



| Poem | Key quotations |
|---|---|
| Ozymandias | 'Two vast and trunkless legs of stone/ Stand in the desert' 'Half sunk, a shattered visage lies' 'wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command' 'My name is Ozymandias, king of kings: Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!' 'Nothing beside remains' 'colossal wreck' |
| Storm on the Island | 'The wizened earth had never troubled us' 'build our houses squat, Sink walls in rock and roof them' 'Exploding comfortably' 'salvo'/'strafe'/'bombarde'd' 'The very windows, spits like a tame cat Turned savage' 'Strange, it is a huge nothing that we fear' |
| Remains | 'probably armed, possibly not' 'I see every round as it rips through his life' 'sort of inside out, pain itself, the image of agony' 'tosses his guts' 'End of story, except not really.' 'blood-shadow stays on the street' 'but near to the knuckle, here and now, his bloody life in my bloody hands' |
| Bayonet Charge | 'running- raw In raw-seamed hot khaki' 'dazzled with rifle fire' 'Bullets smacking the belly out of the air' 'In what cold clockwork of the stars and the nations Was he the hand pointing that second?' 'The patriotic tear that had brimmed in his eye Sweating like molten iron from the centre of his chest' 'shot-slashed furrows Threw up a yellow hare that rolled like a flame' 'King, honour, human dignity, etcetera Dropped like luxuries' |
| Charge of the Light Brigade | 'Half a league, half a league' 'valley of Death' 'Theirs not to make reply, Theirs not to reason why, Theirs but to do and die.' 'Stormed at with shot and shell' 'Cannon to right of them, Cannon to left of them' 'Flashed' 'honour' 'Came through the jaws of Death, Back from the mouth of hell' 'When can their glory fade? O the wild charge' |
| War Photographer | 'spools of suffering set out in ordered row' 'as though this were a church' 'which did not tremble then though seem to now' 'Rural England. Home again to ordinary pain' 'a half-formed ghost' 'The reader's eyeballs prick with tears between the bath and pre-lunch beers' |
| London | 'chartered' 'Marks of weakness, marks of woe' 'In every cry' 'The mind-forged manacles' 'black'ning Church' 'blights with plagues the Marriage hearse' |
| The Prelude | 'A little boat tied to a willow tree' 'It was an act of stealth And troubled pleasure' 'Small circles glittering idly in the moon' 'She was an elfin pinnace; lustily I dipped my oars into the silent lake' 'a huge peak, black and huge' 'grim shape Towered up between me...like a living thing, Strode after me' 'huge and mighty forms, that do not live Like living men, moved slowly through the mind' |
| Kamikazee | 'a shaven head full of powerful incantations' 'little fishing boats strung out like bunting on a green-blue translucent sea' 'dark shoals of fishes flashing silver' 'arcing in swathes like a huge flag waved first one way then the other in a figure of eight,' 'they treated him as though he no longer existed' 'only we children still chattered and laughed till gradually we too learned to be silent' |
| Poppies | 'poppies' 'stealed the softening of my face' 'All my words flattened, rolled, turned into felt, slowly melting' 'the world overflowing like a treasure chest' 'released a song bird from its cage' 'leaned against it like a wishbone' 'The dove pulled freely against the sky, an ornamental stitch' |
| Exposure | 'merciless iced east winds that knife us' 'But nothing happens' 'snow-dazed' 'sun-dozed' 'Shutters and doors all closed: on us the doors are closed' 'For God's invincible spring our love is made afraid' 'Pause over half-known faces. All their eyes are ice' 'We only know war lasts, rain soaks, and clouds sag stormy' |
| My Last Duchess | 'Looking as if she were alive' 'The depth and passion of its earnest glance' 'spot of joy' 'A heart—how shall I say?— too soon made glad' 'My gift of a nine-hundred-years-old name' 'stooping'/'stoop' 'I gave commands; Then all smiles stopped together' 'Notice Neptune, though, Taming a sea-horse' |
| The Émigrée | 'There once was a country... I left it as a child but my memory of it is sunlight-clear' 'the bright, filled paperweight' 'it may be sick with tyrants, but I am branded by an impression of sunlight' 'That child's vocabulary I carried here like a hollow doll, opens and spills a grammar' 'white plane' 'white streets' 'I comb its hair and love its shining eyes. My city takes me dancing through the city of walls' |
| Tissue | 'Paper that lets the light shine through, this is what could alter things' 'If buildings were paper, I might feel their drift, see how easily they fall away on a sigh' 'The sun shines through their borderlines' 'what was paid by credit card might fly our lives like paper kites' 'let the daylight break through capitals and monoliths, through the shapes that pride can make' 'of paper smoothed and stroked and thinned to be transparent, turned into your skin' |
| Checking Out Me History | 'Dem tell me Wha dem want to tell me' 'Bandage up me eye with me own history Blind me to me own identity' 'hopeful stream to freedom river' 'but what happen to de Caribs and de Arawaks too' 'a healing star among the wounded a yellow sunrise to the dying' 'But now I checking out me own history I carving out me identity' |
| Key themes and ideas | |
| War, Conflict, Identity, Individual Experiences, Death, Power, Culture, Helplessness, Change, Honour, Shame, Pride, Arrogance, Social Responsibility, Patriotism, | Comparative words and phrases |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similarly, Likewise, In the same way, This is similar to, Equally, Also On the other hand, Although, Whereas, However, In stark contrast, Contrastingly |



