

Key Definitions

language: the writer's choice of words and phrases and their impact. when analysing poetry consider the effect of specific words.

form: some poems adopt specific forms/type of text e.g. sonnets or narrative poems

structure: the arrangement of a poem. when analysing poetry this could include repetition, punctuation, line/stanza length or the number and order of stanzas

context: the circumstances that form the setting for an event, statement, or idea. the background.

Assessment objectives for this component

AO1: Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to:

- maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response
- use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.

AO2: Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.

Subject terminology:

imagery – visually descriptive or figurative language, especially in a literary work. it helps you to imagine what is being described.

analyse - examine something methodically and in detail, typically in order to explain and interpret it

technique - a way of carrying out a particular task. language devices are techniques which allow the writer to convey meaning (e.g. metaphors)

inference - an interpretation which goes beyond the literal information given

deduction - an understanding based on the evidence

personification - the attribution of a personal nature or human characteristics to something non-human

rhythm - the beat and movement of language (rise and fall, repetition and variation, change of pitch, mix of syllables, melody of words)

rhyme - words that sound alike, especially words that end in the same sound

stanza - group of lines in a poem that make up a single unit; like a paragraph in prose

free verse - poetry that does not rhyme or have a regular rhythm

alliteration – close repetition of consonant sounds, especially initial consonant sounds

assonance – close repetition of vowel sounds

refrain - a repeated line within a poem, similar to the chorus of a song