

Comparison between *Blackbird of Glanmore* and *The Wild Swans at Coole*

How do the two speakers use these poems to express their feelings about the birds?

Write about:

- the speakers in each poem (autobiographical poems)
- how the birds are described in each poem
 - what images are used
 - What sort of a personality are the birds given
- the settings in which the birds are found
- the language the poets use (the kinds of words, how formal it is)
- how the poems are shaped (have they used rhyme, or a chorus – why have they done so)

Here is a possible Introduction:

Both *The Wild Swans at Coole* and *Blackbird of Glanmore* are poems which transform the personal experience of the poet into something any reader could relate to. The central image in each of these poems is a bird, or a flock of birds, which has become symbolic to the poet/speaker.

For example, in *Blackbird* a single bird is described as

On the other hand, in *The Wild Swans*, a whole flock of birds