| Context and Subject Matter | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Ozymandias | Shelley was a Romantic poet who was well known as a 'radical' during his lifetime. He was expelled from university for writing about atheism which led to him to fall out with his father who disinherited him. Some people think Ozymandias reflects this side of his character. Although it is about the remains of a statue of Ozymandias (another name for the Egyptian pharaoh Rameses II) it can be read as a criticism of people or systems that become huge and believe themselves to be invincible. |
| Storm on the Island | Heaney was born in Northern Ireland to a farming family- much of his poetry is centred on the countryside and farm life that he knew as a child. In the late 60s, right up until the 90s, there was conflict in Northern Ireland between the Unionists (a group who wanted to remain in UK) and the Nationalists (a group who wanted to keep Ireland separate). This poem considers the power of nature. |
| Remains | Armitage made a film for Channel 4 in 2007 called <i>The Not Dead</i> and wrote a collection of poems of the same name. In preparation for this work, he interviewed veteran soldiers of different wars. The reference to 'desert sand' in this poem suggests that it is written about the Gulf War. The poem presents a dark and disturbing image of a soldier suffering post-traumatic stress disorder after conflict. |
| Bayonet Charge | Bayonet Charge is perhaps unusual for a Ted Hughes poem in that it focuses on a nameless soldier in the First World War (1914-18). It describes the experience of 'going over-the-top'. This was when soldiers hiding in trenches were ordered to 'fix bayonets' and climb out of the trenches to charge an enemy position. The aim was to capture the enemy trench. The poem describes how this process transforms a soldier from a living thinking person into a dangerous weapon of war. |
| Charge of the Light Brigade | Alfred Tennyson was one of 11 children born to an upper-middle class country vicar. In 1850, he became poet laureate, meaning he had to write important poems about events that affected the British nation. This poem celebrates the heroism and bravery of soldiers in the Crimean War which was fought between Britain and Imperial Russia from 1853-1856. In the Battle of Balaclava, an order given to the British army's cavalry (the Light Brigade) was misunderstood and 600 cavalymen ended charging down a valley straight into the fire of Russian cannons. Over 150 British soldiers were killed, and more than 120 were wounded. |
| War Photographer | Duffy was inspired to write this poem by her friendship with a war photographer. She was especially intrigued by the challenge faced by these people whose job requires them to record horrific events without being able to help. Duffy asks us to consider our own response when confronted with the photographs that we regularly see in our newspapers, and why so many of us have become desensitised to these images. |
| London | Blake rejected established religion for various reasons. One of the main ones was the failure of the Church to help children in London who were forced to work. Blake lived and worked in the capital, so was arguably well placed to write clearly about the conditions people who lived there faced. This poem comes from his collection 'Songs of Experience' where he deals with various dangerous industrial conditions, child labour, prostitution and poverty. Blake alludes to the 1789 French Revolution in this poem where the French people revolted against the monarchy and aristocracy. |
