

Unseen Poetry Practice for GCSE

Practice Questions for the AQA English Literature Exam

Please note, these questions were created for the use of my own students and should not be distributed for sale/resale.

The poems are not included in the document but can be found by searching online.

I will be releasing a full book of Unseen Poetry practice questions, including examples, exam tips, etc. **Poetry Made Simple for GCSE** is already available and includes lots of good advice and explanations for both the Unseen and Anthology poetry.

Time yourself when answering the questions, and practice writing them in the time you would have – 45 minutes (plus the extra 25% if you have it). then complete a set of questions in your own time, to compare the kind of answers you can give without the pressure of an exam.

Also, I admit I did make some of these questions harder than they might be in the exam! This is because we cannot be sure what the exam will be like until the actual day. It's better to practice with a harder poem than to be befuddled if you get a really difficult one on the day.

For more exam help and practice questions and ideas, please have a look at my books on Amazon <https://www.amazon.co.uk/l/B009K45K48>

and Lulu <http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/heulwen>

Follower/Jumper

Follower – Seamus Heaney

Jumper – Tony Harrison

1. How does the poet present the speaker's feelings about their father?
2. In both Follower and Jumper, the poets describe memories of childhood.
What are the similarities and/or differences in the way the poets present these memories?

Wind/Day

Wind – Ted Hughes

Day – William Blake

1. In Wind, how does the poet present the speaker's feelings about the wind?
2. In both Wind and Day, the poets describe dramatic aspects of Nature.

What are the similarities and/or differences in the way the poets present these aspects?

Block City/A Sad Child

Block City – Robert Louis Stevenson

A Sad Child – Margaret Atwood

1. In Block City, how does the poet present the speaker's imaginative play?
2. In both Block City and A Sad Child, the poets present a view of childhood.

What are the similarities and/or differences in the way the poets present those views?

Alone/A Hard Frost

Alone – Edgar Allan Poe

A Hard Frost – C. Day Lewis

1. In Alone, how does the poet present the speaker's feelings of loneliness?
2. In both Alone and A Hard Frost, the poets describe isolation.

What are the similarities and/or differences in the way the poets present isolation?