



Example Questions:

Q1: In 'To a Daughter Leaving Home', how does the poet present the speaker's feelings about her daughter? [24 marks]

Q2: In both 'Poem for My Sister' and 'To a Daughter Leaving Home' the speakers describe feelings about watching someone they love grow up. What are the similarities and/or differences between the ways the poets present those feelings? [8 marks]

The Exam

45 minutes – 2 tasks – no choice **Question one** – 30 mins **Question two** – 15 mins

Introduction One sentence, where you summarise how the content of the poem matches the theme of the question. If you can, make a comment on the title of the poem and its significance to the poem

Main body of essay

- 1) Language features (adjectives, verbs, adverbs, alliteration)
- 2) Imagery (simile, metaphor, personification)
- 3) Structure (rhyme, repetition, enjambment)
- 4) Tone (mood or emotion of the poem or poet)
- 5) Evaluate the message (what is the poet trying to tell the reader?)
- 6) My personal response (how do you feel about the message or content of the poem? How did it make you think about the topic of the question?)

Comparison Remember this part should only take ten minutes. Make 4 LIST comparisons of how Language, Imagery, Structure and Tone are similar or different.

POETRY DEVICES

Alliteration: Repeated first letter

Assonance: Repeated vowel sound

Cliché: Over-used phrase

Consonance: Repeated consonant sound

Colloquial language: Local/casual language

Euphemism Alternative: words to make something nasty sound okay

Extended metaphor: A series of metaphors all relating to each other

Half rhyme: Nearly rhymes

Hyperbole: Exaggeration

Imagery: descriptive words/phrases used to create a clear picture

Internal rhyme: Rhyme that is on the same line

Irony: Sarcasm

Metaphor: Something is described as being something else

Mood: Atmosphere created

Onomatopoeia A verb sounds like what it does

Personification: A non-human thing is given human qualities

Rhyme: Words that sound the same

Semantic field: Words that are about the same thing

Sibilance: A repeated s sound

Simile: Something is described as being like/as something else to describe it

Symbol/ symbolism: Something that represents something else

Chronological: In order of time

Enjambment: A sentence runs over more than one line

Iambic pentameter: 5 sets of weak/strong beats in a line

Juxtaposition: Two opposites

Oxymoron: Two opposite words next to each other

Rhyme scheme: The organisation of the rhyme

Rhyming couplet: Two lines that rhyme next to each other

Stanza/Verse: A paragraph in a poem

Repetition: Something repeated

Auto-biographical: About the poet

Ballad: Story poems – often 4 lines stanzas

Blank verse :Verse with no rhyme – usually 10 syllables

Dramatic monologue: A character speaks to the reader

Free verse: No regular rhyme/rhythm

Haiku: 3 lines, syllables 5/7/5. Often about nature

Lyrical: Emotional and beautiful

Comparing connectives:

Likewise

Similarly

Equally

Likewise

As with

Contrasting connectives:

However

Whereas

On the other hand

Alternatively

Although

Advice from AQA:

“In preparing for the unseen poetry section of the examination students should experience a wide range of poetry in order to develop their ability to closely analyse unseen poems. They should be able to analyse and compare key features such as their content, theme, structure and use of language.”