| The Prelude | Wordsworth grew up in the Lake District- his childhood experiences there, and the death of his mother, had a huge influence on his writing. Wordsworth is considered a Romantic poet as his poems deal with Nature. The poem shows the spiritual growth of the poet, how he comes to terms with who he is, and his place in nature and the world. |
| Kamikaze | During the Second World War, the term 'kamikaze' was used for Japanese fighter pilots who were sent on suicide missions. They were expected to crash their warplanes into enemy warships. The word 'kamikaze' literally translates as 'divine wind'. Pilots were revered for their heroism and remembered as martyrs. This poem perhaps prompts us to think about the consequences of suicide missions for families in the modern world as well as in past conflicts. |
| Poppies | Weir grew up in Italy and Northern England, with an English mother and an Italian father. She has continued to absorb different cultural experiences throughout her life, also living in Northern Ireland during the troubled 1980s. The poem is concerned with Armistice Sunday, which began as a way of marking the end of WW1 in 1918. It was set up so people could remember the ordinary men who had been killed. When Poppies was written, British soldiers were still dying in wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. As a way of trying to understand the suffering that deaths caused, Carol Ann Duffy asked a number of writers to compose poems. |
| Exposure | Owen used his writing to inform people about the horrors of life on the front line. It contradicted the glory portrayed in the British media. Owen joined the army in 1915 but was hospitalised in May 1917 suffering from 'shell shock' (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder). He returned to the war but was tragically killed days before it ended; he was just 26. This poem deals with the winter of 1917 which was particularly cold- soldiers suffered from hypothermia or frostbite, and many died in the freezing conditions. |
| My Last Duchess | Browning was heavily influenced as a youngster by his father's extensive collection of books and art. This poem reflects Browning's love of history and European culture as the story is based on real historical figures. The narrator is Duke Alfonso II who ruled in Ferrara between 1559 and 1597. The Duchess of whom he speaks was his first wife, Lucrezia de' Medici, who died aged 17 in suspicious circumstances and might have been poisoned. |
| The Émigrée | The poem deals with the dilemma of the emigree, forced by war or conflict to leave their home, and longing to return. The complex emotions and pain of exile are explored as well as the way that the media presents conflict abroad and the way that society understands it. |
| Tissue | Dharker was born in Pakistan and grew up in Scotland. She has written numerous poems that deal with themes of identity, the role of women in society and the search for meaning. She draws on her multi-cultural experience in her work. The poet addresses some of the larger issues in society; greed, pride etc. and how we have built our world around them, at odds with our own existence. |
| Checking Out Me History | John Agard was born in Guyana in the Caribbean, in 1949. He moved to the UK in the late 1970s. At school, he had to follow a curriculum biased towards whites, especially British whites, instead of learning about significant black figures. He uses non-standard phonetic spelling to represent his own accent, and writes about what it is like being black to challenge racist attitudes. |



