictures in our minds and appeals to the senses is called...

What is Caesura usually marked by?

What is the difference between caesura and an End-stopping?

What is a semantic field?