

Revision Literature Examination



- In the exam there are two sections
- Section A – all the poems in the anthology that are the contemporary ones and all the poems that are ‘old’ – the literary heritage ones!
- Section B – an Unseen poem.

- A typical Question in section A might be:
- Compare how ideas about places are presented in 'London' and one other poem from the 'Place' section in the anthology.
- Or
- Compare how nature is shown in 'Wind' and one other poem from 'Place' in the anthology.

- In the unseen section, a typical question might be:
- Read the poem below. How does the narrator feel about the death of his mother? How is this put across in the poem?
- Or
- Read the poem below. What do you think the poet is saying about parenthood? How does the poet present her ideas?

- To get a 'C' – you must comment on:
- The language of the poem
- What happens in the poem and in what order- this is called structure.
- Some of the poetic devices used by the poets.

- Most importantly you must comment on what these things tell you about:
- Themes, attitudes, feelings in the poem.
- In other words what is the effect of the words, poetic devices, and content of the poem. What does it make you think/feel as a reader?

- So, lets practice!
- Compare how nature is shown in 'Wind' and one other poem from 'Place'.
- Quickly read the poem 'Wind' and then choose another poem to go with this one. (Let's choose 'Spellbound' to make things easier this lesson)

- You need to find three quotes in 'Wind' and three quotes in 'Spellbound' that tell you something about nature. Do this with any question you get.



What does this quote suggest about nature?

This house has been far out to sea all night'

What does this quote make you think about nature?

'feel the roots of the house move'

Now do the same with this quote

‘The night is darkening around me’

The background of the slide is a solid blue color. In the lower right corner, there are several concentric white circles of varying sizes, resembling ripples on water. These ripples are arranged in a cluster, with some overlapping. The largest ripple is in the bottom right, and several smaller ones are scattered around it and towards the bottom center.

And this one!

‘clouds beyond clouds above me’

Now use this plan to help you write in detail about the poem

1. Write an introduction to your essay – introduce the two poems you are going to write about.
2. Describe what the first poem is about use a quote to help you.
3. Describe what the second poem is about. Start this paragraph with a word like 'Similarly' or 'In the same way'.
4. Make a point about nature in 'Wind' eg; the power of the storm. Use a quote and explain the effect of the quote.
5. Now do the same with the second poem. Start with a comparing word – eg: However or Likewise. Perhaps mention the danger of the storm in 'Spellbound'
6. Now repeat stages 4 and 5 two more times using all your quotes.
7. Finally add a conclusion in which you make a final comparison of the feelings and attitudes in the poems

Now let's assess what you have done.

- Have you:
- Said what the poem is about?
- Have you written about the language in the poem?
- Have you mentioned any themes, attitudes, feelings.
- Have you used quotes?
- Have you said what the words make you think?
- For a grade higher than a 'C' – have you mentioned any poetic devices and the effect of them?

- Grade yourself and give your self a target.
- Hand your book in for marking.



Homework

- Use the revision booklet you have been given to complete the grid.