| Language | Structure | Form |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Alliteration- repetition of the same letter at the start of two or more words</p> <p>Allusion- reference to another literary work</p> <p>Assonance- repetition or pattern of the same vowel sounds</p> <p>Connotation- associated meaning of word</p> <p>Consonance- the partial or total identity of consonants in words whose main vowels differ</p> <p>Diction- usually used to describe the level of formality that a speaker uses</p> <p>Extended metaphor- a central metaphor that acts like an “umbrella” to connect other metaphors within it</p> <p>Hyperbole- exaggerated statement</p> <p>Imagery- visually descriptive language</p> <p>Metaphor- saying one thing is another</p> <p>Onomatopoeia- a figure of speech where words are used to imitate sounds</p> <p>Oxymoron- two terms appear next to each other that contradict each other</p> <p>Pathetic fallacy- weather to create mood</p> <p>Personification- make object human</p> <p>Pun- a a play on words</p> <p>Satire- the use of humour or irony to mock, ridicule or criticise</p> <p>Semantic field- words related in meaning</p> <p>Simile- comparing using ‘like’ or ‘as’</p> <p>Sibilance- the repetition of an ‘s’ sound in two or more words</p> <p>Synecdoche- a figure of speech in which a part is substituted for the whole</p> <p>Tone- the implied attitude of a writer toward the subject and characters of a work</p> <p>Theme- the central idea of a literary work</p> | <p>Anapest- two unaccented syllables followed by an accented one</p> <p>Anaphora- the repetition of the same word or phrase at the beginning of a line</p> <p>Caesura- a piece of punctuation in the middle of a line creating a pause in rhythm</p> <p>Dactyl- a stressed syllable followed by two unstressed ones</p> <p>Elision- the omission of an unstressed vowel or syllable to preserve the meter of a line of poetry</p> <p>End-stopped line- a line ending in a full pause</p> <p>Enjambment- a sentence which continues, with no punctuation, into the line below</p> <p>Foot- a metrical unit composed of stressed and unstressed syllables</p> <p>Half rhyme- an imperfect rhyme where the ending consonant sound of a word is the same as another</p> <p>Juxtaposition- two or more contrasted ideas placed side by side</p> <p>Meter- the measured pattern of rhythmic accents in poems</p> <p>Parallelism- the similarity of structure in a pair or series of related words, phrases, or clauses</p> <p>Quatrain- a four-line stanza in a poem</p> <p>Refrain- a phrase, line or group of lines which is repeated throughout a poem</p> <p>Repetition- a repeated word or phrase usually used to emphasise importance.</p> <p>Rhyming Couplet- two lines of poetry that rhyme and have the same meter</p> <p>Rhyme- words that sound the same at the end</p> <p>Sestet- a six-line unit of verse constituting a stanza or section of a poem</p> <p>Stanza- two or more lines of poetry that form the divisions of the poem (paragraphs)</p> | <p>Allegory- a symbolic narrative which often takes the form of a story where the characters represent moral qualities</p> <p>Ballad- a narrative poem written in four-line stanzas, characterized by swift action and narrated in a direct style</p> <p>Blank verse – non rhyming lines written in iambic pentameter</p> <p>Dramatic monologue- a type of poem in which a speaker addresses an internal listener or the reader</p> <p>Elegy: An elegy is a poem about a dead person or thing</p> <p>Epic- a long narrative poem that records the adventures of a hero</p> <p>Free verse- poetry without a regular pattern of meter or rhyme</p> <p>Lyric- a poem that expresses personal and emotional feelings.</p> <p>Ode- a poem written in praise or celebration of a person, thing, or event</p> <p>Pastoral- a poem about nature or simple, country life</p> <p>Shakespearean sonnet- usually 14 lines which are formed by three quatrains with a rhyming couplet for the last two lines</p> <p>Sonnet- a fourteen-line poem in iambic pentameter and regular rhyme scheme</p> <p>Speaker: the voice behind the poem – the person we imagine to be speaking. The speaker is <u>not</u> the poet. Even if the poem is autobiographical, you should treat the speaker as a fictional creation, because the writer is choosing what to say about himself.</p> |



Power and Conflict Poetry Comparison (45 mins)

DO NOT commit to one poem that you will definitely use in advance of the exam, regardless of the question. choose a poem which matches the theme of the question.

Introduction One sentence, where you summarise how each poem presents the theme of the question. Include an immediate comparison between the topic/message of each poem to score some early comparison marks.

Main body of the essay Aim for four/five paragraphs of comparison. Always begin the paragraph with the poem you have in front of you before comparing it directly to your chosen poem and remember to LIST 'EM:

- 1) Language features (adjectives, verbs, adverbs, alliteration in each poem)
- 2) Imagery (simile, metaphor, personification in each poem)
- 3) Structure (rhyme, repetition, enjambment in each poem)
- 4) Tone (mood or emotion of each poem or poet)
- 5) Evaluate the message (what is each poet trying to tell the reader?)

And for the **Conclusion** My personal response (how do you feel about the message or content of each poem) how did it make you think about the topic of the question?)

EXPLODING LANGUAGE- COMPLETE THIS EXERCISE FOR EACH OF YOUR 5 CHOSEN QUOTATIONS

